

Issue 11 June 2021

Welcome to our termly news bulletin, designed to raise awareness of child protection to keep children safe in Highland. Here we are in June with the sun finally making an appearance! We hope you're able to make the most of the relaxation of covid rules and get out and about now and over the summer months.

Child Protection is everyone's responsibility so it is key that we remain vigilant to support the safety, health and well-being of children and young people in Highland.



**If you work with or for children and families, should you have a concern** about a child and are **seeking further advice** or will refer to Social Work, it's really useful to remember these 5 key questions to ensure you have the right information.

## 5 Key Questions

- What is getting in the way of this child's well-being?
- Do I have all the information I need to help this child?
- What can I do now to help this child?
- What can my agency do to help this child?
- What additional help, if any, may be needed from other agencies?

## Local Support



### Highland Child Protection Committee

[www.hcpc.scot](http://www.hcpc.scot) has lots of information, links and resources for children and families, professionals and wider community.

If you are worried that a child or young person may be at risk of harm please visit the Help and Advice page for contact numbers.

Out with normal office hours you can contact **Emergency Out of Hours Service** on 08457 697284 or the Police on 101.



### MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

The Moray Council Education & Social Care  
High Street  
Elgin  
IV30 1BX  
Tel: 01343 563424  
Email: [mcpc@moray.gov.uk](mailto:mcpc@moray.gov.uk)

## Child Protection Learning

A huge thank you to the 1045 people in Highland who completed child protection related e-modules over the last quarter. We've had really positive feedback comments including from teachers, parents, students, ELC practitioners, health visitors, foster parents, children and adult services and school staff on how accessing these free courses has really helped raise awareness of child protection. The suite of 5 short interactive modules continues to be available free to everyone to help keep our children and young people safe thanks to the continued support of the Highland Child Protection Committee and can be revisited for reference at any time, access [HERE](#)

We're currently working on a full revamp of the very popular 'Introduction to Child Protection' module (level 1) to take full account of the new national guidance. The updated module will be launched in mid-August, look out for news via social media.

HCPC continue to provide a range of excellent, facilitated online learning including 'Recognition and Response' (level 2), and 'Vulnerable Pregnancy.' These courses provide a great opportunity to learn with very experienced course tutors. Two new online courses are in development: Assessment and Analysis and Child Protection Planning and Processes these will hopefully be launched in the autumn. To check availability, click [HERE](#)



### Child Protection Guidance & Tool Kit for Community Groups and Third Sector Organisations in Highland including Safeguarding

With various events happening over summer, a reminder that it's good practice for all Community Groups to have a nominated Child Protection Lead who is selected by the Group and vetted appropriately. Volunteers should always know who their nominated child protection lead is and how to contact them.

Groups should have a Child Protection Policy in place which is proportionate and appropriate. Where groups receive funding or use premises from High Life Highland and/or Highland Council or plan to host a public event, this is mandatory.

[CLICK HERE](#) for further information and sample policy.

### Keeping Children Safe Reference Group

A mandated sub group of the Highland Child Protection Committee, meets quarterly to network and input on behalf of the third sector.

We meet quarterly (currently via Teams) if you're interested in finding out more or representing your third sector organisation, please check the dedicated KCS pages on [Child Protection \(Keeping Children Safe\) - Care and Learning Alliance](#) and [Useful Publications - Care and Learning Alliance](#)

A recent informative presentation by Hollie Drever of Barnardos highlighted the work of 'RISE Highland' RISE Highland aims to Reduce the risk, harm and impact of exploitation for young people & families, provide support, training and consultancy to agencies, and assist the identification & disruption of criminality via intelligence sharing. Find out more here: [RISE Highlands Info Leaflet.pdf](#)

**Summer of Play** is an initiative funded by the Scottish Government to help mitigate the impact of the pandemic on our children and young people's health and wellbeing through provision of a range of free, organised play opportunities across areas in Highland over the summer holidays delivered by Highland Council and partners. You can help to support this by looking out for information on what's available (coming soon) and promoting uptake and access in your area.



With the summer holidays almost upon us, it's worth checking out [PLAY SCOTLAND's website](#) where you will find lots of play ideas and activities using simple everyday items to help engage children and young people through play.

We've extended free access to our module on Supporting Young Children's Behaviour for parents throughout the summer. [Access here](#)



**Parent Club Scotland** has a wealth of information from support with parenting, children's behaviour, home learning and help with teens. [Access here](#)



**Children's Rights** - The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill will commence six months from Royal Assent, making it law that children's rights are upheld in Scotland. Articles include the right to be listened to and have their views taken into account on matters affecting them, to be kept safe from harm and protected from any form of abuse, to be nurtured. You'll find the UNCRC articles, information and tools to help support implementation on children's rights in daily practice on the [CALA website here](#)



For those of you working with our youngest children, consulting them in meaningful ways can be challenging! Whatever your role in the lives of very young children, our newest tool kit '**Consulting with Our Youngest Children**' will provide ways to help you listen to children and develop their ability to share their thoughts, ideas and opinions and concerns.

[Click here to access the toolkit](#)

We'd love to hear your feedback on the toolkit. Please contact us on [info@calachildcare.co.uk](mailto:info@calachildcare.co.uk)

### HELP FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act came into force in November 2020. Just a reminder that because of this, there's now no form of violence that's acceptable against a child but not an adult— people of all ages in Scotland are equally protected. To find out more - [Click here](#)



A wee reminder that Woman's Aid have special web chat service for children and young people. It's for anyone who is scared of an adult at home, or for young people who feel controlled or hurt in their relationships.

It's free, private and open between 5pm and 10pm daily.

Further information at: [www.cypwebchat.scot](http://www.cypwebchat.scot)

### Children 1st Parentline - Parenting Help, Advice & Support ...

Children 1st Parentline is here for children and families. If you live in Scotland call 08000 28 22 33 free, browse our website for advice and support, or start a webchat. You can talk to us seven days a week Mon-Fri, 9am to 9pm

[Click here to access](#)



Offer guidance, help line, tip sheets and other resources to raise awareness and prevent child sexual abuse online including confidential support if you have concerns about your own or another adults behaviour. You can access [here](#)