

Covid-19 Update – Latest News!

The legal requirement for physical distancing and limits on gatherings will be removed on **9 August** when all venues across Scotland are able to re-open.

Some protective measures will stay in place, such as the use of face coverings indoors and the collection of contact details as part of Test and Protect.

Adults identified as close contacts of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 will also no longer be automatically required to self-isolate for 10 days from **9 August**.

Anyone who is double-vaccinated with at least two weeks passed since their second dose and who has no symptoms will be able to end self-isolation if they return a negative PCR test. The same conditions will also apply to anyone aged between five and 17 years old, even if they have not been vaccinated. The requirement to take a PCR test will not apply to children under the age of five.

However, the virus has not gone away and everyone is still advised to be cautious when meeting others and to keep a social distance wherever possible.

All those who are eligible for a vaccination are strongly encouraged to get one.

Missed Your Vaccine?

If you missed your vaccine appointment, or think you may have been missed, you should contact the Vaccination Helpline on **0800 030 8013**.



You can also fill out the missing appointment form on the NHS Inform website: <https://www.nhsinform.scot/covid-19-vaccine/invitations-and-appointments/missing-appointment-details>

Service Users/Carer Survey

Do you attend a day support service in Edinburgh, or are you the unpaid carer/parent of someone with additional support needs who does?

EVOC (Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council) would really appreciate it if you can complete this survey to tell them about any changes by the closing date, 23 August: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/K3MBVDQ>

Andrew's Book Club

Books were an important part of Andrew's life. Since turning his first pages as a wee boy, he didn't go a single day without a story. Andrew's Book Club is a way to keep his name alive by helping other people enjoy books just as much as Andrew did.

People can join the club by becoming a member and every month they will have the opportunity to choose 5 new books, which will be delivered in a special bookbag. If you are interested in getting a selection of books each month and giving the club organisers some feedback, they would love to hear from you.

If you have books of your own or know another way to get second hand books, then you can help them build their library. Their aim is to create an amazing selection of books, allowing people with special needs (our primary target group, although they also welcome young people) to read their favourite stories, with titles old and new.

To find out more and get involved, fill in the online contact form here: <https://www.andrewsbook.co.uk/contact>

Parents Carewell Partnership

FAIR in partnership with The Action Group, EDG, and VOCAL can provide support for parent carers living in Edinburgh.

We're part of the
**Carewell Health
& Wellbeing
Partnership**



The Parent Carewell Partnership provides a range of support including one to one welfare benefits advice - to health and wellbeing information.

You can phone us on **0131 662 1962** or email fair@fairadvice.org.uk to access this support.

Volunteer with FAIR

Could you help FAIR test and evaluate resources to make sure they are accessible?



Easy Read Testing

FAIR do work for organisations like the NHS and the Scottish Government to make Easy Read versions of their information materials. It helps us to have volunteers who can look at the information and give us feedback on how accessible it is. We can then make changes based on the feedback, to make sure that the information can reach as many people as possible.

The work does not take much time and is usually very interesting! If you would like to volunteer to help us work on Easy Read information like this, you can phone us on **0131 662 1962** or email **paul@fairadvice.org.uk**

Cervical Cancer Trust

FAIR are working with Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust to evaluate videos they have made for women with a learning disability. Could you help FAIR in this work? We would ask you to watch the videos and have a chat with Kimberley either in person, on the phone or Zoom. We would also give you a voucher for £25 as a thank you.

If you can help then call Kimberley on **0131 662 1962** or email **kimberley@fairadvice.org.uk**.

ENABLE Works – Employability Fund

Looking to get into work? Looking to get into training? Join the ENABLE Employability Fund! You will get the chance to work with their dedicated employment team to get a SQA Qualification and earn £55 training allowance.

The team will meet learners 2 days per week via Zoom group calls and will arrange one-to-one calls for those who need more support or advice. It's a great opportunity for people facing barriers in accessing mainstream education or employment, or for young people who need help going from school to further training.

To find out more, call Gosia Lysakowska on **0788 945 6235**, or email **gosia.lysakowska@enable.org.uk**

SCLD – Statement on the Easing of COVID Restrictions in Scotland

Scotland is coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions are beginning to be eased.

For many people with learning disabilities in Scotland, the pandemic has been a very difficult time. Many have been shielding and have experienced cuts to their support and day services because of the pandemic.

In light of this, the Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities (SCLD) has written a Position Statement to set out the concerns of people with learning disabilities and those who support them.

You can download the statement here:

<https://www.sclid.org.uk/mostly-a-10-but-sometimes-zero-the-wellbeing-of-people-with-learning-disabilities/>

The Easy Read version of the statement is available here:

<https://www.sclid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/July-Position-Statement-easy-read.pdf>

Beach Wheelchairs Are Open!

Beach Wheelchairs are a charity that have free to hire beach wheelchairs. They are available for individuals, groups or paid carers to help everyone enjoy time on the sand at the beach.



They are open for pre-booked hires at Portobello. Staff will wear a mask for the duration of the hire and all equipment will be sanitised before and after each hire. They will comply with physical distancing requirements as much as possible. They can't wait to welcome you back to the beach!

To book, call their Portobello project on **0300 666 0990**, email **info@beachwheelchairs.org** or message them through their Facebook page. Please note that these are all manned by volunteers and they may not be able to get back to you straight away.



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