

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN  
INFORMATION & NEWS UPDATE - 144  
25<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

**Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Well-being of Looked After Children** (Nov 2009)


This statutory guidance is issued to LAs, PCTs and SHAs and applies to England only. It is issued under sections 10 and 11 of the Children Act 2004 and they must have regard to it when exercising their functions.

The guidance is also issued to LAs under s7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970, and LAs must act under it in discharging their duties to promote the health of the children they look after.

The policy context for this guidance is the overarching ECM framework for improving outcomes for children and young people and the programme set out in the White Paper, Care Matters: Time for Change, for improving outcomes for looked after children.

LAs, SHAs and PCTs have a shared responsibility in helping to achieve ECM outcomes for looked after children.  
[http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01071-2009&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Promoting\\_Health.pdf](http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01071-2009&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Promoting_Health.pdf)

**Improving the attainment of looked after children in primary and secondary schools** (Nov 2009)

For many children in care, school life can be challenging. They may find it harder to trust adults; their educational experience may have been disrupted; and their capacity to build and maintain friendships may be impaired. They need good schools, with 

good staff who understand how to support and challenge them.

These guides capture the experience of schools that have worked well to support children in care. It is hoped that spreading their good practice could benefit many more children across the country.

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01047-2009&>

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/01047-2009.pdf>

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/01048-2009.pdf>

**Ofsted Annual Report** (Nov 2009)

This report summarises findings from inspections and regulatory activity in 2008/09. For each sector, it set out an overview of the quality of provision and of the progress and experience of the learners and children concerned.

The report also illustrates different aspects of improvement by considering 3 themes of national interest:

- improving outcomes for looked after children
- teaching and learning, and
- developing skills for employment

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Annual-Report-2008-09>

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=HC+11&>

[http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Ofsted-Annual-Report\\_08-09.pdf](http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Ofsted-Annual-Report_08-09.pdf)

**Human Rights Joint Committee – 25<sup>th</sup> Report - Children's Rights (20/11/09)**

The Committee acknowledges the positive developments since the UNCRC came into force in the UK in 1991, but many concerns remain - 20% of children live in poverty in GB, rising to 38% in NI.

As well as the low rankings in child well-being in industrialised nations, the UK is unique in the EU in recruiting under 18s into the armed forces (28% in 2007–8). The Committee heard concerns of the risks this poses to the physical and mental well-being of adolescents and whether children should be required to make such a binding contract.

The Committee also says the Government must take positive, measurable action to address the serious problem of the unfounded but widespread negative stereotyping of children and young people. Innovative and proactive solutions are required to address this problem, which the Committee says can do real harm to the status and aspirations of children living in the UK.

The Committee says the Govt should review and explain why such a disproportionate number of vulnerable children are present in the criminal justice system.

The Committee reiterates its concern that painful restraint techniques are still being used against young people in detention, despite this being directly against Convention rights, and especially disproportionately against vulnerable girls.

The Committee is not persuaded by the Government's argument that children's rights are currently adequately protected by UK law or that incorporation into UK law of the UNCRC is unnecessary.

The UK should develop an implementation plan for UNCRC recommendations, with annual progress reports.

<http://news.parliament.uk/2009/11/committee-e-says-action-must-be-taken-on-uk-children/>  
[http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary\\_committees/joint\\_committee\\_on\\_human\\_rights.cfm](http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/joint_committee_on_human_rights.cfm)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/jt200809/jtselect/jtrights/157/15702.htm>

**UNCRC: Priorities for action (Nov 2009)**

This document highlights govt progress in its commitment to priority areas of the UNCRC and sets out future plans. It describes how policies for C&YP are underpinned by the UNCRC and outlines the desire to make it a reality in children's lives. (see page 14 for Welsh Plan).

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01099-2009&>

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/01099-2009BKT-EN.pdf>

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn\\_id=2009\\_0221](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2009_0221)

**Working together, achieving more -Nov 09**

This report is a UK-wide commitment to take action to make children and young people's rights under the UNCRC a reality. It is a response to UN recommendations in its *Concluding observations* report.

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/strategy/strategyandgovernance/uncrc/uncrccommit2009/uncrccommit2009/>

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01084-2009&>

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/01084-2009BKT-EN.pdf>

**Children Assessed To Be In Need By Children's Social Care Services, England, 6 Months ending 31/03/09** (19/11/09)

The key points from this release are:

- 407,800 children had an episode of need
- There were 304,400 children in need (276 children per 10,000 children under 18)
- There were 3,200 children in need who were unborn (1% of the population)
- Excluding these unborn children, 54% of children were male, compared to 45% who were female

For all children in need:

- 41% (123,800) were in need as a result of, or were at risk of abuse or neglect
- 15% (46,100) were in need due to family dysfunction, and
- 13% (39,800) were in need due to the child's disability, illness or intrinsic condition

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d000892/index.shtml>

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d000892/SR\\_Text\\_Final.pdf](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d000892/SR_Text_Final.pdf)

**Children, Schools and Families Bill** (19/11/09)

The Children, Schools and Families Bill outlines plans for:

- Pupil and Parents Guarantees including a right to receive one to one catch up tuition for pupils that need it most;
- curriculum reforms – introduction of the new primary curriculum and making PSHE compulsory;
- Licence to Practise – a new professional standard for teachers;
- 21st century schools – in future schools will work more in partnership and have greater flexibility in how they spend their budgets;
- making it easier for strong schools to sponsor academies;



- new powers for LAs and Secretary of State to intervene to raise standards in schools;
- supporting the introduction of the new School Report Card – this will provide more information for parents and a more intelligent and well-rounded assessment of school performance;
- safeguarding the vulnerable – strengthening the powers of LAs and others with regards to registration, inspection and intervention including setting up a new home education registration system.

