

Jen Bean

From: dialogue <news@dialogueltd.co.uk>
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To: Jen Bean
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Residential Care Bulletin June 2026

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:

**The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel
Annual Report**

**Regulation 40 Bitesize session
Free for dialogue members**

**Residential Children's Homes Service Brochure
Download your copy**

Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026
Read the full bill

Inspection Top Tips bulletin
Members only benefit

Crime and Policing Act 2026
Summary and full bill

dialogue membership
What's on this month?

NASAP Conference 24th September 2026
Book your ticket and meet us there!

June Training Highlight
Leaving Care training 10am-4pm on 19th June 2026

Excellent training
for your independent person, safeguarding lead, RI, NI,
RSM, RM and staff.

**NEW - Two new courses coming up this year, have a
peak at the training section to get booked on.**



Child Safeguarding
Practice Review Panel

Annual Report

**The Annual Report 2024/25 sets out national learning
from serious safeguarding incidents notified to the Child**

Safeguarding Practice Review Panel between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025.

Drawing on evidence from rapid reviews and the Panel's national programme of work, the report provides a system wide picture of where children are most at risk, the complex circumstances many families are facing, and what needs to improve to strengthen safeguarding practice across England.

The report highlights that harm rarely arises from a single issue. Children involved in serious incidents were often living in complex and overlapping circumstances, shaped by family, social and systemic factors.

[Download the report](#)



Regulation 40 notifications for Children's Homes

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

Our 1-hour bite-size session explores 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.

Please see full details below to register to join one of these

sessions. These are **FREE for dialogue members.**

Non-members' fee for attending one of these sessions is **£15+vat.**

[Click here to book your space](#)

Our New Residential Children's Homes Service Brochure



Click the image above to download your copy

Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026

The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill officially passed into law on 29th April 2026. Designed to strengthen child safeguarding, streamline the education system, and remove financial barriers for families, the act introduces sweeping changes that will affect all state-funded schools, academies, and independent settings over the coming months.

To give you the quick headlines before you dive into the details:

- **Tighter Compliance & Heavy Penalties:** Ofsted can now inspect providers at the corporate level, immediate fines apply to registration certificate breaches, and the wilful neglect of 16–17 year olds is now a distinct criminal offence.
- **Structural & Care Changes:** Major updates are live regarding Regional Care Cooperatives (RCCs), upcoming profit caps, stricter financial oversight for large providers, and expanded duties for sibling contact and "Staying Close" support up to age 25.

Priority Actions for Children's Homes

- **s.15 Check Ofsted registration certificates** — address, capacity, categories. Fines now apply to breaches.
- **s.14 Group providers:** review parent undertaking governance — Ofsted can now inspect at corporate level.
- **s.16 Larger providers:** assess if you may be designated under the financial oversight regime; start RRP planning.

- **s.17 Monitor DfE consultation on profit cap methodology**; prepare transparent financial reporting.
- **s.13 Follow DoL 'relevant accommodation' regulations** — respond to DfE consultation on permitted settings
- **s.12 Identify your RCC**; engage with commissioning changes; review placement and contract strategies.
- **s.10 Review and record sibling contact** arrangements for every looked-after child in placement
- **s.22 Update staff training and HR policies**: wilful neglect of 16–17 year olds is now a criminal offence.
- **s.8–9 Align leaving-care and pathway planning** with the Staying Close duty (up to age 25).

Please take the time to read through these changes, as they directly impact our day-to-day operations, HR policies, and compliance workflows.

A summary of these changes can be found below by the Children's Commissioner.

We've also done a members briefing on this new act, so if you're a dialogue member you can access the recording and resources by logging into your account area [here](#).

[Read the full act here](#)

[Children's Commissioners summary](#)



Inspection Top Tips

Our team are combing inspection reports every week for key themes and issues, and these are emailed out to **dialogue members'** each week. 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:

- **Monitoring and Surveillance**
- **Supporting Wellbeing**
- **Experience of Children**
- **Safer Recruitment and Employment Rights**

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

Not a member yet...[join here](#)



Crime and Policing Act 2026

Following the introduction of the Crime and Policing Act 2026, our sector is facing a wave of major legislative updates designed to tighten safeguarding, increase corporate liability,

and combat anti-social behavior.

To give you the quick headlines before you dive into the details:

- **Expanded Corporate Criminal Liability:** The Act massively broadens corporate criminal responsibility. Organizations can now face direct criminal prosecution for offences committed by senior managers within their actual or apparent authority—expanding exposure well beyond traditional financial crime into operational and regulatory areas.
- **Enhanced Safeguarding & Local Enforcement:** New statutory duties come into effect regarding the mandatory reporting of child sexual abuse, alongside severe new criminal offences targeting the exploitation of children and vulnerable adults (such as "cuckooing" and child criminal exploitation).

