

Jen Bean

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**From:** dialogue <news@dialogueltd.co.uk>  
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**To:** Jen Bean  
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## Residential Care Bulletin July 2024

**dialogue** offers lots of support to the residential sector, we regularly review the latest research and publications, and offer a huge variety of training courses to support you and your teams.

In this edition:

- **Children's Commissioner** -support for Children in alternative provision
- **The Children's Homes Association annual conference** -18th July 2024, London
- **Excellent training** for your independent person, safeguarding lead, RI, NI, RSM, RM and staff with many **exciting new courses now live to book!**
- **Propel** - support for Care Leavers to access higher and further education
- **Childnet** - new online safety tool
- **July training highlight - Managing the Inspection Process** - courses for both Children's Homes and SupportedAccommodation
- **FREE online safety support**

- **Holiday/respite opportunity for children's homes** - for a break or a holiday in Devon
- **Be part of the residential child care community** - reminders for members and how to join



## An Alternative Route: Post-16 support for young people attending Alternative Provision

The Children's Commissioner for England has issued a report regarding the assistance and achievements of children in alternative provision (AP). This report delves into the current support provided to children aged 16 and over in Alternative Provision and gathers insights from both young individuals and education experts through visits and focus groups.

The report discusses the challenges faced by young people who have attended Alternative Provision, shedding light on discrepancies in terms of access to resources and opportunities when compared to children in regular schools. It also presents recommendations to guarantee that each child in Alternative Provision receives the necessary advice, guidance and opportunities to flourish.

[download full report](#)



The Children's Homes Association

# The CHA 2024 Conference: 'A TIME FOR CHANGE'

This is The Children's Homes Association's biggest annual conference to date, covering all areas from policy and regulatory reform to practice as we share and discuss a much-needed future vision for residential childcare.

For more information and to book your tickets, please click on the button below.

[The CHA 2024 conference tickets](#)

## Upcoming Training Courses

Face to face training, virtual, at your setting or in our venue, we're ready to support you and your team.

Here's some of our upcoming courses, to see a full range of courses and memberships, please chose from the relevant options below:

[training for Residential Care](#)

[training for Supported Accommodation Providers](#)

[RI training \(starting on 5th September\)](#)

[Smoking & Vaping Cessation \(starting on 19th September\)](#)

[MCA & Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards \(on 20th September\)](#)

[Supervised Contact with Families \(on 25th September\)](#)

[\(Children's Homes\) Managing the Inspection Process \(on 1st October\)](#)

[Avoiding Medication Errors \(starting on 2nd October\)](#)

[\(Sup Accom\) Managing the Inspection Process \(on 11th October\)](#)

Reg45 Quality Review (on 22nd October)

Reg32 Quality Review (on 29th October)

Leading in Supported Accommodation training (starting on 5th Nov)

Regulation 44 and Standard 3 (starting on 5th November)

Safeguarding Lead (starting on 7th November)

Safeguarding Supervision (starting on 7th November)

Young People Going Missing (on 8th November)

Managing Allegations (starting on 27th November)

Safer Recruitment (starting on 4th December)

Dynamic Risk (starting on 25th January 2025)



## Support for Care Leavers to access higher and further education

Propel is a guide to higher and further education for care leavers run by Become, the Care Leavers charity. There's loads of support available to help them achieve great things, information on accommodation, funding, contacts for named leads in higher education and so on...

[Find out more....](#)



## NEW Online safety tool

In collaboration with the Childnet Youth Advisory Board, the UK Safer Internet Centre has created an interactive resource about online safety called "Reliability Online."

This tool is designed to educate children to recognise trustworthy online content and addresses various risks, including Artificial Intelligence (AI)-generated imagery, scams, and body image concerns. While primarily targeted at 13 to 16-year-olds, the resource can also be customised for use with both older and younger learners.

[click here for FREE interactive tool](#)



## Managing the Inspection Process – Challenge and Compromise

**As the Ofsted landscape continues to change, particularly for our colleagues in residential care and supported accommodation, this training will look at the inspection of children's homes and supported accommodation in detail, seeking to define and broaden our understanding of the process. Ultimately, this training will seek to empower and embolden, providing**

**knowledge and practical support to help you manage your inspection.**

### **Course content:**

- The holy trinity – regulation, statutory guidance and framework
- The basics – types of inspection, their process and judgements
- Preparation and evidence gathering – closing down key lines of enquiry, the use of regulation 40 notifications, or regulation 27 notifications, and when to walk away
- Escalation and representation

**We have two course dates to choose from, one for those working in Children’s Homes and another date for Supported Accommodation.**

This one-day course, delivered via zoom, costs £132+vat, reduced to **£99+vat for members**.

