

## Safeguarding Updates

Information	Link
<p><b>Children's services</b>  <b>Source:</b> NSPCC Learning  <b>Date published:</b> 03 April 2025</p> <p>The Children's Charities Coalition, which includes the NSPCC, has published the latest report in its series on children's services spending in England. The report analyses published data on local authority spending on children's services. Key findings show: a fall in spending on early intervention services; funding for children in residential care rose to an all-time high of £3billion; and the number of children in care remains almost 40% higher than it was 20 years ago.</p>	<p><b>Read the report:</b> <a href="#">Children's services spending reports</a></p>
<p><b>Brain development</b>  <b>Source:</b> NSPCC Learning  <b>Date published:</b> 04 April 2025</p> <p>NSPCC Learning has published an evaluation of the Building Brains Together for Childhood (BBTfC) programme, part of the NSPCC's Together for Childhood (TfC) initiative in Grimsby. The programme centres around the science of infant brain development. Research carried out with caregivers from Grimsby and TfC practitioners found: caregivers gained improved knowledge of child brain development; caregivers reported an improved understanding of support available to them; and caregivers felt empowered by the Building Brains Together group. The report recommends extending the programme's duration, as well as broadening its focus to include additional age groups.</p>	<p><b>Read the report:</b> <a href="#">Building Brains Together for Childhood</a></p>
<p><b>Youth violence</b>  <b>Source:</b> Youth Select Committee  <b>Date published:</b> 27 March 2025</p> <p>The Youth Select Committee, an initiative led by the National Youth Agency, has published a new report investigating the impact of social media on youth violence. The report draws on evidence submissions from professionals, youth organisations and young people. The Committee set out to understand young people's experience of violence both online and offline, exploring: the need for regulation of social media; youth services and preventative work; the role of schools in teaching online safety; and the role of the police. The Committee report calls for tech companies to do more to protect young people from violent and harmful online content and to be held accountable.</p>	<p><b>Read the report:</b> <a href="#">Youth Select Committee publishes report investigating links between social media and youth violence</a></p>
<p><b>Child welfare</b>  <b>Source:</b> Prime Minister's Office  <b>Date published:</b> 31 March 2025</p> <p>The Prime Minister's Office has published a press release following a meeting about adolescent safety and other issues raised within the recent TV series 'Adolescence'. The Prime Minister met with the creators of the TV series, charities including the NSPCC, and young people. The group discussed challenges facing children and parents, and how to ensure young</p>	<p><b>Read the press release:</b> <a href="#">Downing Street opens doors to Adolescence creators for vital discussion on protecting our children</a></p> <p><b>See also on NSPCC Learning</b>  &gt; <a href="#">Talk relationships</a></p>

<p>people have the right tools, support and environment to learn about healthy relationships. A statement by the NSPCC featured in the press release highlights the need for: high-quality, age-appropriate lessons in school about healthy relationships; and guidance and support for parents around how to keep their children safe online. It also calls for tech companies to prioritise the wellbeing of young people.</p>	
<p><b>Smartphone use</b>  <b>Source:</b> Guardian, BMJ  <b>Date published:</b> 03 April 2025</p> <p>The Guardian has published a news story discussing findings from an analysis of children’s smartphone and social media use featured in the British Medical Journal (BMJ). The BMJ article discusses concerns around blanket bans on smartphone use and looks at: a rights based approach; age appropriate smartphone and social media design; and education provided by schools and families.</p>	<p><b>Read the Guardian news story:</b> <a href="#">Blanket ban on teen smartphone use ‘potentially detrimental’, says academic</a></p> <p><b>Read the BMJ article:</b> <a href="#">Approaches to children’s smartphone and social media use must go beyond bans</a></p>
<p><b>Parents who have learning disabilities</b>  <b>Source:</b> Family Rights Group  <b>Date published:</b> 02 April 2025</p> <p>Family Rights Group has created a new film for parents who have learning difficulties and disabilities on working with social workers. The film, made with parents, aims to help families understand what to expect when social workers become involved in their child’s life.</p>	<p><b>Read the news story:</b> <a href="#">New film for parents with learning difficulties and disabilities working with child and family social workers</a></p> <p><b>Watch the film:</b> <a href="#">Supporting parents with learning disabilities: A journey with a family social worker</a></p>
<p><b>Homelessness</b>  <b>Source:</b> Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee  <b>Date published:</b> 03 April 2025</p> <p>The Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee has published a report on the use of temporary accommodation to house homeless children in England. The report raises concerns around the use of unsuitable accommodation and the impact this can have on children’s health, wellbeing and development. Recommendations for government include making it a requirement for all local authorities in England to carry out mandatory inspections of housing before being used as temporary accommodation.</p>	<p><b>Read the report:</b> <a href="#">England’s homeless children – government must tackle crisis in temporary accommodation, say MPs</a></p>
<p><b>Safeguarding children and young people online: managing cybertrauma and online risks and abuse</b></p> <p>This conference, organised by Healthcare Conferences UK, takes place on 30 April 2025 online.</p>	<p><b>Find out more:</b> <a href="#">Healthcare Conferences UK</a></p>