



Children in Wales

Bi-weekly e-briefing for Members

Tuesday 21 April 2020

Issue 8

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Introduction

To keep our members up to date with the ever changing circumstances, our members' e-briefing will now be released twice a week rather than weekly. Through this we hope to distribute relevant updates on the impact of Covid-19, as well as other relevant news.

Children in Wales News

In accordance with Government and PHW advice, all Children in Wales staff are working from home until further notice and the offices in Cardiff and Bangor are closed. However, we are still working. Find out more, and how to contact us [here](#).

New resource produced - Wellbeing during Coronavirus

The resource has been produced as part of the Getting Ready project, and is aimed at care experienced young people or any young person looking for advice or support during the outbreak. [You can download the resource here](#).

Useful Links

[A daily statement](#) by Public Health Wales on the Covid-19 outbreak can be found on their website. They have also released a number of useful resources and guidance that can be found here: <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>

Welsh Government have a dedicated webpage for advice, news and resources on the Covid-19 outbreak that can be found here: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

The Children's Commissioner for Wales website now has an information hub for information and advice and can be found here: <https://www.childcomwales.org.uk/coronavirus/>

NHS Direct have launched an online symptom checker that can be found on their website: <https://www.nhsdirect.wales.nhs.uk/SelfAssessments/symptomcheckers/>

[Money Saving Expert](#) is producing financial advice guides online on subject matters including Mortgages & other debts, rental help, energy top-ups & more.

[COVID-19 Safeguarding Children - Bi-lingual-Information for display](#)

[Welsh Government safeguarding information for practitioners](#)

Support for victims of Domestic Abuse - The Live Fear Free helpline is available 24 hours a day – call free on 0808 8010 800 any time, if you can do it safely. You can also text 0786 007 7333, email info@livefearfreehelpline.wales or webchat - <https://gov.wales/live-fear-free/contact-live-fear-free>. If you can't talk in safety, but you need help immediately, police forces across Wales will respond to a silent 999 call – dial 999 followed by 55 to indicate that you can't talk, but need help.

Citizen's Advice: [What coronavirus means for you](#)

[Information from the Welsh Government about vulnerable children and safeguarding during the coronavirus pandemic.](#)

Health Updates

[Public Health Wales updated latest information on coronavirus](#)

[Hospices in Wales to share £6.3m funding, Health Minister announces.](#)

Welsh Government and Public Health Wales

[Welsh Government boosts support for valued charities and third sector organisations in Wales](#)

Learning whilst schools aren't open: survey for parents/carers: Kirsty Williams has announced that schools won't open as normal next week. That means some learning will take place at home. We're asking parents/carers to tell us what they want to know about this, so we can provide answers. [Please find and share the survey here.](#)

[Stay Safe. Stay Learning: continuity of learning policy statement](#)

[Key \(critical\) workers testing policy](#) - this policy sets out a needs based approach testing criteria for NHS and non-NHS (key workers).

Mental Well-being Updates

[Public Health Wales' 'How are you doing' campaign](#)

[The Welsh Government has announced £1.25 million to provide additional mental health support for children who may be experiencing increased stress or anxiety as a result of the international coronavirus outbreak.](#)

[NSPCC Briefing](#): what children are saying to Childline about coronavirus. Between 21 January 2020 and 8 April 2020, Childline delivered 2,209 counselling sessions to children and young people who expressed concerns about coronavirus including mental health, family relationships, schoolwork and bullying.

Education Updates

[Guidance for hubs and school](#): This guidance is intended to support the development of effective provision for children of critical workers and for vulnerable children.

[Minister for Education, Kirsty Williams has announced in a statement that the 2020 Wales results day for AS and A level students, and for GCSE students, will be as originally scheduled. This means that Wales, Northern Ireland and England will share the results days of 13 August for AS & A Level and 20th August for GCSE.](#)

[NSPCC Learning has updated its coronavirus \(COVID-19\) briefing: safeguarding guidance and information for schools to include the Welsh Government's safeguarding guidance for schools during the coronavirus outbreak and the Department of Education in Northern Ireland's guidance on vulnerable children and young people.](#)

[Homeschooling in a language you don't speak](#)

Policy, Research and Information

The NSPCC has updated its coronavirus advice for parents to include information about [coronavirus lockdown and separated parents](#) and [supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities \(SEND\)](#).

[COVID-19 and Its Implications for Protecting Children Online- a technical note from UNICEF and partners](#)