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn\\_id=2009\\_0220](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2009_0220)

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01098-2009&>

**Young People Not in Employment, Education or Training: Statistics quarterly brief** (19/11/09)

Following the latest NEET figures, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for 14-19 Reform and Apprenticeships Iain Wright announced a new commitment to build on the September Guarantee and provide every 16- and 17-year-old NEET in January 2010 with the offer of a place on an Entry to Employment course.

This will be supported by providing additional funding for 10,000 new Entry to Employment places, and Education Maintenance Allowance to go with this.

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/content.cfm?landing=iain\\_wright\\_responds\\_to\\_latest\\_quarterly\\_neet\\_figures&type=1](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/content.cfm?landing=iain_wright_responds_to_latest_quarterly_neet_figures&type=1)

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d000890/index.shtml>

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d000890/NEETQtrBriefQ32009.pdf>

### **New online game to help tackle child road deaths** (19/11/09)

An innovative online game to help reduce the number of children killed and injured on Britain's roads was launched today by Road Safety Minister Paul Clark.

'The Code of Everand' uses a virtual world to help children develop skills - such as finding a safe place to cross and planning ahead - which will help them to stay safe in the real world.

These skills are particularly vital for children as they make the transition from primary to secondary school and start making longer journeys on their own. Twice as many 12-year-old than nine-year-old pedestrians are hurt each year on Britain's roads and in 2008, 17 children aged 10-12 were killed on the roads while more than 2,500 were injured.

The multi-player online game is set in the fantasy land of Everand which is criss-crossed by spirit channels, inhabited by dangerous creatures. Players are 'Pathfinders', the heroes of the society, who travel about the land and are trained to cross the spirit channels safely. In a world first, the game uses real road data so players confront hazards based on the real situations that children face on the roads.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/Content/detail.aspx?NewsAreaId=2&ReleaseID=408718&SubjectId=2>

<http://codeofeverand.co.uk/>

### **Hidden Talents III: celebrating achievements**

The LGA have been undertaking a programme of work, Hidden Talents: re-engaging young people, looking at solutions for engaging all of our young people aged 16-24 into positive activity.



The case studies are supplemented by further studies on the website and publicity materials that can be used to promote the message of celebrating what young people can do.

They highlight factors that can disengage young people from learning and employment. For most, disengagement is the outcome of long term disaffection and marginalisation, often the culmination of a range of experiences, circumstances and disadvantage. Such factors are often complex, inter-linked and mutually reinforcing, thus creating cycles of exclusion that are hard to break away from.

[www.lga.gov.uk/hiddentalents](http://www.lga.gov.uk/hiddentalents).

### **Guidance on Managing Staff Employment in Schools** (Nov 2009)

The primary purpose of this document is to provide guidance on the School Staffing (England) Regulations 2009 ("the 2009 Regulations") by explaining what is required of governing bodies, LAs and headteachers by the Regulations. Where appropriate, it also gives some guidance on, or pointers to, other acts and regulations relevant to the employment of staff in maintained schools.

This guidance supersedes the 'Staffing guidance under ss 35(8) and 36(8) of the Education Act 2002' and came into effect on 2 November 2009.

This advice is not comprehensive and is included primarily to draw attention to other legislation and guidance that needs to be considered, some of which may be statutory. [http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01081-2009&](http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01081-2009&http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/01081-2009DOM-EN.pdf)  
<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/01081-2009DOM-EN.pdf>

### **Dosage of oseltamivir in children under 6 months of age in the swine flu pandemic**

(19/11/09)

This letter provides information about changes to the dose of oseltamivir in children under 6 months of age during an influenza pandemic outbreak and the steps that need to be taken to ensure a safe transition to the new dosage.

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearcolleagueletters/DH\\_108894](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearcolleagueletters/DH_108894)

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_108897.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh_108897.pdf)

### **Speak Solve Stop – Anti bullying DVD**

(19/11/09)

This DVD was written and produced by a group of young people from Beverley in East Yorkshire with support from East Riding Youth Service. The aim was to encourage people to speak out about bullying and shows the benefit of doing so in a school based scenario.

This short film is suitable for secondary schools and is an ideal way of promoting discussion around bullying issues. The DVD comes in a pack with accompanying notes, suggested activities for schools and useful contacts.

To order or get more information, please contact East Riding Youth Service

Tel: 01482 392827

Email: [joanne.bennett@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.bennett@eastriding.gov.uk)

[http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/press\\_centre/latest\\_news/speak\\_solve\\_stop.aspx](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/press_centre/latest_news/speak_solve_stop.aspx)

### **Cyberbullying – advice for parents and carers (16/11/09)**

Recent research carried out for ABA found:

- 89% of parents of 8-14 year-olds agreed that cyberbullying is as serious as other forms of bullying
- Only 46% had talked to their children about how to protect themselves
- 61% of year 6 pupils thought a good way to stop cyberbullying would be for parents and carers to know how to deal with it.

ABA have produced a briefing for parents and carers which contains practical ideas on how to respond to cyberbullying and prevent it happening in the first place.

