

**RCPCH Child Protection Standing Committee (CPSC)**

**Key updates September-December 2021:** please share this briefing of updates with any relevant colleagues working across safeguarding and child protection.

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you are all well. I know you are all extremely busy at the moment. I just wanted to give you an update on the work of the Committee and information on other key areas and publications you might find useful.

If you have any concerns or questions please contact the Health Policy team via health.policy@rcpch.ac.uk.

Best wishes

Alison

Alison Steele, RCPCH Officer for Child Protection.

**Work of the RCPCH Child Protection Standing Committee**

Below is a summary of some of the pieces of work that are currently being discussed and undertaken by the Committee:

The refugee and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children guidance for paediatricians is being reviewed.

The mandatory reporting position statement is being reviewed with support from the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP).

The RCPCH Peer Review in safeguarding guidance is being updated.

* Supporting RCPCH &Us to develop a general principles leaflet for young people on having a virtual health appointment.
* There is ongoing work on a number of publications, see section below for more details.

**Committee vacancies**

The Child Protection Standing Committee is inviting applications for an England regional representative from the North West of England. This representative will provide a link between their regional network and the committee and have the opportunity to be involved in project work. More information about the roles and how to apply can be found [here](https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/membership/volunteering-opportunities/health-policy). Applications open until **10.30am Monday 7th February 2022.**

The Child Protection Standing Committee is also inviting applications for the Assistant Officer for Child Protection. This role is to support the Officer for Child Protection (OCP) to carry out their duties, with a focus on education provision and taking forward the development of the College’s education programme for safeguarding. More information about the roles and how to apply can be found [here](https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/membership/volunteering-opportunities/health-policy). Applications open until **10.30am Monday 7th February 2022.**

**Recent and Upcoming publications**

**Child Protection Portal**

A range of our publications and other child protection resources including the Child Protection Companion can be found on the RCPCH [Child Protection Portal.](https://childprotection.rcpch.ac.uk/?utm_source=Royal%20College%20Of%20Paediatrics%20and%20Child%20Health&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=11591614_Child%20protection%20special%20update%20-%20COVID-19%20resources&dm_t=0%2C0%2C0%2C0%2C0)

Most RCPCH members can access the portal. Options for access by non-members and organisations can be found [here](https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/key-topics/child-protection/portal). To find out more about subscribing for a team or organisation, please contact child.protection@rcpch.ac.uk

**Access to Healthcare for Migrant and Undocumented Children - Position Statement**

This [position statement](https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/access-healthcare-migrant-undocumented-children-position-statement) published in August 2021 outlines the harmful impact of charging for NHS services on migrant children and their families and sets out our key messages for health professionals and policy recommendations.

**Latest updates to the Child Protection Evidence reviews:**

The Child Protection Evidence reviews on Neglect, Bites, Burns, Visceral Injuries and Oral injuries /Dental neglect are currently being updated. Updating of the Neuro/Spinal and Burns reviews will begin later this year. These reviewsare part of the [Child Protection Evidence systematic review series](https://childprotection.rcpch.ac.uk/child-protection-evidence/) available on the RCPCH [Child Protection Portal.](https://childprotection.rcpch.ac.uk/?utm_source=Royal%20College%20Of%20Paediatrics%20and%20Child%20Health&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=11591614_Child%20protection%20special%20update%20-%20COVID-19%20resources&dm_t=0%2C0%2C0%2C0%2C0)

**Updates to the Child Protection Companion**

The following chapters of the Child Protection Companion are being updated:

* CH7 Consent, confidentiality, and information sharing
* Ch9 Recognition of physical abuse - Abusive head trauma, Bites, Bruises, Ear, nose and throat, Fractures, Retinal findings in child abuse
* Ch 14 Vulnerable groups of children - Looked after children, FGM
* Ch17 Photo - documentation

The [Child Protection Companion](https://childprotection.rcpch.ac.uk/child-protection-companion/)can be accessed via the RCPCH [Child Protection Portal.](https://childprotection.rcpch.ac.uk/?utm_source=Royal%20College%20Of%20Paediatrics%20and%20Child%20Health&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=11591614_Child%20protection%20special%20update%20-%20COVID-19%20resources&dm_t=0%2C0%2C0%2C0%2C0)

**Education**

A full range of virtual and eLearning Safeguarding courses can be found on our [website.](https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/safeguarding-learning-resources)

* [Statement and report writing – England/Wales (Level 3) – This one-day online course explores how to write statements and reports that document the valuable information needed for effective investigation in child protection cases for SAS doctors, consultant paediatricians and for specialty trainees in paediatrics (ST6-ST8).](https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/education-careers/courses/rcpch-course/statement-report-writing-england-wales-feb)
* [Child Protection: From examination to court [CPEC] (Level 3) -](https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/education-careers/courses/rcpch-course/child-protection-examination-court-cpec-level-3-online-two) Paediatricians have a key role in both providing written evidence and presenting as a professional witness in family, criminal or civil proceedings in child protection cases. This two-day online course, with pre-course activities, provides paediatricians with the skills required to fulfil these duties. For SAS doctors, consultant paediatricians and for specialty trainees in paediatrics (ST6-ST8).
* [Statement and report writing – Northern Ireland (Level 3) –](https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/education-careers/courses/rcpch-course/statement-report-writing-ni-may)This one-day online course explores how to write statements and reports that document the valuable information needed for effective investigation in child protection cases for SAS doctors, consultant paediatricians and for specialty trainees in paediatrics (ST6-ST8). This course is focused purely on Northern Ireland law.

**Stay in touch**

The Child Protection Standing Committee meets three times a year and these summaries of our work are made available on the RCPCH Child Protection Portal. An email linking to these summaries is sent to all those who have updated their contact preferences on the RCPCH website to receive updates about child protection.

For further information please contact: health.policy@rcpch.ac.uk.