

Safeguarding Updates

Information	Link
Child mental health and wellbeing Source: NSPCC Learning Date published: 08 October 2025 NSPCC Learning has published updated content on child mental health. The updated pages include information on recognising and responding to mental health concerns, promoting child mental health, and using tools and techniques to understand children's mental health and wellbeing.	Visit the pages: Child mental health: recognising and responding to concerns Promoting mental health and wellbeing Understanding children's mental health and wellbeing
Child mental health: anxiety Source: NSPCC Date published: 10 October 2025 The NSPCC has published a news story on children's mental health concerns. New Childline data shows that between April 2024 and March 2025 12,543 counselling sessions were delivered about anxiety/anxiety disorder. This was the main mental health concern for children contacting Childline and causes cited by children and young people included abuse and trauma, bullying, and body image concerns. The news story includes tips to support children experiencing anxiety.	Read the news story: Anxiety is the most common mental health concern for children reaching out to Childline
Children's social care Source: Ofsted Date published: 06 October 2025 Ofsted has published findings from its annual survey of children's social care in England which gathered views from children, parents and carers, professionals and providers. 8,880 children and young people shared their experiences of living in social care settings, including children's homes, foster care, residential special schools and supported accommodation. Findings include: nearly all children reported feeling safe where they live; children in children's homes were the most likely to report difficulties in getting along with other children; and children in supported accommodation said that they had good relationships with staff, but were the least likely to report spending time with people who matter to them.	Read the report: Children's social care questionnaires 2025: what children and young people told Ofsted See also on NSPCC Learning > Children in care
Child sexual abuse Source: Childlight Date published: 09 October 2025 Childlight has published its second index report into the prevalence of child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA) globally. It provides country level estimates of the prevalence, scale, and nature of CSEA. Findings estimate: about 7% of children across Western Europe are raped or sexually assaulted before the age of 18; 19.6% of Western European children report facing unwanted or pressured sexual interactions online by the age of 18; and a 1,325% rise (2023-2024) in AI-generated child sexual abuse material.	Read the news story: Study finds millions of children face sexual violence – and AI deepfakes surge is driving new harm Read the report: Into the light index See also on NSPCC Learning > Protecting children from sexual abuse

Adolescent welfare Source: Centre for Young Lives Date published: 01 October 2025 The Centre for Young Lives has published a report exploring how the UK government can keep vulnerable teenagers safe through the Young Futures Hubs programme. The Hubs, launching later in 2025, aim to bring together community-focused services and provide support to young people at risk of involvement in violence. The report sets out a framework for the effective delivery of the Hubs which will act as a central point for young people to access opportunities and support. The report outlines core components of the Young Futures Hubs; areas of priority for the launch of the first Hubs; and key outcomes and outcome measures. Recommendations include that resources should be directed first to communities facing the greatest challenges, primarily where there are high rates of disadvantage, knife crime and mental health need.	Read the report: <u>Centre for Young Lives sets out a new framework for effective delivery of the Government's Young Futures Hubs to keep vulnerable teens safe from harm and support them to succeed</u>
Kinship care Source: Kinship Date published: 02 October 2025 Kinship has published the results of its annual survey of kinship carers in England and Wales, exploring the experiences of carers and their children. The survey of 1,929 kinship carers highlights challenges around financial hardship with nearly 1 in 5 carers reporting that someone in their family had to sleep in unsuitable conditions in the last 12 months due to a lack of space. Kinship carers also spoke of difficulties managing children's social, emotional and mental health needs; and challenges with family relationships and contact. Recommendations look at improving support for kinship families and building a new kinship care system.	Read the report: <u>Scandal of kinship carers sleeping on sofas and floors to keep children out of care, new Kinship report reveals</u>
Tackling violence against women and girls conference 2025: building a safer future This conference, organised by Government Events, takes place on 25 November 2025 online.	Find out more: <u>Government Events</u>