



Children in Wales

Bi-weekly e-briefing for Members

Tuesday, 12 May 2020

Issue 14

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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

A huge welcome to Owen Evans, who joins Children in Wales this week as the new Chief Executive. Owen commented, "This is undoubtedly a challenging and concerning time for children and young people across Wales, which makes the work of Children in Wales and its member organisations all the more urgent. We know that the greatest impact of COVID-19 falls disproportionately upon more vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, which underlines the importance of collaborative, collective approaches. I look forward to working with our members, Young Wales and the Welsh Government to rise to the challenges we face."

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

[Latest statement from Public Health Wales](#)

Senedd, Welsh Government and UK Government

The Senedd Blog – article on the impact of Coronavirus on poverty in Wales
seneddresearch.blog/2020/05/07/coronavirus-poverty/

Children, Young People and Education Committee - COVID-19: Evidence session with the Welsh Government

[Written Statement on Carers](#)

Attendance of children and staff on weekdays (excluding bank holidays) at local authority settings during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic for 27 April to 1 May 2020.

[Minister launches 'Home shouldn't be a place of fear' campaign with a message to victims of domestic abuse: Support is available, you are not alone](#)

A new report from the UK Parliament Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee has been published looking at the impact of the emergency funding announced by the Government on charities

Education Updates

Situation for schools will not change on June 1st, Education Minister says

Accessing school and community-based counselling: coronavirus

Free school meals

Policy, Research and Information

[Consultation: Scrutiny of Covid-19 and its impact on children and young people \(including students in further and higher education\)](#)

The Children, Young People and Education Committee is exploring how the outbreak of COVID-19 is affecting all aspects of life for children and young people (including students in further and higher education). [A child-friendly version](#) of this call for views is available. Given current circumstances there is no fixed deadline by which to submit your views – share them with us as soon as you're able so that we can follow things up in as timely a way as possible. Find out more, and how to submit your views [here](#).

[Consultation: Inquiry into COVID-19 and its impact on matters relating to the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee's remit.](#) The Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee is undertaking an inquiry into the Covid-19 outbreak in Wales. The inquiry will consider the impact of coronavirus, and the response to it, on the following areas: Local government, housing, equalities, tackling poverty, human rights, and any other issues within the committee's portfolio.

The Committee is keen to hear from anyone with an interest in this inquiry. Given current circumstances there is no fixed deadline by which to submit your views, we ask you to share them with us as soon as you're able so that we can follow things up in as timely a way as possible. Find out more, and how to submit your views [here](#).