

Safeguarding Updates

Information	Link
<p>Sex and relationships education</p> <p>Source: NSPCC</p> <p>The NSPCC's Talk Relationships service is holding a free webinar on involving young people in the delivery of sex and relationships education. The webinar will cover the importance of youth voice as part of a whole-school approach and practical information on implementing youth voice in secondary education settings. The webinar will take place online on 12 February 2026 at 4pm.</p>	<p>Register for the webinar: Youth voice in sex and relationships education, NSPCC Talk Relationships (MS Forms)</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Talk Relationships</p>
<p>Child mental health</p> <p>Source: The Children's Society</p> <p>Date published: 16 December 2025</p> <p>The Children's Society and The University of Manchester have published a briefing summarising discussions and findings from a workshop on building better policies for girls' mental health. The workshop included participants from across the civil service, academia, and the third sector. The discussion identified practices that should be sustained and strengthened including: whole school approaches that prioritise listening to girls; co-production with young people; and the use of shared language around girls' mental health across sectors. The briefing highlights some of the complex challenges girls are facing such as pressures rooted in gender stereotypes, sexism and misogyny, and underscores the need for greater collaboration to address these. It also emphasises the value of bringing varied policy perspectives together around a shared commitment to building better policies for girls' mental health.</p>	<p>Read the briefing: Building better policies for girls' mental health</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Child mental health: recognising and responding to concerns</p>
<p>Child protection</p> <p>Source: Policy Lab, DfE</p> <p>Policy Lab, in collaboration with the Department for Education (DfE), is holding an online debate to help shape the development of the future Child Protection Authority (CPA) in England. The debate will explore how a future CPA can support front-line practitioners in their role. The debate will run from Monday 19 to Friday 23 January 2026 and professionals across the child protection system are invited to take part.</p>	<p>Join the debate: Complete the short consent form (MS Forms)</p> <p>Find out more: Read the information sheet and privacy notice</p>
<p>Early years</p> <p>Source: Research in Practice</p> <p>Date published: 06 January 2025</p> <p>Research in Practice has published a briefing summarising key messages for practice from the third report of the national evaluation of A Better Start. A Better Start is a programme focusing on supporting families with babies and young children through local partnerships in five areas across England. The briefing summarises learning for early year practitioners and families, focusing on five themes including: engaging with families; involving families to support outcomes for children; and integrated multidisciplinary working.</p>	<p>Read the briefing: Effective support for families is vital in improving child development and outcomes</p>

<p>Children in care</p> <p>Source: House of Lords Library</p> <p>Date published: 17 December 2025</p> <p>The House of Lords Library has published a briefing on children in care in England. It looks at the demographics of children in care and how the children's social care system can be improved. The briefing highlights issues around the growing number of children entering care and the increasing number of high-cost placements. It includes a summary of the work the government is doing such as the introduction of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill which includes provisions relating to looked after children.</p>	<p>Read the briefing: Looked after children</p> <p>See also on NSPCC Learning > Children in care</p>
<p>Improving national efforts to tackle gang crime, violence and weapon crime</p> <p>The National Tackling Gang Crime, Violence and Weapon Crime Conference 2026 takes place on 29 January 2026 online.</p>	<p>Find out more: Tackling Gangs</p>