Eastern Collaborative Children's Residential Network

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the October 2026 ECCRN newsletter.
Please, absorb and enjoy!

Before we begin a massive CONGRATUALATIONS to our winners of the ECCRN Short Story Competition.
You'll find the stories on our website.

Have you considered….reading the newsletter as CPD?

When recording CPD, you can ask: **'What training have I attended?'** And you can ask: **'How has my thinking changed?'**

But the most important question: **'What will I do differently because of what I've learned?'**

And for readers of the newsletter the questions we ask of you are:

- **'How will this learning improve your work with children, staff, and others?'**
- **'What evidence do you have that this learning has had a positive impact on people's experiences or outcomes?'**

And perhaps the most reflective questions of all:

- **'Whose voice or perspective have I not yet considered?'**
- **'Are we genuinely adapting our practice to meet individual needs?'**

See more here:

CPD is not just a 'nice to have': Why everyone in the system should support CPD



research in practice

It's all about: Your sector Your job Your career: Your home Your life Your people

Get involved in reviewing the draft children's homes Career Standards for England

SIGN UP NOW as project starts in November

Submit your expression of interest

View the focus group information

For children/young people too

Submit your expression of interest

View the focus group information

View the interview information



More here

TRY THIS! **Explore our interactive map** by hovering over different parts of England to see the childhood experience in your local area.

The Childhood Lottery | Children's Commissioner for England

The Childhood Lottery finds vast differences in children's experiences depending on where they live – from access to health and social care, education and housing, to safety in their community, opportunities to play and whether children have a meaningful voice in the decisions made by leaders, revealing it is harder to be a child in some parts of England than others.

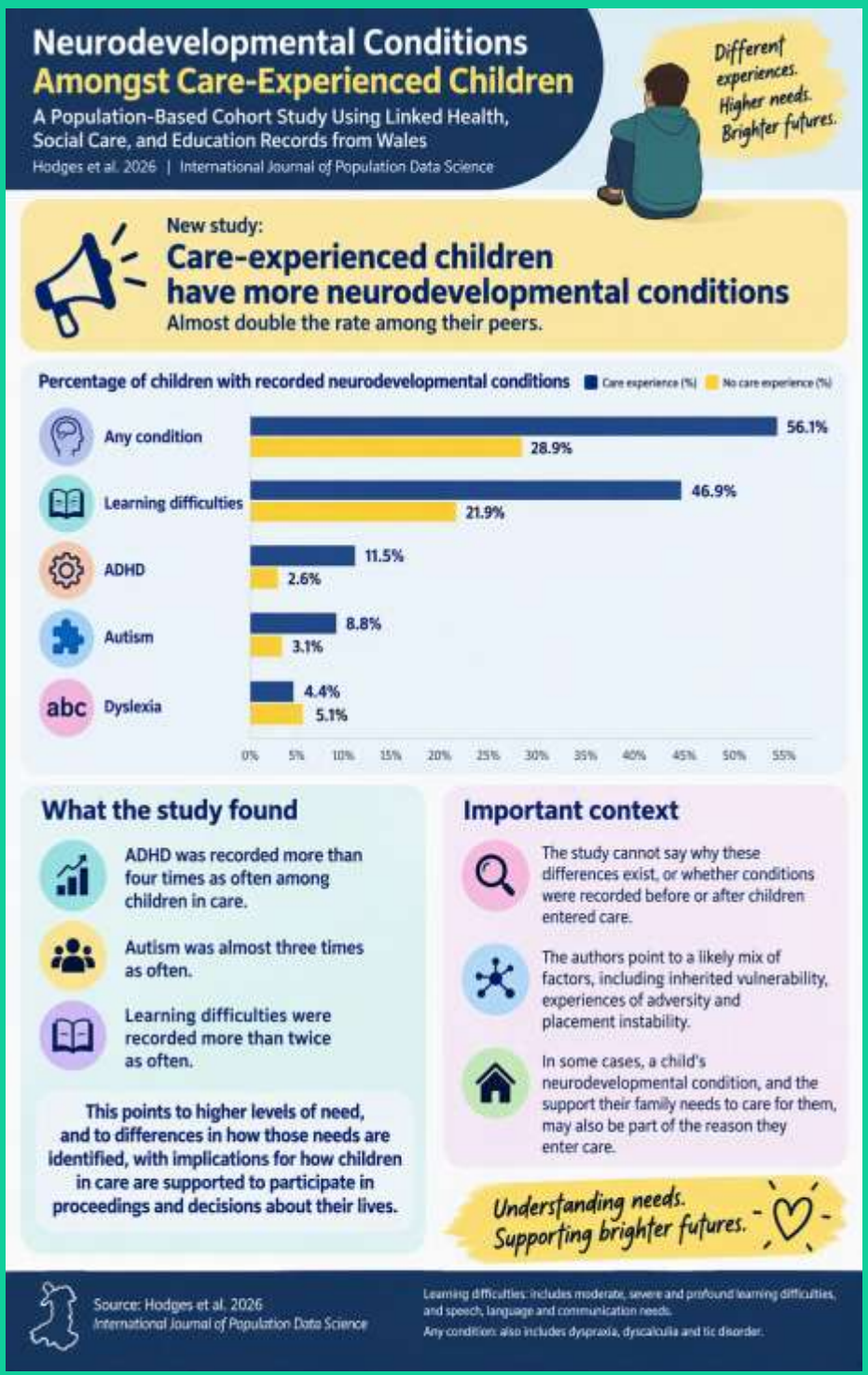
DATES TO ACKNOWLEDGE IN NOVEMBER

16 - 22 November 2026
children's grief awareness week | Keeping Connected



Thought: We know children in residential settings may have multiple placements. So, might we hypothesise they experience repetitive grieving.

