

Safeguarding Updates

Information	Link
Child Protection Authority Source: NSPCC Learning Date published: 10 July 2026 NSPCC Learning has published a CASPAR briefing summarising the government response to the consultation on establishing a Child Protection Authority (CPA) in England. The consultation on creating a CPA ran from December 2025 to March 2026. The briefing summarises: the CPA's remit; what the CPA will look like; when it will be established and what the transition will look like; and what the CPA will do.	View the full response: Child Protection Authority Consultation: Government R - Hansard - UK Parliament Read our summary on NSPCC Learning: Establishing a Child Protection Authority in England: a summary of the government response to the consultation - CASPAR briefing NSPCC Learning
Keeping children safe in education Source: DfE Date published: 10 July 2026 The Department for Education (DfE) has published the 2026 edition of Keeping children safe in education (KCSIE). The guidance will come into force and replace KCSIE 2025 on 1 September 2026. The statutory guidance sets out what schools and colleges in England must do to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Key changes in KCSIE 2026 include new and updated guidance around: regulations and safeguarding requirements on school premises; children requiring mental health support; young carers; children who are questioning their gender; and safer recruitment and regulated activity.	Read the guidance: Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK Read our summary on NSPCC Learning: Keeping children safe in education (KCSIE) 2026: summary of changes NSPCC Learning
Voice of the infant Source: iHV Date published: 05 July 2026 The Institute of Health Visiting (iHV) has published a report evaluating the impact of training health visitors in the use of the Alarm Distress Baby Scale (ADBB), a tool to help with routine checks to promote infant wellbeing. The tool focuses on a baby's social behaviours such as eye contact, facial expression, vocalisation, and activity levels to help practitioners better understand the ways babies express their feelings and to help parents and carers with bonding and attachment. It can also be used to recognise early signs of psychological distress, enabling specialist support to be accessed as soon as it is needed. Findings from a mix of surveys, audit data, focus groups and parent interviews include: ADBB training strengthens understanding of infant social withdrawal and increases practitioner confidence in observing and interpreting babies' behaviour; health visitors reported feeling better equipped to articulate the baby's perspective; and parents described the 6–8 week review as reassuring, supportive and confidence building.	Read the report: The Royal Foundation expands support for health visitors to "give babies a voice" - IHV See also on NSPCC Learning: The voice of the infant: expert insight videos NSPCC Learning
AI-generated child sexual abuse material Source: IWF Date published: 03 July 2026 The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) has launched a campaign and new guidance for parents and carers about AI-generated child sexual abuse	Read the news story: AI-Generated Child Sexual Abuse Material: New Guidance for Parents Read the guidance: AI Child Sexual Abuse Imagery: Parent Safety Guide

material, discussing how AI can be misused to manipulate children's online images and how to protect children's photos from AI abuse. The guidance aims to support parents and carers to make informed decisions about their children's images and includes advice on speaking to children and young people about AI and deepfake nudes, and image consent.	See also on NSPCC Learning: Preventing online harm and abuse NSPCC Learning
Family reunification Source: Foundations Date published: 09 July 2026 Foundations – What Works Centre for Children & Families has created a new practice guide on family reunification in England to help services support families so that children in care can return and stay home safely. Based on findings from a systematic review looking at the effectiveness of reunification interventions, the guide sets out eight key principles and recommendations for local authorities to provide effective support to families. Key principles include: base reunification practice on partnership, trust and shared decisions with children and families; ensure reunification support is flexibly offered and tailored to children and families' racial, cultural, linguistic, mental health and SEND needs; and strengthen organisational and multi-agency capacity to deliver support.	Read the press release: Support for parents is key to helping children in care return and stay home safely, charity says - Foundations Access the guide: Reunification Practice Guide – Foundations Download the systematic review (PDF): A mixed-methods systematic review, combined with primary research - WHAT WORKS TO SUPPORT REUNIFICATION AND ITS ASSOCIATED OUTCOMES
Kinship care Source: APPG on Kinship Care Date published: 07 July 2026 The All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Kinship Care has published a new report on the experiences of children who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who are raised by kinship carers. Evidence gathered from children and young people, kinship carers, and frontline organisations shows: support is needed for kinship families navigating the children's social care and SEND systems; there is low awareness of kinship care and trauma in schools; and delays in securing specialist therapeutic support increases pressure on kinship arrangements. The APPG is calling on the government to: ensure staff in education settings receive training on the impact of trauma, loss and disruption; and ensure local authorities align their Kinship Local Offer with a strong SEND Local Offer.	Read the report: APPG warns special educational needs reforms cannot leave children behind - Family Rights Group See also on NSPCC Learning: Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) NSPCC Learning
Children's social care: consultation Source: Ofsted Date published: 07 July 2026 Ofsted has launched a consultation on proposed changes to the frameworks for inspecting local authority children's services (ILACS) and the social care common inspection framework (SCCIF) for providers in England. Proposals include removing the 'overall experiences and progress' judgement and introducing a 5-point grading scale and report cards for both frameworks. Measures proposed also include a more comprehensive evaluation of how leaders are meeting their 'sufficiency' duty (the duty to provide enough suitable accommodation for children who need care) with a view to eradicating placements in unregistered children's homes. The consultation will close on 28 September 2026.	Read the press release: Ofsted consults on strengthening children's social care inspections - GOV.UK Respond to the consultation: Improving the way Ofsted inspects children's social care - GOV.UK

Foster care: consultation Source: DfE Date published: 08 July 2026 The Department for Education (DfE) has launched a consultation on proposed changes to the fostering standards and guidance in England. The national fostering standards and guidance have been revised to simplify and update what fostering services should do. The DfE is seeking views from people working in fostering or related areas and people with lived experience of fostering. This consultation will close on 16 September 2026.	Respond to the consultation: Updating foster care standards and guidance - GOV.UK
Tackling child criminal exploitation (CCE): conference This conference, organised by Westminster Insight, takes place on 26 November 2026 online.	Find out more: Tackling CCE Digital Conference - Westminster Insight