



Children in Wales

Bi-weekly e-briefing for Members

Thursday, 21 May 2020

Issue 17

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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, in partnership with the Welsh Government, the Children's Commissioner for Wales and the Youth Parliament for Wales has launched a national survey to gather the views of children and young people about how they've felt about lockdown. We are encouraging all our members and partners to share the survey with children and young people so that the Welsh Government hear their views. The survey is available [here](#) and closes on 27 May 2020.

Children in Wales has this week 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 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 Cymru](#) 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.

Health

From 18 May 2020, everyone in Wales with symptoms of coronavirus will be able to request a test as a new online booking service becomes available.

[Latest statement from Public Health Wales](#)

Welsh Government

[Latest data and analysis on the effect of coronavirus on society in Wales](#)

[Written Statement: Older people's rights and coronavirus](#)

[Self-isolating in your shared home during the coronavirus pandemic](#)

Mental Health & Well-being

[The Covid-19 pandemic will have serious long-term consequences for young people's mental health, charities, doctors and educationalists warn](#)

[Public health survey reveals bigger impacts of Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and restriction measures on wellbeing of those in poorer communities](#)

[Place2Be - Coronavirus: Helping children to process loss](#)

Education

[Information on health and well-being for school staff and learners during the coronavirus pandemic](#)

Policy, Research and Information

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

[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 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.](#)

End Child Poverty has published new figures (May 2019) on the level of child poverty in each constituency, local authority and ward in Britain. Find the report [here](#).

NYAS Cymru has released a [new report](#) on care-experienced children and young people's perspectives and experiences of the Covid-19 pandemic.