



4 NEWS ROUNDUP

All the news that matters from the past month

8 ANALYSIS

Social care Competition authority study makes the case for “dysfunctional” children’s social care services to be commissioned regionally and nationally **8**

Early years Families face childcare barriers as councils report lack of sufficiency **10**

Youth justice Community commission calls for overhaul of youth crime response, recommending investment in early help for vulnerable young people **12**

Youth work Five solutions to tackle problems with Kickstart after MPs criticise the effectiveness of the government’s youth jobs scheme **14**

Health The impact of racism on pupil mental health and what schools can do to tackle it **16**

17 INTERVIEW

Helen Hayes MP, shadow children and early years minister, on Labour’s plans

19 VIEWPOINT

Your Shout London South East Academies Trust’s Neil Miller on learning support for disadvantaged pupils

Editorial Derren Hayes on the impact of the early years funding crisis and why the government must act

Opinion Help young people through the cost-of-living crisis; Make Oakhill review public to shape youth custody

22 FEATURE

Award-winning work with children

As entries open for the CYP Now Awards 2022, we profile four winning projects from 2021, celebrating great work across services for children, young people and families

27 SPECIAL REPORT Outdoor Learning

Policy Pandemic policy shifts saw many projects move outdoors, with young people reaping the benefits of connecting with nature. But barriers remain for some children and families

Research Four lessons from the pandemic about learning in natural environments; Teachers on the value of outdoor residential experiences

Practice Learning project uses a narrative approach to connect children with nature, helping them recover from the Covid-19 pandemic; Outdoor summer scheme boosts young people’s skills and wellbeing with day trips and confidence-boosting activities

COMING UP... Digital Solutions (May), Care Commissioning (June), Sport in Youth Work (July)

38 PROFESSIONAL

Inspections Monitoring school attendance **38**

Leadership How to be an adaptable employer **40**

Funding The Knapman Fund **41**

Legal Migrant looked-after children **43**

44 PRACTICE

Case Study Jack Petchey’s Speak Out Challenge equips young people with the skills they need to stand up and deliver a speech in front of their peers **44**

International Focus How agencies in Australia support new parents and infants **46**

How I Got Here Lucy Warner, digital services lead, Adviza, on her career journey **48**

Participation in Action St Christopher’s football team, St Christopher’s Fellowship **49**

“Children & Young People Now is a magazine and website for professionals working at all levels with children, young people and families. The magazine provides in-depth analysis, opinion and articles on best practice, targeting managers and senior practitioners involved in the commissioning and delivery of services. The website provides a breaking news service throughout the day for all practitioners and a host of resources, including information on careers and funding.”