The following tips can help parents protect children and young people:

- Know which websites your children visit and help them find ‘report abuse’ or ‘block sender’ options so they can feel in control
- Tell them not to reply to unpleasant messages
- Urge them not to delete bullying texts, emails or posts on social networking sites
- Ensure they act thoughtfully – comments and photos can stay online forever and texts can be forwarded widely
- Ensure they protect their password to keep their files and information safe
- Encourage them to take action and talk to you if they are cyberbullied
- Tell them not to give personal details online e.g. mobile number, address, email
- Regularly check and clean their ‘friends’ lists on social networking sites
- Tell them to keep evidence - callers and mailers can be traced

[http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/press\\_centre/latest\\_news/tips\\_for\\_parents\\_and\\_carers.aspx](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/press_centre/latest_news/tips_for_parents_and_carers.aspx)

[http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/PDF/Parents\\_and\\_Carers\\_09.pdf](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/PDF/Parents_and_Carers_09.pdf)

**Put children and young people at the heart of the care system (16/11/09)**

Ed Balls will today back children and young people in care and promise them the same as every other child with a promise that they should not be stopped unnecessarily from taking part in activities their friends do.

Through the 'From Care2Work' programme, all care leavers are now given a guaranteed opportunity to get training, mentoring and access to jobs.

The Children's Secretary is now asking all LAs to get on board with this positive scheme to ensure the 6,000 young people leaving the care system in the next year have the opportunity to succeed and thrive.

In 2007 the Government launched the Care Matters programme, a wide ranging set of reforms to the care system bought in to improve the service that vulnerable children and young people receive. And today the Government will publish the first annual progress report into these reforms, setting out the progress to date, the range of measures introduced since Care Matters and outlining the Government's priorities for the care system for 2010.

As part of the Government's reform programme of the care system Ministers met with young people who raised concerns that they miss out on many experiences their peers have because their carers are unsure of the rules around how they can spend their free time. They also told ministers that if they have to move from a foster parent to a children's home they are often given a bin-liner for their belongings rather than luggage.  
[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn\\_id=2009\\_0218](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2009_0218)  
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/news-and-communications/news/161109nicareleaversg>

**Care Matters: Ministerial stocktake report 2009 (Nov 2009)**

This report sets out what the DCSF have achieved for children in care through the Care Matters programme of reform, and the plans for 2010.

The Care Matters White Paper, issued in 2007, set out an ambitious programme of change to improve the outcomes of children in care. The DCSF said they would review progress annually and this report sets out what has been achieved so far.

Care Matters set out a vision to ensure that in the future children in care would have the same opportunities in life as their peers – a good education, good health care, and consistent support, advice and practical help to give them strong foundations on which they can build happy and successful lives.  
[http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01078-2009&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Care\\_Matters\\_Stocktake.pdf](http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01078-2009&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Care_Matters_Stocktake.pdf)

**Care Matters: Ministerial stocktake report 2009 - Young person's version (Nov 2009)**

[http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01079-2009&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Carematters%20\\_Young\\_Persons\\_version.pdf](http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-01079-2009&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Carematters%20_Young_Persons_version.pdf)

**Letter to all Children in Care (16/11/09)**

The Children's Secretary Ed Balls has written to all children in care to tell them what the government is doing to improve the care they receive.  
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/pnattach/20090218/1.pdf>

**Realising Young Potential: Supporting care leavers into education, employment and training (Nov 2009)**

This report aims to support LA Leaving Care Teams and their partners, to further assist young people who have left care to access education, employment and training.

[http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/310305/eet\\_report.pdf](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/310305/eet_report.pdf)

**Improving Safety, Reducing Harm: Children, young people and domestic violence - A practical toolkit for front-line practitioners (18/11/09)**

This toolkit provides specific information about children, domestic violence and related issues; an overview of ECM and the tiers of intervention; principles of commissioning services; risk assessment and safety planning information; guidance for schools; clear explanations of key standards and policies; sample forms and key fact sheets.

This toolkit supersedes Responding to domestic abuse: A handbook for health professionals.

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_108697](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_108697)

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_108704.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_108704.pdf)

**Outstanding Providers Criteria (24/11/09)**

The Outstanding Provider list 2008/09 includes providers inspected between 01/09/08 and 31/08/09 who met the criteria outlined in this document.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Ofsted-Outstanding-Providers-2008-09-criteria>

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/10516/125870/file/Ofsted%20outstanding%20providers%20200809%20criteria.doc>

**ACPO Managers Guide - Good Practice - and Advice Guide for Managers of e-Crime Investigations**

The rate of technological change in our society has been and continues to be dramatic, the pace of change is likely to accelerate rather than slow down. New computer operating systems promise seamless encryption to protect data and messaging whilst solid-state technology will produce new forensic challenges. These technological advances provide many new opportunities for criminals to exploit.

Consequently law enforcement agencies must invest in the skills and resources necessary to police the ever changing digital environment.

If the law enforcement community is to continue to prevent and reduce crime, improve the quality of investigations as well as the administration of justice it is absolutely vital that Senior Management understand and address the challenges associated with the Internet and digital evidence, in all its forms.

The issue of commonality and overlap is a real one. Without doubt there are issues, particularly in respect of the Internet, which impact on all other areas of criminality. Terrorism, Child Protection, Vice, Paedophilia and Fraud are examples where this particularly applies. It is important to understand the message that computers and the Internet provide opportunities not only for the commission of new offences, but also for the commission of traditional crime.

<http://www.acpo.police.uk/asp/policies/Data/Advice%20for%20Managers%20of%20E-Crime%20Investigations.pdf>

**Summary Care Records launched in London (16/11/09)**

Summary Care Records containing key medical information which will be accessible wherever patients are treated are being rolled out across London, the DH has announced. The scheme is taking off across England over the next year as part of a national roll-out of the programme.

