

From: dialogue <news@dialogueltd.co.uk>
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Residential Care Bulletin September 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:

- **NWG Network - CSE Online conference** 9:30 - 12:30 on Wednesday 17th September.
- **Free webinars on serious incidents** - for Children's Homes and Supported Accommodation staff
- **Be part of the residential child care community for Children's Homes** - meetings every Wednesday 1-2pm
- **South West Children's Alliance - providers engagement event** on Thursday 23rd September, at Taunton Racecourse.
- **Inspection Top Tips bulletin** – our weekly bulletin with analysis from live inspection data and suggestions for improvement, together with links to our weekly sessions
- **Children's Commissioner** - Unregistered Alternative Provision

- **September training highlight – Managing the Inspection Process**, next course on 6th October
- **NSPCC Learning – Child Criminal Exploitation**
- **Excellent training** for your independent person, safeguarding lead, RI, NI, RSM, RM and staff.



NWG Network Where is CSE in 2025?

**9:30am-12:30pm on Wednesday 17th
September**

The NWG are delighted to invite you to their next exciting conference focussing on CSE. They welcome the recent national spotlight on this form of abuse, however, the NWG have been concerned for some time now that CSE was falling off the radar of safeguarding partnerships whilst greater priority was placed on other forms of exploitation. The NWG want to highlight the existence of cross exploitation and exploitation online, so that we respond to all forms.

The NWG and trusted partners are hosting a national conference on Where is CSE now? on the 17th September 2025. In partnership with the CSE Taskforce, Hydrant Programme, the CSA Centre and The Marie Collins Foundation, they'll be exploring the current landscape, the gaps, and how to re-centre our collective response to child sexual exploitation.

Target audience:

Health, police, education, LA, youth justice, vol sector, community orgs, faith, sport, adult services, community

safety partnerships, licensing, housing, legal, children's social care, strategic leads, youth work, missing leads

Cost: £20 Members, £30 Non-Members

[Register here to attend](#)

FREE webinars on serious incidents

There's a duty on providers to notify Ofsted of serious incidents, but when is serious "serious"?

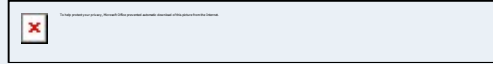
Back by popular demand, our FREE 1-hour bite-size sessions explore the regulation, draws on experience and additional clarifications, and follows the process through from incident to evidencing the learning required for good practice in difficult times.

We run a session on Regulation 27 notifications for Supported Accommodation Providers and a separate session on Regulation 40 notifications for Children's Homes. Please see full details below to register to join one of these FREE sessions.

You can register to attend one of our free sessions, using the buttons below...

[Children's Homes Reg40 on 10th September](#)

[Supported Accommodation Reg27 on 30th September](#)



2025 Membership for Residential Care

Our membership offer for Children's Homes runs weekly meetings every Wednesday 1-2pm.

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

Coming up...

- **3rd September** - our fortnightly update session with inspection top tips, research, regs and responses to member queries.
- **10th September - Regulation 40 – Serious Incidents Reporting** – with Michelle Nicholson.
- **17th September** - our fortnightly update session with inspection top tips, research, regs and we'll also have Liz Cooper joining us to support a focused discussion on Leadership.
- **24th September - Supported Accommodation** – with David Thompson (National Association of Supported Accommodation Partners)

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



South West Children's Alliance - providers engagement event

**Thursday 23rd September, 9:30am to 3pm,
Taunton Racecourse**

An opportunity for providers to join the region's commissioners to help shape and co-produce a new Regional Purchasing Agreement for Residential Children's Homes across the South West.

The event will start at 10am sharp with the keynote speaker Chris Sivers, Director of Children's Services South Gloucestershire, and sponsor of the South West Sufficiency Project.

Regional Commissioners want to share their plans and ideas and invite providers (both existing and new entrants) to co-design their new model together. They will be explaining their planned procurement intentions, quality assurance ideas, their thoughts on a fair cost of care and their work to improve workforce recruitment and retention, especially for Registered Managers. In the afternoon, they will be holding round table discussions specifically around the thoughts on a regional approach to fee uplifts and legacy, and Commissioners are keen to hear ideas from providers for a fair and transparent process to agree a regional approach that works for everyone.

Event Flyer

Register here to attend



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:

- Supporting Cultural Identity
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Quality of Care
- Access to communications

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



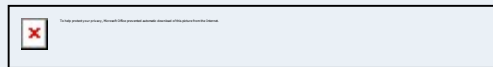
Unregistered Alternative Provision

The children's commissioner has published a report on this sector. While she has seen inspiring examples of unregistered provision, there are also risks and she is hugely

concerned they are outside the inspection regime.

Our sister company, Safeguarding Network, offers training on assuring quality for children when you might use these settings. You can register interest for this training [here](#).

[Read the Children's Commissioner report](#)



Managing the Inspection Process

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.

This course from dialogue, one of the leading training organisations in the country, covers:

- **The basics** – types of inspection, their process and judgements
- **The holy trinity** – regulation, statutory guidance and framework
- **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

Suitable for: The next course running is suitable for those

working in Children's Homes, but we also offer the same training for Supported Accommodation Providers too. You can register your interest using the buttons below.

The trainer:

Michelle Nicholson has a 20-year career in Children's Residential Services working with Children and has previously set up a children's home after working in long term secure home, a first of it's kind as a transitional children's home for young people to move to following their time in a secure children's home. Michelle has extensive experience of managing inspections and registering homes with Ofsted, with experience in policy writing, management of staff, delivering training and extensive safeguarding knowledge. She also has experience of supporting young people at significant risk of CSE and CCE. Michelle has a history of building strong multiagency care teams to ensure that young people have their needs met and are safe and advocates for young people at every opportunity in supporting them to have their voice heard.

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

Our next training date for Children's Homes, being delivered virtually, is running on the following date:

10am-4pm on 6th October 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**

Book Inspection training for Children's Homes

Register interest for Supported Accommodation training



Child Criminal Exploitation

NSPCC Learning has published a series of free expert insight films on child criminal exploitation (CCE).

The films include contributions from several experts and cover a range of issues, including: what child criminal exploitation is; the risks facing children and young people; the signs a child may be experiencing CCE; and how professionals can support children and families.

These short videos are useful for both inductions and on-going learning.

dialogue also offers a 2-day training course on county lines and child criminal exploitation, run by the hugely experienced Tony Saggars, who recently completed 30 years in law enforcement service as 'Head of Drugs Threat and Intelligence' with the National Crime Agency. This included national co-lead responsibilities for Drugs and also County Lines with National Police Chief's Council and Home Office.

[Watch the NSPCC videos](#)

[Register interest for CCE training with dialogue](#)

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

MCA and LPS (on 9th September)

Online Safety (on 30th September)

Directors, the Board and Safeguarding (on 30th September)

Regulation 44 and Standard 3 (starting on 2nd October)

Reg45 Quality Review (on 3rd October)

(Children's Homes) Managing the Inspection Process (on 6th October)

Dynamic Risk (on 7th October)

Young People going missing (on 15th October)

Managing Allegations (starting on 6th November)

Safer Recruitment training (starting on 12th November)

Safeguarding Lead (starting on 19th November)

Safeguarding Supervision (starting on 15th January)

RI training (starting on 20th January)

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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