



Welcome to the Children's Trust Web Tracker which provides a monthly update on the latest information & research in relation to Children, Young People & Families. If you wish to be removed from this distribution list, please email nmarrion@cornwall.gov.uk

This month:

- **In the News:** 'Coasting Schools'; SEND improvements in Maths and English; Parents struggle with aggressive children
- **Research, Reports & Surveys:** Tackling child sexual exploitation action plan; Family breakdown; Runaways at risk; Children's Commissioners call for reassessment of spending cuts
- **Guidance, Resources & Good Practice:** CAF in Swindon
- **Consultations:** 16-19 Funding Formula Review; Roles and Responsibilities of the Director of Children's Services and the Lead Member for Children's Services

In the News

- >> NHS - [Study looks at self-harm in young people](#) - This alarming statistic, estimated in an Australian study, corroborates existing estimates that around 8% of UK teens deliberately harm themselves.
- >> BBC - [David Cameron trains sights on 'coasting schools'](#) - Prime Minister David Cameron has warned of a "hidden crisis" of "coasting schools" in well-off areas that fail to push pupils to their full potential.
- >> BBC - [Education unions' concern over youth unemployment](#) - Education unions are urging the government to put the issue of youth unemployment at the centre of the political agenda.
- >> CYPNOW - [Parents struggle to cope with their children's bad behaviour](#) - Parents are increasingly concerned about children's aggressive behaviour, often leading to feelings of desperation and shame, charity Family Lives has warned. [Read the report](#)
- >> CYPNOW - [Agencies should be offered financial incentive to invest in early intervention, claims taskforce](#) - The government should explore methods for sharing profits from early intervention work to encourage agencies to finance it, the first report of a new taskforce has said. [Read the report](#).
- >> DfE - [SEND English & Maths improvement](#) - Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) have made remarkable progress in attainment, behaviour and attendance under a Government-funded pilot, according to a new report.
- >> DfE - [Gove speech to Early Years Foundation](#) - Michael Gove speaking at the London Early Years Foundation talks about the importance of Early Years in child development.

Research, Reports & Surveys

- >> CSJ - [Strengthening the Family and Tackling Family Breakdown](#)—Report by the CSJ on the impact of family breakdown on society in the wake of the riots earlier in the year
- >> [The Future Children's Commissioner](#) - Following a Review of the Children's Commissioner, the Government has decided to replace both the present Children's Rights Director for England and the Children's Commissioner with a new organisation to be called Office of the Children's Commissioner for England.
- >> DfE - [Tackling child sexual exploitation action plan](#) - The national action plan for tackling child sexual exploitation, published on 23 November 2011, brings together for the first time actions by the Government and a range of national and local partners to protect children from this largely hidden form of child abuse.
- >> Ministry of Justice - [Family Justice Review](#) - The review aims to improve public and private law and looked at how the agencies within the family justice system could work together more effectively to improve the experience for children and families.

Be Healthy

>> The Lancet - [The natural history of self-harm from adolescence to young adulthood: a population-based cohort study](#)

>> DECIPHer - [High IQ girls 'twice as likely' to take drugs in their 30s](#) - Girls with high childhood IQs are more likely to take illegal drugs in their 30s, new research has uncovered.

>> BMA - [BMA calls for smoking ban to include private motor vehicles](#) - Vulnerable groups, including children, do not have the same choices as adults and may be unable to refuse to take a journey in a smoky vehicle.

>> ComRes - [Survey of young people's attitudes toward sex and relationships education](#) - [CYPNOW reports](#) "Young people are turning to friends for sex and relationships education (SRE) because teachers "come up short", latest research has found."

Stay Safe

>> Ofsted - [Safeguarding Children Across Services: Messages from Research](#) - Briefing for managers and practitioners, commissioners and providers of services, and policymakers in all those agencies that are required to work together to safeguard children.

>> DfE - [The protection of children online](#) - This scoping review explores levels of intended and unintended exposure to specific risks, the impact of harm suffered by children, and the characteristics of children who may be at highest risk.