Priority Actions for Children's Homes

- **CCE offence** - Train all staff to recognise CCE indicators — children involved in county lines are victims, not offenders. Refer via NRM.
- **CCEPOs** - Check placement information for existing CCEPOs; report suspected exploiters to police to enable order applications.
- **Cuckooing** - Children cannot consent. Identify and report unfamiliar adults, deliveries or signs of home use for criminal activity.
- **Internal concealment** - Know the signs; treat suspected concealment as a medical and safeguarding emergency — call 999.
- **Mandatory reporting** - All staff in regulated activity MUST report known child sexual abuse to police/LA. Obstruction is a 7-year offence.
- **DBS** - Remove the supervision exemption from your checks process. Enforce the mandatory DBS referral duty for all relevant exits.
- **Grooming** - aggravation Update safeguarding training — grooming by third parties or gang members is now specifically addressed in law.
- **Civil claims** - Review records retention policy. Historic abuse claims have no time limit. Notify your insurer and legal advisers.

- **'Sarah's Law' Now statutory.** Staff can request police disclosure checks where they have a concern about any adult around a child.
- **Knife crime** - Check KCPOs and relevant conditions when planning placements. Review weapons search and safe premises policies.

Please take the time to read through these changes, as they directly impact our corporate governance, staff training, and child protection workflows.

We've also done a members briefing on this new act, so if you're a dialogue member you can access the recording and resources by logging into your account [area](#).

To read the full changes click [here](#)



dialogue 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 June 2026** – *'bitesize session'* **Traci Gregory (SWGfL) - Online Safety and "Do You Agree With A Social Media Ban?"** survey feedback.
- **10th June 2026** – *'the dialogue'* our fortnightly update session with inspection top tips, research, regs and responses to member queries.
- **17th June 2026** – *'bitesize session'* **Fiona Spargo-Mabbs OBE - Substance Misuse.**
- **24th June 2026** – *'the dialogue'* our fortnightly update session with inspection top tips, research, regs and responses to member queries.

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

You'll find the sessions and support invaluable, but if you're not sure add the code **TRYFORFREE** to the invoicing details and we will defer your first invoice a month. Simply let us know you'd not like to continue and we'll cancel the invoice altogether.

[Members log in here](#)

[Find out more & join dialogue today](#)



NASAP Conference 24th September 2026

We will be attending the NASAP conference this year, with over 500 delegates from across the supported accommodation sector—including providers, local authorities, commissioners, Ofsted, and the DfE.

- Date: Thursday 24th September 2026
- Location: The Vox Conference Centre, Birmingham

What to expect:

- Inspiring keynote speakers & sector updates
- Practice-focused workshops
- Exhibitors & networking opportunities
- Shared learning, innovation, and good practice

This is a valuable opportunity to connect with colleagues, reflect on sector developments, and explore how we can continue to raise standards for young people.

[Book your tickets here](#)



Leaving Care training

A practical guide to supporting young people in care to create the networks and skills to thrive. This training intends to empower staff in residential children's homes to ensure young people in their care are provided with the best transition to in(ter)dependence. This is a challenging time for all young people and the more we plan for life beyond care the better chance a young person has of reaching their potential.

By the end of this course participants will:

- Have reflected on context and nature of young people and how their needs impact on their leaving care journey
- Understand the legal requirements, rights and practical steps put in place at each step for young people
- Have improved skills in working with young people to unlock their potential
- Remain aspirational for young people, while developing concrete steps to help them achieve
- Be confident developing contingency plans for common things that can go wrong
- Be able to navigate a wide range of resources to support young people into other forms of accommodation

The trainer:

Dougie Stringer founder and Director of Skills 2 Thrive, draws on his lived experience of growing up in foster care and over a decade of professional practice as a Residential Support Worker, Personal Advisor, and Leaving Care Social Worker. He created Skills 2 Thrive—a life skills digital platform designed to empower young people as they

transition out of care. Alongside this, Dougie leads Thrive Support, delivering in-person mentoring that blends his passion for sport with building resilience, confidence, and wellbeing in young people. Through both lived insight and professional expertise, Dougie has dedicated his work to driving meaningful change and helping young people thrive.

Costs:

Priced at £160 + vat, reduced to **£120 + vat for dialogue members.**

Our next training is being delivered virtually over one full-day sessions running on the following date:

10am-4pm on 19th June 2026

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**

[Leaving Care training](#)

Upcoming Training Courses

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

Don't just take our word for it, here's a snippet of recent feedback below...

Leaving Care training...

“ The training was well resourced and the trainer very knowledgeable... ”
training was great and well resourced and was relevant to my role

Feedback from recent training participants (January 2026)

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

New - Formulation & Resilience in Therapeutic Care (on 9th July)

New - Safeguarding Lead short breaks & disabilities (on 7th Sep)

RI training (starting on 15th June)

Introduction to Harmful Sexual Behaviours (on 15th June)

Leaving Care (on 19th June)

Managing Allegations (starting on 23rd June)

Safeguarding Lead (starting on 23rd June)

Safer Recruitment training (starting on 26th June)

Online Safety Residential Leads (Level 1) (on 30th June)

Regulation 44 and Standard 3 (on 4th September)

Safeguarding Top Up (on 7th September)

Aspiring Managers Programme (starting on 9th September)

Safeguarding Lead (starting on 10th September)

Safeguarding Supervision (starting on 21st September)

Fit person interview preparation (on 24th September)

Reg45 Quality Review (on 29th September)

CH - Managing Inspections (on 30th September)

Safer Recruitment (on 5th October)

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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