

From: dialogue <news@dialogueltd.co.uk>
Sent: 07 May 2025 09:13
To: Jen Bean
Subject: dialogue - May2025 - Residential Care Bulletin



Residential Care Bulletin May 2025

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:

- **Dates for your diary in May** - National Children's Day and International Missing Children's Day
- **RM Vacancy Research** - closing date for survey is 23rd May
- **Be part of the residential child care community for Children's Homes** - meetings every Wednesday 1-2pm
- **Update from the Children's Commissioner** - harmful sexual behaviours
- **Inspection Top Tips bulletin** – our weekly bulletin with analysis from live inspection data and suggestions for improvement, together with links to our weekly sessions
- **Childnet Research** – online safety for girls

- **May training highlight – Regulation 45** next course on 12th June
- **IWF** – alert on surge in child sexual abuse imagery
- **Excellent training** for your independent person, safeguarding lead, RI, NI, RSM, RM and staff.

Dates for your diary in May

There's lots happening in May, including National Children's Day and International Missing Children's Day.

National Children's Day on 18th May this year. You can find free resources to help celebrate this day [here](#).

International Missing Children's Day is on 25th May. You can find read more on the event [here](#).

You can also download free dialogue training materials for your team using the button below, or get in touch with us if you would like us to deliver this training for your team. We're also running an open training course, if you'd like just a couple of training spaces, on **5th September**.

FREE training materials or book a course

RM Vacancy Research

dialogue is coordinating some research on the high vacancy rate for registered managers - this was sent to all providers by Ofsted on Friday last week. We are working with the

Department for Education, Ofsted, Children's Homes' Association, National Association of Special Schools, researchers and provider representatives to produce some recommendations for providers, local authorities, Ofsted and the Government on what would be helpful. We would be very grateful for your views.

The survey is suitable for children's homes and residential special schools, to be completed by Principals, Heads of Care, RIs, other senior leaders, RMs and deputies so please circulate as you wish.

Closing date for the survey has been extended until 23rd May, so we'd really value any insights you can offer.

To launch the survey click [here](#)



2025 Membership for Residential Care

Our new membership offer for Children's Homes launched in January with weekly meetings running every Wednesday 1-2pm.

The sessions are getting great feedback and there's lots to cover!

Coming up...

- **7th May** - 'Striving for Outstanding' - Annie Tabor will be with us to share her experience in developing Outstanding homes.
- **14th May**- our fortnightly update session with inspection top tips, research, regs and responses to member queries with guest speaker Kevin Murphy from NWG, discussing exploitation.
- **21st May**- Chris Freestone will be with us to deliver this week's bitesize session on supporting young people with disabilities.
- **28th May** - our fortnightly update session with inspection top tips, research, regs and responses to member queries with John Woodhouse and Brian Smith.

You'll find more membership benefits on our site...

- **Individual members £99+vat.**
- **Whole home membership £395+vat.**
- **Whole organisation membership** get in touch for a quote.

Members' log in here

Find out more & join dialogue today



Harmful Sexual Behaviour

As the debate continues regarding children's smartphone use, The Guardian has [commented on the findings](#) of analysis by the British Medical Journal. The [article by the](#)

[BMJ](#) argues that blanket bans on smartphone and social media use may be detrimental.

The Children's Commissioner has published a report following landmark research involving over 19,000 schools and colleges in England. The report outlines that while almost 99% of primary schools and 90% of secondary schools have policies in place limiting smartphone use in school, children's online safety continues to be an ongoing concern because of the amount of time children spend on their phones when not in school.

The Children's Commissioner goes on to argue that "If we want to protect children, we must broaden our focus beyond school gates and ensure they are safe online at all times."

Children's Commissioner report



Inspection Top Tips

Our team are combing inspection reports every week for key themes and issues. We've been talking to providers about what you find useful and we'll now be highlighting elements that Ofsted identify as great practice, and flagging some of the pitfalls, together with ideas to think about for your setting.

In the last 4 weeks we covered:

- Bullying
- Culture
- Deprivation of Liberty
- Recording

All the resources and back catalogue are available in the [members' area](#)



Online Safety for girls

Childnet has designed a pack of online safety activities to use with 13- to 18-year olds. The activities, designed around the online experiences of women and girls, explore topics such as misogyny, online sexual harassment, and victim blaming.

Access the resource: [Exploring online experiences: life online for women and girls](#)



Quality Review training

At the centre of quality assurance of your setting is a regular review by the manager, shared with Ofsted, of the quality of services offered.

Is putting this significant document together a significant endeavour? We'll explore how to examine and analyse, separating the report from the review, and think about how Ofsted use the report.

This half-day programme aims to offer solutions by emphasising explanation, legislation, SCCIF, sharing of experiences, learning from one another, and examples to back them up.

Expect some group work and the need as a manager to be innovative and creative!!

Course Outcomes:

- Improve understanding of the legislative requirements for quality review reports across all legislation and guidance
- Recognise and understand why this is such an important document
- Be able to identify the key elements- what's needed and why?
- Evaluate and Analyse - what does this mean in practice?
- Gain an understanding of how to prepare and plan your review
- Identify and take back key themes for your individual homes.
- Gain and discuss with peers an understanding of tools to use to prepare and complete
- Decide what should be in the report

This half-day course on Regulation 45, is suitable for Children's Homes staff and costs £69+vat, reduced to **£52+vat for members**.

We also offer Regulation 32 training for Supported Accommodation Providers - get in touch to arrange your own date for your team or you can register interest on the button below.

Our next training date, being delivered virtually, is running on the following date:

9:30am-1pm on 12th June 2025

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

[Read more and book training](#)



Surge in child sexual abuse imagery

A report released by the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) reveals that the EU remains a prime destination for criminals determined to share, sell and buy sexual images and videos of children.

The IWF is Europe's largest hotline for the detection, assessment and removal of child sexual abuse imagery online and it is one of only a handful of hotlines in the world with the legal powers to proactively search for this content.

The IWF says that data like this should 'act as clarion call' for Member States to urgently move forward with the much-delayed EU child sexual abuse regulation which lays down rules for preventing and combating child sexual abuse.

[Read the report](#)

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 23rd May)

Safeguarding Lead (starting on 3rd June)

Managing Allegations (starting on 3rd June)

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

Reg45 Quality Review (on 12th June)

(Children's Homes) Managing the Inspection Process (on 30th June)

Safer Recruitment training (on 3rd July)

Young People going missing (on 5th September)

MCA and LPS (on 9th September)

Safeguarding Supervision (starting on 18th September)

Want training on something else?

For a full list of training topics to support the residential sector, please visit 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.

Jen Bean
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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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