>> NSPCC - [All babies count: prevention and protection for vulnerable babies](#) - All babies count is an NSPCC report looking at the evidence for making children aged under one year a priority in child protection and the importance of early intervention.

>> Ofsted - [Ages of concern: learning lessons from serious case reviews](#) - Ofsted reports have consistently highlighted that babies less than one year old and older children have been the subject of a high proportion of serious case reviews.

>> The Children's Society - [Child runaways in significant danger as professionals fail to step in](#) - A quarter of child runaways (26 per cent) have been the victim of a harmful or dangerous experience, reveals shocking new research from The Children's Society.

Enjoy + Achieve

>> NFER - [Developing a business case for early interventions and evaluating their value for money](#) - Guidance on what constitutes a good business case for early interventions and how it should be assessed.

>> The Children's Society - ['Materially deprived children' unhappier than peers](#) - Materially deprived children are five times more likely to be unhappy than their peers.

>> Ofsted - [Raising ambition and tackling failure](#) - Ofsted annual report

>> IPPR - [Rethinking apprenticeships](#) - This report attempts to set out a policy agenda that explores how to strengthen the role of apprenticeships in society and the economy.

+ Contribution

>> DCLG - [Louise Casey CB takes up her new role as Head of a new Troubled Families Team](#)

>> CLES - [No Neet solution](#) - report on the Geography of youth unemployment

>> The DEMOS - [Youth Labour's Lost](#) - researchers identify the salient patterns in the UK's youth labour market, and attempt to isolate the underlying causes of its long-term problem with youth unemployment.

Economic Wellbeing

>> The Children's Society - [Missing out](#) - This report asks children and YP about the material items and experiences that they think are necessary for a 'normal kind of life'.

>> Children's Commissioners - [UK Children's Commissioners' Midterm Report to the State Party on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child \(The Report\)](#) - The four UK Children's Commissioners call for an urgent reassessment of the impact of the Coalition Government's Spending Review on the needs of vulnerable children.

>> IFS - [Child and Working Age Poverty and Inequality in UK: 2010](#) - This Commentary presents forecasts of relative and absolute income poverty in the UK among children and working-age adults for each year between 2010-11 and 2015-16

Guidance, Resources & Good Practice

>> Ofsted - [Good practice in primary mathematics: evidence from 20 successful schools](#) - This report examines the work of a sample of 10 maintained and 10 independent schools, all of which have strong track records of high achievement in mathematics.

>> Ofsted - [The journey from inadequate to good using the Common Assessment Framework processes and 'team around the child': Swindon Borough Council](#) - The development of the common assessment framework and 'team around the child' approaches were used by Swindon Borough Council and its partners as part of the change management process to improve both practice and the provision of services for children and families in the Borough.

>> Ofsted - [Edging away from care – how services successfully prevent young people entering care](#) - This report analyses a small sample of local authorities and their partner agencies and looks at how services successfully support young people who are at risk of entering care to remain living at home.

CWDC - [It's good to talk](#) - An employers' pocket guide to communication and engagement with children and young people

DfE - [Safeguarding children who may have been trafficked - Practice guidance](#) - This guidance document was originally issued in 2007, but has been updated to reflect developments since it was first published.

Consultations

>> DfE - [Supporting Families in the Foundation Years: Proposed Changes to the Entitlement to Free Early Education and Childcare Sufficiency](#) **Closing Date:** Friday 3 February 2012

>> DfE - [Revised Statutory Guidance on the Roles and Responsibilities of the Director of Children's Services and the Lead Member for Children's Services](#) **Closing Date:** Friday 6 January 2012

>> DfE - [16-19 Funding Formula Review](#) **Closing Date:** Wednesday 4 January 2012

>> DfE - [Supporting Families in the Foundation Years: Proposed Changes to the Entitlement to Free Early Education and Childcare Sufficiency](#) **Closing Date:** Friday 3 February 2012

>> Home Office - [Domestic violence disclosure scheme](#) - a consultation asking whether the protection of victims of domestic violence can be improved by the establishment of a national domestic violence disclosure scheme and, if so, how such a scheme could work in practice. **Closes** on 13 January 2012