A Summary Care Record is a secure electronic summary of core information such as medications, allergies, adverse reactions and key health information derived initially from the patient's GP record and added to as necessary by other healthcare staff treating the patient.

Everyone living in the capital will be written to, outlining the initiative, and offering them the choice to opt out of having a Summary Care Record created.

The records have already been trialled in a number of regions across England, with SHAs across the country now planning to implement them.  
<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?NewsAreaId=2&ReleaseID=408573&SubjectId=2>

**Factsheet: childcare - Childminders using assistants (20/11/09)**

This factsheet sets out Ofsted's policy and understanding of the law about the use of assistants by childminders on the Early Years and Childcare Registers.  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Factsheet-childcare-Childminders-using-assistants>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/10302/118093/file/Childminders%20using%20assistants.doc>

**Grade criteria for the inspection of initial teacher education 2008–11 (20/11/09)**

This revised document contains the grade criteria for inspection of ITE.  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Grade-criteria-for-the-inspection-of-initial-teacher-education-2008-11>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/5978/54268/file/Grade%20criteria%20for%20the%20inspection%20of%20initial%20teacher%20education%202008-11%20.doc>

**Anti-social Behaviour Family Intervention Projects - Monitoring and Evaluation (Nov 2009)**

This research provides information on the families referred to Anti-Social Behaviour FIPs, including outcomes. The report presents information about families involved in an FIP intervention up to 31/03/09.  
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-RBX-09-16&http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RBX-09-16.pdf>

**Children's cancer measures for the Manual for Cancer Services (13/11/09)**

This is a letter from Stephen Parsons, Acting Director National Cancer Action Team. It highlights the publication of the Children's Cancer Measures, as part of the revised Manual for Cancer Services, following a 3 month consultation period.  
[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearcolleagueletter/DH\\_108667](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Dearcolleagueletter/DH_108667)  
[http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_108668.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh_108668.pdf)  
[http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_108670.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_108670.pdf)

### **Whose Child Now? (17/11/09)**

In this report, Barnardo's calls for more support for sexually exploited children. The report shows:

- around 80% of LAs do not have any specialist work for sexually exploited children and young people
- Barnardo's worked intensively with 1060 C&YP who had been sexually exploited over the course of last year (2007/8), in 20 of the 209 LA and Trust areas
- research conducted in London alone for Barnardo's in 2005 estimated that 1000 children were at risk of sexual exploitation

Barnardo's is calling for all LAs and Trusts to ensure the needs of these children are specifically addressed in children's plans, by commissioning research and then addressing the problem, if necessary with a specific, direct service.

The report also reveals disturbing trends in child trafficking within the UK for sexual exploitation and risks to children and young people who go missing:

- Of the 609 sexually exploited C&YP Barnardo's is currently working with, 90 appeared to have been trafficked within the UK - approximately 1 in 6
- In England, in 07 (most recent figures) there were 25 proceedings on grounds of trafficking for sexual exploitation (includes adults) with only 15 guilty verdicts.
- From the sexually exploited C&YP Barnardo's is currently working with, around 55% go missing on a regular basis.

[http://www.barnardos.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/media\\_centre/press\\_releases.htm?ref=52474](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/news_and_events/media_centre/press_releases.htm?ref=52474)

[http://www.barnardos.org.uk/whose\\_child\\_now.pdf](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/whose_child_now.pdf)

### **Leaders of Children's Services call for new approach from Ofsted (23/11/09)**

The ADCS says the current inspection model, including the CAA, is based on a flawed methodology, wastes time and resources and fails to describe LA performance in a way that the public can understand. It calls for the inspectorate to:

#### **As a minimum,**

- clarify how judgements are reached in a range of inspection frameworks (child protection, schools, children's homes) and in the evaluation of serious case reviews;
- reform the way that annual performance profiles are compiled and presented, to make them meaningful to the public;
- identify problems facing service delivery nationally and use this knowledge to inform the development of national policy, rather than criticising LAs for problems outside of their control;
- improve connections between the inspectorates involved in the CAA so that the quality of services are consistently judged across a local area.

**In the longer term**, the inspectorate should work with the sector to develop a new approach that will:

- Retain a single inspectorate for children's services and incorporate responsibilities for the inspection of child health services into the same body;
- Reduce the burden on LAs in complying with demands of inspectorates;
- Reduce costs associated with inspection by judging a LA's abilities to audit their own performance;
- Focus on the role of peer support and review to drive improvement and judge quality;
- Redirect regional improvement funds from centralised field forces to a peer led improvement model.

<http://www.adcs.org.uk/PressReleases/ADC-S-PR-Challenging-the-challengers.pdf>

### **Independent sexual violence advisors - A - process evaluation (Nov 2009)**

This evaluation assesses how ISVA services have been implemented in SARCs and voluntary sector organisations, and their perceived impact. ISVAs were introduced in a number of areas in 2006. Their main responsibilities can be broadly grouped into:

- advice and support: providing non-therapeutic support to victims at the point of crisis and beyond, along with other types of practical help and advice;
- where required, supporting victims through the CJS: giving information and assistance through the criminal justice process; and
- multi-agency partnership working on behalf of the victim: liaising with partner agencies in a multi-agency context, providing 'institutional advocacy'.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs/09/horr20.pdf>

### **New Legislation**

#### ▪ **Health Act 2009**

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2009/ukpga\\_20090021\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2009/ukpga_20090021_en_1)

#### ▪ **Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009**

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2009/ukpga\\_20090022\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2009/ukpga_20090022_en_1)

