



# Children in Wales

Bi-weekly e-briefing for Members

Thursday 30 April 2020

Issue 11

[@Childreninwales](#)

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

[/childreninwales](#)

## 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 Resources from the Getting Ready Project

[A new suite of resources](#) has been produced by the Getting Ready Project to enhance care experienced young people's knowledge and understanding of their rights and entitlements when planning to leave care. These resources can be used by young people and professionals to provide support for young people to safely transition from care, reducing the risk of homelessness and achieving housing stability amongst care leavers. You can access the full suite of resources [here](#). We will also be tweeting out the resources of the course of the week to highlight the launch and would encourage our members to retweet and share.

## 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.](#)

# Health Updates

[WHO/Europe publishes guidance on the gradual easing of measures taken in response to COVID-19](#)

[Wales will not follow England in providing tests to all care home residents and workers.](#)

# Welsh Government and Public Health Wales

[Revised guidance for schools in Wales: supporting children eligible for free school meals](#)

[Welsh Government Guidance for dealing with people who are unwilling or unable to self-isolate or follow coronavirus lockdown instructions](#)

[Welsh Government Written Statement: COVID-19 Recovery Phase Planning: operation of schools](#)

# Mental Well-being Updates

[The government must consider the impact of the lockdown on domestic abuse and mental health as it plans its exit strategy, Theresa May has said](#)

[Place2Be - wellbeing activity ideas for families](#)

[Young Minds - Tips, advice and guidance on where you can get support for your mental health during the coronavirus](#)

[Leading mental health charities unite to bring round the clock support to our frontline](#)

# Education Updates

[Education Minister sets out five key principles for schools' return.](#)

[- Read the BBC's coverage of this here](#)

[Place2Be - wellbeing activity ideas for schools](#)

[Lead Creative Schools online: call out for schools to take part](#)

The Education Support Partnership has developed digital resources on the [ESP website](#) to provide support to education staff during these challenging times.

# Finance Updates

[More than £500 million of support reaches Welsh businesses](#)

# Policy, Research and Information

[NYAS Survey: What the Coronavirus lockdown has meant for you.](#) NYAS are asking children and young people to fill in this five-minute survey. We are asking ten questions to find out how you feel about what is going on in your life now, during the lockdown.

On Friday 6 March 2020, the Home Office [announced a further £8 million](#) of funding to help vulnerable EU citizens apply to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) for the 2020-2021 financial year. The new £8 million of funding will ensure that those who are the most vulnerable continue to receive a [wide range of support](#) online, over the phone and in person to help them apply to the EU Settlement Scheme. Funding will be available to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations willing to support vulnerable EU citizens and their family members with making EUSS applications, Local Authorities (LAs) across the UK and local government associations or organisations providing support services (or equivalents in the Devolved Administrations).

## Save the Children art competition

We're asking children to create an artwork showing their views on lockdown life and who or what is helping them to cope. These will be a contribution of children's voices to a nationwide piece of social history, presented to the National Museum Wales as a record of Welsh children's responses to the Covid-19 crisis.

# Policy, Research and Information (cont)

The theme of the competition is ‘Who or What is your Stay at Home Hero?’

There are three categories:

Category 1 (ages 1-7): My home heroes

- Category 2 (ages 8-11): My home heroes

- Category 3 (ages 12-16): Lockdown life

Welsh Artist Andrew Southall will adjudicate the entries and prize money of £100 will be awarded to the winner from each category, also prizes for the runners-up. There is no set entry fee but any donations will support our Covid 19 appeal. We would like as many participants and entries as possible, so please share if you know anyone who would like to enter.

More information including how to enter is at [www.artistheroes.wordpress.com](http://www.artistheroes.wordpress.com)

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).

We are keen to hear from everyone involved in supporting children and young people across sectors, including – but not limited to – education, health, social care, and youth work. We will also engage directly with children and young people to ensure that their views are at the forefront of scrutiny. **We do not expect detailed or lengthy evidence papers** – a short email about your views on, and experiences of, the impact of the pandemic is more than enough, and we will get in touch with you directly if there’s anything we want to understand more fully.

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.

Please submit your views to [SeneddCYPE@senedd.cymru](mailto:SeneddCYPE@senedd.cymru)