

Safeguarding Updates

Information	Link
<p>Child protection Source: NSPCC Learning Date published: 11 July 2025</p> <p>NSPCC Learning has updated the Scotland factsheet in its collection for each UK nation with statistics on children who are the subject of a child protection plan or on a child protection register. The factsheets set out: the number of children who are the subject of a child protection plan or on a child protection register; the reasons children are the subject of a plan or on a register; and the age and gender of children who are the subject of a plan or on a register.</p>	<p>View the factsheets: Child protection plan and register statistics</p>
<p>Puberty and learning disabilities Source: NSPCC Learning Date published: 16 July 2025</p> <p>NSPCC Learning has updated its resources on navigating puberty for children and young people who have learning disabilities. There is an updated guide with advice and practical tips exploring what puberty is and how to support children through the physical and emotional challenges that puberty brings. There is also a new series of 14 symbolised books on topics such as periods and body hair. The resources are designed to be shared with parents and carers of children and young people who have learning disabilities.</p>	<p>Download the resources: Navigating puberty</p>
<p>Home alone Source: NSPCC Date published: 10 July 2025</p> <p>The NSPCC has published a news story on children being left home alone during the summer holidays. New data from the NSPCC Helpline shows that between 2024 and 2025, there were 6,719 contacts where concerns about a child being left home alone or unsupervised were mentioned, with July and August featuring a high number of contacts. The news story includes practical guidance and advice for parents and carers considering leaving a child unsupervised at home.</p>	<p>Read the news story: Our Helpline expects a rise in home alone concerns this summer</p>
<p>Child sexual abuse Source: Welsh Government Date published: 16 July 2025</p> <p>The Welsh Government has launched a consultation on its national 10-year strategy to prevent and respond to child sexual abuse. The draft strategy, co-produced with the NSPCC, adult survivors and other organisations, acknowledges the evolving scale and nature of child sexual abuse and outlines aims to tackle child sexual abuse through a whole-system approach. There are 4 strategic outcomes: prevent child sexual abuse; protect children affected by abuse; support children and families to recover; and support adult victim-survivors to recover. The public consultation will close on 08 October 2025.</p>	<p>Read the press release: 10 year plan to tackle child sexual abuse in Wales Respond to the consultation: National strategy for preventing and responding to child sexual abuse</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Protecting children from sexual abuse</p>

<p>Relationships and sex education Source: DfE Date published: 15 July 2025</p> <p>The Department for Education (DfE) has published updated statutory guidance for schools in England on relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education. Revisions to the statutory guidance include an increased focus on: online safety in relation to emergency technologies such as AI and tackling misogyny and the influence of harmful online communities and influencers. The guidance will come into force on 01 September 2026.</p>	<p>Read the guidance: Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education Read the blog post: New RSHE guidance: what parents need to know</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Talk Relationships</p>
<p>Mandatory reporting Source: Joint Committee on Human Rights Date published: 14 July 2025</p> <p>The Joint Committee on Human Rights, appointed by the House of Lords and the House of Commons, has published a new report examining the Crime and Policing Bill. The report includes a look at the human rights issues arising from two areas that the Bill covers and the introduction of a mandatory duty to report child sexual abuse. The Committee highlight concerns around the scope of the duty, calls on the government to reconsider repercussions for failing to comply, and proposes several other amendments to the Bill.</p>	<p>Read the report: Child sexual abuse mandatory reporting duty lacks teeth – JCHR report warns</p>
<p>Children's social care Source: Ofsted Date published: 17 July 2025</p> <p>Ofsted has published new statistics for children's social care in England. The data looks at providers of children's social care and inspection outcomes as of 31 March 2025. Findings include: during the inspection year, there were 5,600 active or suspended children's social care providers, with increases in the number of children's homes and supported accommodation providers; and of all children's homes given a full inspection in 2024–25, 81% received a good or outstanding judgement.</p>	<p>Access the statistics: Children's social care in England 2025</p>
<p>Children's social care and maternal deaths Source: King's College London, Oxford University and Birth Companions Date published: 11 July 2025</p> <p>King's College London, Oxford University and Birth Companions have published new research in BMJ Medicine examining children's social care involvement and maternal deaths in the UK. The research looked at maternity care experiences through an analysis of national surveillance data from 2014 to 2022. Findings show: one in three women who died during or in the year after pregnancy were known to children's social care; most deaths were due to suicide, other psychiatric causes included drug related deaths, and homicide; and one in three had disclosed abuse during childhood. The researchers are calling for changes to practice, clinical guidance and policy to prioritise mothers with social care involvement in pregnancy and early motherhood.</p>	<p>Read the news story: 'Support, not judgement': Links between children's social care involvement and maternal deaths revealed Read the study: Characteristics, outcomes, and maternity care experiences of women with children's social care involvement who subsequently died: national cohort study and confidential enquiry</p>
<p>Children who have special educational needs Source: Foundations</p>	<p>Access the guide: Parenting disabled children & young people</p>

<p>Date published: 16 July 2025</p> <p>Foundations has produced a new practice guide on parenting support for parents and carers of children and young people who have disabilities and those with special educational needs (SEN). The guide draws on findings from a review of the existing evidence and incorporates practitioner and parent insights. It summarises the best-evidenced interventions for improving a range of child and parent outcomes and includes case studies. The guide has been designed to support senior leaders, practitioners and practice supervisors in local authorities to inform and improve the commissioning and delivery of parenting support.</p>	<p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Supporting children who have additional needs and disabilities (SEND/ASN/ALN)</p>
<p>Online safety Source: Internet Matters Date published: 14 July 2025</p> <p>Internet Matters has published a new report looking at how children interact with AI chatbots. Findings from a survey of 1,000 children and 2,000 parents in the UK show the diverse ways children are using AI, whilst highlighting concerns including: children using AI chatbots without sufficient safeguards; children being exposed to explicit and age-inappropriate content; and children having limited input on how to safely navigate AI chatbots.</p>	<p>Read the report: New report reveals how risky and unchecked AI chatbots are the new 'go to' for millions of children</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Viewing Generative AI and children's safety in the round</p>