#### ▪ **Autism Act 2009**

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2009/en/ukpgaen\\_20090015\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2009/en/ukpgaen_20090015_en_1)

#### ▪ **Policing and Crime Act 2009**

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2009/ukpga\\_20090026\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2009/ukpga_20090026_en_1)

#### ▪ **The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2009 SI 2984**

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/uksi\\_2009\\_2984\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/uksi_2009_2984_en_1)

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/em/uksiem\\_20092984\\_en.pdf](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/em/uksiem_20092984_en.pdf)

### **"Every Step of the Way - Planning the Journey for Life-limited Children"**

This is a transcript of a speech by Phil Hope, Minister of State for Care Services at the ACT Annual Conference on 18/11/09

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/News/Speeches/DH\\_108979](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/News/Speeches/DH_108979)

### **School Improvement Planning: An introduction (Nov 2009)**

The SIPF is a suite of 25 tools and techniques designed to help schools take planning, strategic thinking and implementation and impact evaluation to the next level. This summary explains how schools and LAs are using it to improve ECM outcomes, raise achievement for all, and maximise and demonstrate impact.

<http://www.tda.gov.uk/about/publicationslisting/TDA0776.aspx>

[http://www.tda.gov.uk/upload/resources/pdfs/school\\_improvement\\_planning\\_overview.pdf](http://www.tda.gov.uk/upload/resources/pdfs/school_improvement_planning_overview.pdf)

### **Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO) with Intensive Supervision and Surveillance**

New Operational Management Guidance has been developed to assist YOTS to deliver ISS from 30 November.

A YRO with ISS comprises of a number of mandatory requirements, one of which is an extended activity requirement of more than 90 days but not more than 180 days. For a Band 1 or 2 ISS, the court must request an Extended Activity Requirement of 91 days.

Voice verification can be added as an additional surveillance element to ISS.

Further information is in the new Guidance.

<http://youthjusticeboard.newsweaver.co.uk/1mnozxx7zjl16s49h76f4g?email=true>

[http://www.yjb.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/7D8F9D9E-D3C3-44CD-B7F7-](http://www.yjb.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/7D8F9D9E-D3C3-44CD-B7F7-280DA9078EE8/0/YROwithISSOperational)

[280DA9078EE8/0/YROwithISSOperational](http://www.yjb.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/7D8F9D9E-D3C3-44CD-B7F7-280DA9078EE8/0/YROwithISSOperational)

### **Youth Crime Action Plan**

The YCAP is a cross-government analysis of what the government is going to do to tackle youth crime. It sets out a 'triple track' approach of enforcement and punishment where behaviour is unacceptable, non-negotiable support and challenge where it is most needed, and better and earlier prevention. It makes clear that the government will not tolerate behaviour that causes misery and suffering for innocent victims.

The YCAP - One Year On sets out the progress we have made, and describes the action we will take over the next year. It highlights how we will continue to take action to ensure that we build the confidence of communities, families and young people. At the centre of our plan is a commitment to ensure that the public knows about our work, can have a say in it, and is confident that we are doing the right things and achieving results.

As part of the YCAP, safer school partnerships are being created around the country. These are formal arrangements between schools and police to work together to keep young people safe, reduce crime and improve behaviour. As part of these arrangements, a police officer or PCSO will work at a school or cluster of schools with pupils and staff.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/youth-crime-action-plan/>

### **Knife Crime Prevention Programme**

(23/11/09)

A hard hitting programme to educate young people convicted of knife possession about the dangers and consequences of carrying a knife has been rolled out across all TKAP areas.



Following a pilot, the KCPP is now being run by nearly 100 YOTs in TKAP areas.

The programme is targeted solely at young people (aged 10 — 17) convicted of any offence involving a knife and does not replace the tough sentences imposed on adults or repeat offenders.

Run by the HO and YJB the programme consists of 8 modules including — attitudes towards carrying a knife, the legal implications of buying knives, impact of knife wounds including images, and talks from victims or their family. Alongside these tough messages the young people are provided with support such as - help leaving gangs, advice for managing anger or self referral pathways for those who feel threatened.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?NewsAreaId=2&ReleaseID=408830&SubjectId=2>

### **Monitoring visits for early years provision judged as inadequate (24/11/09)**

This guidance is to assist inspectors in conducting monitoring visits of providers who are registered on the Early Years Register and who are judged inadequate category 2 at inspection.

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Forms-and-guidance/Browse-all-by/Other/General/Monitoring-visits-for-early-years-provision-judged-as-inadequate>  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/content/download/10524/125927/file/Monitoring%20visits%20for%20early%20years%20provision%20judged%20as%20inadequate.doc>

**Together We Can End Violence Against Women and Girls: A strategy (25/11/09)**

This cross-government strategy sets out a coordinated approach to ending violence against women and girls. It includes a range of actions for the police, councils, the NHS and government departments across 3 areas: prevention, provision and protection.

The prevention work addresses social attitudes and myths about violence, changing attitudes over the long-term and stopping violence happening in the first place. Part of this work will include an awareness raising campaign for teenagers aged 13 - 18.

The provision work focuses on ensuring women and girls have access to the right help and support for example counselling and access to specialist services, when violence does occur.

The protection work looks at how we can provide end-to-end support for all victims through the criminal and civil justice systems, from reporting the crime to going to court. It will also focus on bringing more offenders to justice by improving reporting and conviction rates, as well as working to rehabilitate offenders and manage the risk they may present to women and girls.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/news/violence-against-women-and-girls>  
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/va-wg-strategy-2009/>  
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/va-wg-strategy-2009/end-violence-against-women?view=Binary>  
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/va-wg-strategy-2009/annexes?view=Binary>

**Domestic Violence Ready Reckoner (25/11/09)**

This tool enables commissioners of services e.g. from health, policing and housing, to estimate need for local services for domestic and sexual violence and stalking, in their area. It will also be a useful for agencies which carry out joint strategic needs assessments. It highlights the estimated cost to services of domestic and sexual violence and areas that we do not have robust prevalence rates for and encourages people to find out more.

