

Ofsted and Ofcom Updates

Ofsted

There are updates to the inspection of children's social care providers in England. The revised framework has the focus on promoting stability for children, evaluating placement decisions, and assessing how well providers prepare children for their next moves. Inspections will emphasise collaboration with partners to better support children at risk of instability.

- **Read more:** [Changes to social care inspections aimed at improving stability for vulnerable children](#)

Social care common inspection framework (SCCIF)

Ofsted has revised the SCCIF to include 'Supported accommodation for looked-after children and care leavers aged 16 and 17' in the Introduction section. Changes have also been made to the inspection report content and several questions in Annex A. In response to feedback from the Big Listen initiative, Ofsted updated the inspection principles and criteria to enhance placement stability

for children and young people.

- **Read more:** [Social care common inspection framework \(SCCIF\): children's homes](#)

Updated Inspection Forms

Ofsted has updated the Annex A form for children's homes and secure children's homes to be used for inspections. There is enhanced clarity of questions regarding immediate notice, operating capacity, sanctions, and for secure homes, issues related to physical restraints and separations. Additional minor amendments have been made to update references and improve question wording and table formats.

- **Listen now:** [Updated Annex A form](#)

Ofcom

Ofcom has published its final Protection of Children Codes and Guidance for online services likely to be used by UK children. From [24 July 2025](#), providers must complete children's risk assessments and put safety measures in place—such as safer content feeds, age checks, and fast responses to harmful content. Non-compliance with the Online Safety Act may lead to fines or access being blocked. The guidance is set out across five volumes.

- **Read the news story:** [New rules for a safer generation of children online](#)
- **Access the publications:** [Statement: protecting children from harms online](#)