

## Catch22 Missing and Child Exploitation Research and Development briefing December 2020/January 2021

### **New year, new lockdown**

#### **Lockdown Support for children, young people and families**

- **Catch22 [poster series](#)** with guidance for professionals, parents/carers and young people while support is being delivered remotely, including sources of immediate direct, threshold-free support for both children and adults.
- [Poster](#) from Royal College of Paediatricians & Child Health explaining to young people what to do if they are suffering symptoms of **poor physical or mental health**.
- [Information](#) on how to refer yourself or a child/ family to the **See, Hear, Respond** programme
- Government scheme to temporarily **extend data allowances** to enable children to access online learning: <https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-increasing-mobile-data?fbclid=IwAR3sLohmqkAvN>
- **The Mix Coronavirus support hub**: lots of information and resources to help young people cope with coronavirus and the impacts it has on mental health available [here](#).
- **The Anna Freud Centre** has created a [resource hub](#) to help young people and their families cope with mental health challenges such as anxiety during the lockdown.
- **Bright Sky**: Free app providing support and information to anyone who may be in an abusive relationship or those concerned about someone they know. It's disguised as a weather app for safety and confidentiality. Find out more [here](#).

- The **Safer Internet Centre New Digital Wellbeing Tool** is currently being trialled and is available [here](#). 'Helping and supporting young people in understanding and managing their own well-being as well as the choices they make online is essential and the reason why this resource was created.'
- **Young Minds [helpfinder](#)** for parents seeking to support their children during lockdown.
- [Advice](#) for parents/carers from NetAware on **keeping children safe online** during lockdown.

## Wellbeing support for staff

[Self-care tips](#) from the British Association of Social Workers

Great [self-care plan](#) and resources for health (and other) workers

## Online safeguarding

New Guide to the Dark Web for professionals available [here](#).

The Among Us app has surged in popularity in the past two months. Below is some information to make professionals and parents aware of some of the issues associated with it:

<https://www.theguardian.com/games/2020/sep/29/among-us-the-ultimate-party-game-of-the-covid-era>

<https://www.techradar.com/uk/news/dont-download-that-among-us-app-it-could-be-malware>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/is-among-us-multiplayer-game-safe-for-children/>

## CSE

The official government [press release](#) for the publication of the Home Secretary's paper on **group-based CSE**. Further work has been commissioned to try to fill the gaps in knowledge and understanding of this issue.

## CCE

The Home Office has not yet published a statutory definition of child criminal exploitation and there is currently no national strategy. However, here are two resources to ensure children and young people involved in the criminal justice system are responded to appropriately. There is also an introductory webinar on the link to support the use of the legal guide.

<https://yjlc.uk/legal-guide-child-criminal-exploitation/>  
<https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/gang-related-offences-decision-making>

## Youth services advice & guidance for lockdown

Excellent [guidance](#) from the NYA on what is permitted and how to keep everyone safe whilst delivering services for young people.

## Children's Social Care & Secure Children's Homes

The What Works Centre report explores the use of secure children's homes, highlighting the lack of appropriate provision and the fact that older boys, especially those with a history of 'challenging behaviours', are least likely to gain a placement.

Ofsted have looked at the impact of Covid restrictions on CSC, and especially on children in secure children's homes, highlighting both good and poor practice.

<https://whatworks-csc.org.uk/research-report/unlocking-the-facts-young-people-referred-to-secure-childrens-homes/>  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-series-briefing-on-childrens-social-care-november-2020>

## COVID impact reports

The [Marmot review](#) focuses on inequalities of mortality and health impact of COVID-19 and makes recommendations for creating fairer systems to support disadvantaged groups.

## Children's Voice

Two reports where children voice their feelings about their rights and their experiences of the coronavirus pandemic.

[https://eurochild.org/uploads/2020/12/covidunder19\\_thematic\\_summaries\\_english\\_2021209.pdf.pdf](https://eurochild.org/uploads/2020/12/covidunder19_thematic_summaries_english_2021209.pdf.pdf)  
<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/cco-are-we-there-yet.pdf>