<http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/domesticviolence/domesticviolence072.htm>

<http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/domesticviolence/readyreckoner.xls>

**Statement on violence against women and girls (25/11/09)**

The PM has written a statement on the release of a cross-Government Strategy on violence against women and girls.

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page21439>

**Insights from Users and Providers of Children's Centres in Rural Communities:**

This summary report provides an overview of the challenges and opportunities of delivering children's centre services in rural areas and the experiences and perspectives of parents of young children. It also sets out key areas in which change is needed.

This report raises some important issues for providers and funders around accessibility, provision of employment and training, isolation and poverty that are worthy of further consideration.

[http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/files/RC111%20Childrens%20Centres\\_TAGGED.pdf](http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/files/RC111%20Childrens%20Centres_TAGGED.pdf)

<http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/events/crclaunhese28098insightsfromusersandprov>

**World class commissioning for the health - and wellbeing of people with learning disabilities (25/11/09)**

This document provides practical support for commissioners and contains a range of tools, techniques, key reference documents and case studies to help commissioners to improve the health and wellbeing of people with learning disabilities.

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_109088](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_109088)

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/@sta/@perf/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_109082.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/@sta/@perf/documents/digitalasset/dh_109082.pdf)

**More forced marriage protection orders than expected issued in first year (25/11/09)**

More people have been protected by Forced Marriage Protection Orders than originally expected in their first year of operation, show figures released today.

86 have been issued, compared to the predicted total of 50, since the protection orders were introduced on 25 November last year.

The orders are tailored to each case and designed to prevent a forced marriage from occurring or to offer protective measures when a forced marriage has already taken place e.g. confiscating passports to stop someone being taken out of the country, or an order to disclose someone's whereabouts and to return them to the UK, if they have been taken abroad already.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/newsrelease251109a.htm>

Speech by Bridget Prentice at the Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence Conference in Leicester.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/speech251109a.htm>

**Services for Children and Young People with Emotional and Mental Health Needs (24/11/09)**

This joint report concludes that mental health services in Wales are still failing many children and young people, despite some improvement in recent years.

The report highlights the barriers that are currently preventing further improvement such as the way services are planned and provided, and issues around workforce development, staff training and performance management.

The report makes 16 recommendations and calls for:

- The Assembly Government to develop an action plan within 6 months to address the issues identified around the availability and quality of services.
- Health Boards and LAs to develop local multi agency plans for implementing the priorities and targets in the national action plan.
- The Assembly Government to commission the development of information for children, young people and their parents on their rights relating to CAMHS and what they should expect from these services.
- The Assembly Government and other public bodies to introduce effective arrangements for managing and scrutinising performance ensuring results are widely available

<http://wales.gov.uk/cssiwsubsite/newcssiw/news/child/?jsessionid=KLbzLT0GQghJwWp6kGbsyXk301pTb6Q5gPcRbJ8HTqh0t2ckpQXw!686978193?lang=en>

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/cssiw/report/091117camhsen.pdf>

**Dedicated website area for professionals to tackle youth drinking (24/11/09)**

UK charity Drinkaware has launched a new section of its website dedicated to offering alcohol advice to professionals who work with young people.

<http://www.drinkaware.co.uk/media/press-releases/2009-press-release-archive/drinkaware-launches-dedicated-website-area-for-professionals-to-tackle-youth-drinking>

<http://www.drinkaware.co.uk/talking-to-under-18s/professionals>

<http://www.cypnow.co.uk/bulletins/Daily-Bulletin/news/969171/?DCMP=EMC-DailyBulletin>

**The Chance of a Lifetime: Preventing early conduct problems and reducing crime (23/11/09)**

1 child in 20 has conduct disorder, which is the most serious form of conduct problems. Those children go on to commit 30% of crime, at a cost to society of over £22b a year. Another 45% of children have mild or moderate conduct problems. They go on to commit half of all crime at an annual cost of some £37b.

The report shows that conduct problem prevention schemes can reduce future offending by more than 50%. Group-based parenting programmes cost less than £900 per child and home-based support for the parents of children with conduct disorder cost £4,000.

[http://www.scmh.org.uk/news/2009\\_preventing\\_conduct\\_disorder.aspx](http://www.scmh.org.uk/news/2009_preventing_conduct_disorder.aspx)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2009/nov/23/uk-crime-behavioural-problems-study>

[http://www.scmh.org.uk/pdfs/chance\\_of\\_a\\_lifetime.pdf](http://www.scmh.org.uk/pdfs/chance_of_a_lifetime.pdf)

**Couch kids: the nation's future... (23/11/09)**

Parents are stuck in a worrying "reality gap" when it comes to their children's fitness levels, according to a new survey by the British Heart Foundation.

Whilst 71% of parents think their children are "active enough," only 11% are doing the recommended daily 60 minutes of physical activity.