**Our next training dates**, being delivered virtually, are running on the following dates:

- **Children’s Homes - 10am-4pm on 1st October 2024**
- **Supported Accommodation - 10am-4pm on 11th October 2024**

You can read full details and make a booking for these dates by clicking on the button below or by contacting one of our team at **admin@dialogueltd.co.uk**

[Read more and book training](#)



## New FREE online safety support

Care experienced young people top the list in vulnerability online. When we add in situational factors, family history, changes in care and other factors such as race, gender or disability [the risks jump further](#)

We've been working with **SWGfL**, a national online safety charity, for a few years and are exploring ways to build staff confidence and enhance practice in support and care around young people's online experiences.

Having an online safety lead is one model that could be effective in enhancing your organisation's practice. This could be a manager, or perhaps someone with some interest in online experiences, the time & authority to put strategies into effect and the potential to lead an action plan for your setting.

Like everything, safeguarding it is better when working together. **dialogue** and **SWGfL** have launched a [free WhatsApp group](#) for safeguarding leads in supported accommodation and children's homes. There will be tips and ideas, surveys, the chance to share practice and the option to attend 'pay what you can' monthly seminars on all things online safety.

You're welcome to join, or to forward this link to someone else in your organisation to read the guidelines and sign themselves up.

[Visit our online safety page](#) and click the WhatsApp option for the group guidelines and a link to join.

[September bitesize](#): every month we are working by with SWGfL, a national online safety charity, to produce a bitesize webinar on topics that matter to young people in residential care.

**The next session is Artificial Intelligence, running on 4th September** - AI is upon us, how to best advocate for the positive use of it, what is SWGfL Socrates AI, how can you use and benefit from the new tech? Lets use it together! To support SWGfL we're trying out a new payment option for the bitesize sessions where you 'pay what you can'. We've a suggested fee of £10+vat but if you can afford more or less

for the session then that's fine too. Again, you can access the session via our online safety page.



## Holiday/respice opportunity for children's homes

One of our members has an empty home suitable for a break or a holiday in Devon. Download more information and do mention dialogue when booking

[Click here for more information](#)

## Developing specialisms - communities of interest

**As the communities continue to grow, we wanted to remind current members that these meetings are contain essential information to support your statements of purpose, improve the care of the young people you support AND lighten to the load of the Registered Manager. If you miss a meeting you can also retrieve the resources from the archive in the members' areas, but the best way to get the most out of your memberships is to ensure the dates are saved in your diaries and you attend on the day.**

Leading residential care can be an isolating experience and in truth is a job best shared. We've been working with leaders across the sector to create communities that regularly meet in line to discuss the issues that matter to you



young people. By identifying leads for key areas, such as online safety, managers share the load with senior team members, then by connecting your team with similar leads in other homes we become less insular in practice and all learn how to improve.

The communities meet quarterly with 2-3 hours of CPD including updates on recent research, speakers, a surgery and sharing of great practice.

As always we've found ways to keep the costs very low and the more you engage the less you pay - joining one community is £99+vat for a whole year, additional groups at £79+vat each or we now have a **'whole home offer' paying just £399+vat annually, to have a staff member (can be different members for each community) from your home at each of the NOW SEVEN communities.**

**TRY FOR FREE: We'll not send your first invoice until after your first session. If it's not for you, just let us know...**

**Click now** to express interest and find out more.

**whole home offer for all communities**

**Exploitation Leads - 16th July**

**Trauma Informed Residential Leads - 4th September**

**Online Safety - 4th September**

**Residential Leadership Group - 11th September**

**Safer Recruitment - 17th September**

**Participation Leads - TBC September 2024**

**Children with disabilities - 3rd December**

## Want training on something else?

For a full list of training topics to support the residential sector, please visit [www.dialogueltd.co.uk/residential](http://www.dialogueltd.co.uk/residential)

We also design bespoke courses to meet the needs of you and your staff. Do get in touch to discuss.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

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### Who are we?

dialogue provides training, coaching & mentoring, consultancy, safeguarding audits and independent visiting services for children's homes, residential schools and supported living providers. We prefer to work closely with you to identify areas of need and devise bespoke packages that demonstrably improve the lives of young people in your care. Training for managers, residential workers and other staff includes supervision, safeguarding, care planning & analysis, recording and much more.

[Click here](#) for more information.

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