



# Children in Wales

Bi-weekly e-briefing for Members

Friday, 29 May 2020

Issue 18

[@Childreninwales](#)

[www.childreninwales.org.uk](http://www.childreninwales.org.uk)

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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

Children in Wales has released a briefing with the Wales UNCRC Monitoring Group examining what progress has been made in delivering children's rights to play. In 2016, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child issued their Concluding Observations in respect of the UK and devolved governments progress in achieving compliance with the principles and standards as set out in the UNCRC. Informed by the State Party report and the shadow report submitted by the Wales UNCRC Monitoring Group, the Concluding Observations provide a series of actions that governments should take to advance children's rights in their country. In advance of the next reporting round, the Wales UNCRC Monitoring Group identified a number of thematic areas and considered the extent to which law, policy and practice in Wales has progressed since 2016 in line with the UNs recommendations. The following [Thematic Briefing Paper provides this in respect of Play and Leisure](#).

Children in Wales is now providing short on-line courses on topics like Safeguarding, LGBT and Knife Crime. Why not use this time to make sure that you and all your staff are up-to-date with your training needs? Visit our [website](#) for more information, and remember, you can access our courses at a cheaper rate if you are a [member](#).

## 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](mailto: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.](#)

[Meic Cyrmu](#) is the advocacy, information and advice helpline for children in Wales, helping the children of Wales through the coronavirus pandemic. They are contactable through their Freephone helpline on 080880 23456, free text service on 84001, and their online chat service via their website.

# Welsh Government and Public Health Wales

[Updated guidance on Children's social services during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

[Childcare for under five year olds parents guidance](#)

[Information about further and higher education during the coronavirus pandemic.](#)

[Diagram explaining how many days to stay at home for different scenarios.](#)

[Public Health Wales Week 6 report: How are we doing in Wales?](#)

## Mental Health & Well-being

[People with mental health problems are struggling to access support during lockdown, charities have warned.](#)

[The charity which runs the national domestic abuse helpline has had a 10-fold increase in visits to its website in the past two weeks.](#)

[A young person's guide to coping with lockdown](#)

## Education

[A lack of access to basic technology during lockdown poses an "unprecedented threat" to the wellbeing of children in care and care leavers, a charity warns.](#)

[Keeping Kids Safe Online Webinar:](#) The NSPCC and O2 are working in partnership to offer free 30 minute long sessions on keeping your family safe online.

[WJEC: Ofqual's consultation on grading of general qualifications](#)

[How schools in Wales might look when they return as mammoth task of reopening is outlined](#)

[Parents of disabled children 'cut off and ignored'](#)

## Finance

[Poverty kills, but could universal basic income be the cure? The Covid-19 crossroads offers a choice between continuing today's rabid inequalities or building a fairer tomorrow](#)

[Welsh Government guide of financial support for individuals](#)

## Policy, Research and Information

[Bevan Foundation - Holly Taylor, Executive Director of Policy and Communications at the Welsh Refugee Council, explains the ways in which they have had to adapt their service provision during lock down and how it is has highlighted existing issues in the asylum and refugee system](#)

[Senedd research: Brexit and coronavirus](#)

[Senedd research: Mental Health and coronavirus](#)

[National Academy for Education Leadership - How can we support your well-being? Survey: The Leadership Academy is working to produce a well-being strategy that will seek to influence the well-being development of leaders within the system who will directly impact well-being within their own institutions and hence the nation as a whole. NAEL would really appreciate your thoughts on these few questions. The survey can be accessed here and will close on Friday 5 June at 5pm.](#)

[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 – we asked 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.](#)

[Consultation: Inquiry into the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak, and its management, on health and social care in Wales -](#) The [Health, Social Care and Sport Committee](#) is undertaking an inquiry into the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak, and its management, on health and social care in Wales. The inquiry will consider the impact of the outbreak, and its management, on health and social care services in Wales. As part of this, the Committee will examine the response by the Welsh Government and relevant public bodies, as well as considering the impact on staff, patients and others receiving care or treatment in both clinical settings and the community. It will also consider the Wales response in the wider, UK context. [The Committee is keen to hear from anyone with an interest in this inquiry. Find out more, and how to submit your views here.](#)