This report highlights how physical activity is a crucial component in tackling childhood obesity. Whilst the number of obese children has risen since the mid-1990s there have been no major changes in children's physical activity levels over the last decade. Around 1/3 of young people are overweight or obese. <http://www.bhf.org.uk/default.aspx?page=10739>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2009/nov/23/parents-childhood-obesity>

**Getting it Right: An Action Plan for Wales (20/11/09)**

This plan sets out 90 key actions across a wide range of policy areas, including:

- A new National Advocacy and Advice helpline service for C&YP
- Addressing negative perceptions of C&YP through promoting positive achievements and celebrating the success they achieve;
- Working to eliminate all types of bullying through new anti bullying guidance and the promotion of initiatives such as anti bullying week;
- Developing a new play policy and providing more opportunities for C&YP to engage in the music, arts and sport.

<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/policy/documents/strategies/12574.html>

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/childrenyoungpeople/publications/gettingitright2009/?lang=en>

### **Vetting and Barring Scheme Guidance** (20/11/09)

This guidance covers the changes that commence from 12/10/09:

- It is now a criminal offence for individuals barred by the ISA to work or apply to work with children or vulnerable adults in a wide range of posts - including most NHS jobs, Prison Service, education and childcare. Employers also face criminal sanctions for knowingly employing a barred individual across a wider range of work;
- The 3 former barred lists (POCA, POVA and List 99) are being replaced by 2 new ISA-barred lists;
- Employers, LAs, professional regulators and other bodies have a duty to refer to the ISA, information about individuals working with children or vulnerable adults where they consider them to have caused harm or pose a risk of harm.

New employees and those changing jobs in regulated activity do not need to start applying for ISA-registration until July 2010 and ISA-registration does not become mandatory for these workers until November 2010. All other staff will be phased into the scheme from 2011. Further information on how to apply for registration will be provided in due course.

<http://www.isa.gov.org.uk/default.aspx?page=402>  
[http://www.isa.gov.org.uk/PDF/VBS\\_Guidance.pdf](http://www.isa.gov.org.uk/PDF/VBS_Guidance.pdf)

### **Common Misconceptions about V&B Scheme** (16/11/09)

- The ISA's role within the VBS is to make the barring decisions and place individuals on either the Children's Barred List or the Vulnerable Adult's Barred List, or both
- The application process for ISA Registration will be handled by the CRB

- Of the up to 11.3m people that it is anticipated will register with the Scheme over the next 5 years, the ISA will only assess those individuals that are referred to us on the grounds that they pose a possible risk of harm to vulnerable groups
- It is therefore anticipated that only a relatively small percentage of all those working in regulated activity will be referred to and assessed by the ISA
- Anyone the ISA is considering barring from working with children and vulnerable adults will know the reasons for that consideration. We will share with them all the information on which we rely.
- Those we are considering barring have (except in the case of the most serious of criminal convictions where the ISA is under a statutory obligation to bar) the opportunity to make 'representations' and in doing so 'put their side of the story'. The ISA will take any information they provide into account when making a final decision – this may include gathering further information.

<http://www.isa.gov.org.uk/default.aspx?page=409>

## Consultations

### **Care Planning Placement and Case Review Regulations Consultation (16/11/09)**

The purpose of this consultation is to gather views on the draft Care Planning Placement and Case Review Regulations (England) 2010 and related guidance. The consultation seeks to provide information on the major changes in the regulations and guidance and explore the views of practitioners and delivery partners on potential barriers to implementation of the requirements of the regulations and guidance.

Closing Date: Monday 8 February 2010  
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1678&external=no&menu=1>

### **Children's Social Care Inspection and Regulatory Fees (18/11/09)**

This consultation is about the setting of annual fees for inspection of children's social care settings, adoption and fostering agencies, LA adoption and fostering functions, boarding schools, residential further education colleges, residential special schools and residential family centres. The aim is to put in place a more transparent approach to the setting of fees, and move towards full cost recovery for inspection over time.

Closing Date: 11<sup>th</sup> February 2010  
[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/content.cfm?landing=schools\\_minister\\_ian\\_wright\\_launches\\_consultation\\_on\\_plan\\_for\\_local\\_authorities\\_to\\_organise\\_education\\_and\\_training\\_funding\\_for\\_16\\_to\\_19yearolds&type=1](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/content.cfm?landing=schools_minister_ian_wright_launches_consultation_on_plan_for_local_authorities_to_organise_education_and_training_funding_for_16_to_19yearolds&type=1)  
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&consultationId=1573&external=no&menu=1>

### **The National Commissioning Framework (NCF) (16/11/09)**

From April 2010, responsibility for securing enough suitable education and training provision for all young people, including those aged 16-19, young people up to age 25 where a learning difficulty assessment is in place, and young offenders in youth custody, will pass from the Learning and Skills Council to LAs.

This draft version of the NCF has been developed by the DCSF and the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) with REACT and other key stakeholders.

The consultation comes as the Apprenticeships, Schools, Children and Learners Bill receives Royal Assent. The new Act will see responsibility for education funding for those aged 16 to 19 switch to local authorities. A new non-departmental public body, the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA), will from April 2010 support local authorities in discharging their planning and commissioning functions as well as to ensure funding and budgetary control within the system.

Closing Date: 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010  
[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/content.cfm?landing=schools\\_minister\\_ian\\_wright\\_launches\\_consultation\\_on\\_plan\\_for\\_local\\_authorities\\_to\\_organise\\_education\\_and\\_training\\_funding\\_for\\_16\\_to\\_19yearolds&type=1](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/content.cfm?landing=schools_minister_ian_wright_launches_consultation_on_plan_for_local_authorities_to_organise_education_and_training_funding_for_16_to_19yearolds&type=1)  
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00933-2009&>

## Consultations (continued)

### **Working Together to Safeguard**

#### **Children: Pre-consultation (20/11/09)**

In *The Protection of Children in England: A Progress Report* Lord Laming made a number of recommendations which the Government has proposed to address through the revision of *Working Together to Safeguard Children* statutory guidance.