To encourage children, young people and adults across the UK to start conversations about bullying, speak up, listen and take action together.



More here.

BITS & BOBS

Bringing a conference to you! A whole conference recording – free to access: Research into Practice Conference 2026

Graphic of the month: https://plummeryouthpromise.org/our-approach/our-model/

Think Before, Behind, Beneath, Beyond what is happening here and now

This You Tube video might change the way you think and do? **Pre-Birth to Three: Robin Balbernie - Importance of the early years**



An evaluation of therapeutic Life Story Work in residential out of home care



Online safety

There are so many questions and so much information out there. But we think we've found a really useful resource:

Learn - Safe and Connected: Supporting online safety for children and young people in care - Learn

If you have one let us know and we will share.



The BUSS Model

A relationally based therapy that is all about building **bodily regulation**. BUSS has an understanding of our bodies from the inside out, together with how we make sense of the world around us. With good bodily regulation, our body is able to unconsciously manage the 'doing' part of movement and knowing what we should be alerting to in our surroundings, so that our mind is freed up for important things like thinking, relating, playing, or learning.

There's a 3-minute film (recognise the needs of these children!?) and a 10 minute one

For evidence see here **BUSS-Evaluation-Executive-Summary-FINAL-April-2026.pdf**

Here's a link to webinar attended by ECCRN (we offered learning from our sector for others to know and use) - available until 31st December 2026.

Here is the link to the summary report Evaluating the Impact of BUSS LEAPlets® Early Intervention Groupwork on Children who have Experienced Developmental Trauma, their Foster Carers and Social Workers

It's an interesting and thought-provoking read that we think will change some things you do.



Retention – combatting compassion fatigue and burn out.

You have said this is a big issue for children's homes in the East.

Children's Residential Workforce Wellbeing Charter

Infographic: **Children's residential workforce wellbeing**

For more see: **Research: Exploring the wellbeing of children's home workers**

Urban Foresight and Deerfield, K. (2024) ***Improved well-being and workforce retention: an evidence summary,*** the Insight Collective, Social Care Wales.

Practice Focus: We looked at Anti racist and Anti misogynist practice in residential child care and how to address difficult issues. **Recording and slides on the ECCRN website.**
See also: **Plan for Schools to Tackle Misogyny**



Trauma Informed Care - Explained

Some writing about trauma complicates learning about it. Here are the top nine principles of trauma informed care – in plain English. On one page! Thanks Australia!

Providing meaningful care in a tier 4 setting: A lived experience guide

Open access article

Restorative Parenting: Delivering Trauma-Informed Residential Care for Children in Care | Child & Youth Care Forum | Springer Nature Link

Research reporting reality

"Sometimes I feel at home": adolescents' narratives of everyday life in residential care', (2022) *Journal of Children's Services*, 17 (1), pp. 33-44.

"Residential group care as a last resort: Challenging the rhetoric", (2018) *Residential Treatment for Children and Youth*, 35 (3), pp. 209-224.

Scale and nature of child sexual abuse report | CSA Centre

A report with comprehensive analysis of the available evidence on child sexual abuse in England and Wales.

Moving on from a Model of Care – what is your Theory of change? **The Analysis Function Theory of Change**

A Research Round Up from Wales; The Insight Collective

Supporting Positive Outcomes in Childrens Residential Care

Residential group care as a last resort: Challenging the rhetoric., (2018) *Residential Treatment for Children and Youth*, 35 (3), pp. 209-224.

A rapid review of what organisational level factors support or inhibit the scale and spread of innovations in children's social care (2023).

Debate: The greater the needs the lesser the evidence – therapeutic residential care for young people , (2021) *Child and Adolescent Mental Health*, 26 (1), pp. 78-79

Young Commissioners Consultation Report: What makes a good Children's Home? (2024)

What works in group care? - a structured review of treatment models for group homes and residential care (2011) *Children and Youth Services Review*, 33 (2), pp. 308-321.

A best fit model of trauma-informed care for young people in residential and secure services (2016).

A rapid review of what organisational level factors support or inhibit the scale and spread of innovations in children's social care (2023).

The Subjective Well-Being of Children in Residential Care: Has It Changed in Recent Years? (2002).

Restorative Justice: A Conceptual Framework (1998)

How to Measure Outcomes: A USA case study with apricot software (ECCRN makes no recommendation on any product)



Thank you for reading our newsletter, your feedback would be very welcome.

If you wish to be removed from the distribution or wish to add a colleague, please email us:

SLI Programme mailbox: EasternRegionCIB@norfolk.gov.uk

SLI website: Commission East – Improvement East

Linked In: https://www.linkedin.com/company/improvement-east/

See you at the next online ECCRN meeting!

Partnering for Practice