In advance of the launch of a formal consultation on the revised guidance before the end of the year, the National Safeguarding Delivery Unit has published a pre-consultation document outlining the proposed treatment of the 17 recommendations from Lord Laming's progress report that will be addressed through revisions to *Working Together*.

Closing Date: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/nsdu/consultations.shtml>

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/nsdu/downloads/\(2009-11-20\)%20FINAL%20WT%20Preconsultation%20Doc.doc](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/nsdu/downloads/(2009-11-20)%20FINAL%20WT%20Preconsultation%20Doc.doc)

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/nsdu/downloads/\(2009-11-20\)%20FINAL%20WT%20Pre-consultation%20\(Response%20Form\).doc](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/nsdu/downloads/(2009-11-20)%20FINAL%20WT%20Pre-consultation%20(Response%20Form).doc)

## Conferences

### **Tackling Bullying in the Community**

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009 York Free

Over recent years, the Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) has become increasingly aware of how bullying in the wider community can impact on the well-being of children and young people.

To support local practitioners to get to grips with the new DCSF Safe from Bullying guidance on tackling bullying in a range of community settings, ABA is organising a series of one-day conferences in each of the nine government regions, including this event in Newcastle.

<http://abayork.eventbrite.com/>

### **First UKCCIS Annual Summit**

8<sup>th</sup> December 2009 London

This will offer members a chance to review progress made and outline a programme for the year ahead. New organizations can learn about the work of the Council and see what members are doing to protect children in the digital world.

The event also offers a chance to see headline findings from the new UKCCIS evidence review, to hear the views of parents and children and to network. The Summit represents an opportunity to communicate, understand and develop the child internet safety agenda into 2010.

Attendance is by invitation only but if you wish to attend please contact the event organisers on 0115 947 5666 or email: [UKCCIS@brackenevents.co.uk](mailto:UKCCIS@brackenevents.co.uk)  
[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/ukccis/news\\_detail.cfm?newsid=29&thisnews=2](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/ukccis/news_detail.cfm?newsid=29&thisnews=2)

### **Raising Standards in Behaviour and Attendance – Creating effective policy and implementing successful new strategies**

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2010 London

£299 - £399 + VAT

Sir Alan Steer's report on raising standards of behaviour and discipline in schools has been published and it is important to focus on tackling behaviour and attendance in your school.

Speakers at this conference will provide practical advice on creating effective policy, implementing new behaviour strategies and working successfully with pupils, parents, staff and external agencies. Sir Alan will be delivering a keynote speech on the powers and disciplines available to schools and how they should be putting them into practice.

Hear from leading speakers on:

- Working in partnership to improve behaviour and tackle truancy
- Creating an effective behaviour policy
- Identifying mental health problems
- Ensuring your staff have the skills to identify problems early

Attend an interactive seminar session on implementing a family SEAL programme in your school which offers a new way of engaging parents and involving them in their children's social and emotional learning. Other practical seminar sessions include, developing nurture groups, utilising learning mentors and exploring the powers to confiscate and restrain.

<http://www.teachingexpertise.com/landing/LESec09K-Order.html>

## Conferences (continued)

### **Safe Spaces and Positive Activities for Young People**

27<sup>th</sup> January 2010                      London  
£225 - £545 + VAT

This conference looks at current progress and innovative practice essential to providing young people with places to go and rewarding leisure-time activities that match their needs and enhance life chances.

With funding rounds from the myplace scheme closed, the priority is now on the sustainability of service provision and how to maximise resources and income streams. It is increasingly important to establish strong partnerships with community agencies to guarantee high-quality, accessible provision that challenges and engages young people in a safe environment.

The focus will be on key issues including:

- Developing robust strategies for youth provision
- Effective multi-agency working with community partners
- Ensuring long-term sustainability and maximising funding streams
- Emerging practice from myplace funded projects to date
- Developing safe outdoor provision for young people
- Engaging young people in service design and delivery

<http://www.capitaconferences.co.uk/OurConferences/LocalGovernment/Safe+Spaces+Jan+10.htm>

### **Safer recruitment: risk assessments and CRB checks**

4<sup>th</sup> February 2010                      London                      £150  
18<sup>th</sup> March 2010                      Liverpool                      £150

This course will help organisations improve their recruitment procedures, understand CRB checks and learn how to assess information about potential employees or volunteers. This training will have a particular focus on safeguarding children's welfare in the context of safer recruitment.

Participants will be able to:

- identify how information arises on a CRB disclosure
- analyse the information on a CRB disclosure
- risk assess CRB disclosures containing concerning content
- explain the role of the CRB in relation to the ISA

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/trainingandconsultancy/Training/TrainingCourses/riskassessment\\_wda57566.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/trainingandconsultancy/Training/TrainingCourses/riskassessment_wda57566.html)

### **Well-being and the whole child: Leadership Challenges**

22 – 23 February 2010                      Birmingham                      £135

This event will address the leadership opportunities and challenges around placing well-being outcomes at the centre of the agenda for schools and children's centres, working across the whole children's workforce. A key theme is how best to implement prevention and early intervention strategies in multi-agency contexts.

<http://www.nationalcollege.org.uk/wellbeing-conference>

This weekly newsletter collates information from various sources that is relevant to safeguarding children. Anyone working in this area who would like to be added to the circulation list can forward their details to – [keithdriver@btinternet.com](mailto:keithdriver@btinternet.com)