

Learner **NEWS**

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UK Parliament

Dissolution of Parliament

The dissolution of Parliament took place on Thursday 30 May 2024. All business in the House of Commons and House of Lords has come to an end. There are currently no MPs and every seat in the Commons is vacant until after the general election on 4 July 2024.

Dissolution meaning

Dissolution is the official term for the end of a Parliament. By law, a general election must be held in the UK, and a new Parliament elected, at least every five years.

What happens to Parliament at dissolution?

At dissolution all the business in both Houses comes to an end and all MPs lose their seats in the House of Commons.

The formal end to the parliamentary session is called 'prorogation'. This may take place a few days before dissolution.

House of Commons

When Parliament is dissolved, every seat in the House of Commons becomes vacant. All business in the House comes to an end. MPs stop representing their constituencies. There will be no MPs until after the general election.

MPs can come into Parliament for a few days after dissolution to clear their offices.

Those who wish to be MPs again must stand again as candidates for election.

Role of the Commons Speaker at dissolution

The Speaker is no longer an MP once Parliament is dissolved.

Like every other MP, the Speaker must stand for re-election. The Speaker will stand as 'Speaker seeking re-election'.

However, the Speaker retains responsibility for the management of the House of Commons as they remain the chair of the House of Commons Commission until a new Speaker is elected.

House of Lords

Members of the House of Lords are appointed, not elected. Members of the House of Lords retain their positions. Business in the House comes to an end when Parliament is dissolved.

Members of the House of Lords can access the premises of Parliament following dissolution.



What happens to the Government when Parliament is dissolved?

Parliament and Government are two separate institutions.

The Government does not resign when Parliament is dissolved. Government ministers remain in charge of their departments. The role of minister is independent of the role of MP.

Ministers keep their ministerial titles after dissolution, but MPs can no longer use MP in their name.

The Cabinet Manual sets out the main laws, rules and conventions affecting the conduct and operation of government.

(www.parliament.uk)



Find out more here

<https://www.parliament.uk/about/how/elections-and-voting/general/dissolution/>

Training and Apprenticeships

What changes are we likely to see after Thursday 4 July?



Liberal Democrats

Liberal Democrats are also looking to reform the existing apprenticeship funding model and replace it with a 'broader and more flexible skills and training levy.' As part of their pledge to 'invest in people's skills' they want to boost the take-up of apprenticeships, partly by paying apprentices at least the National Minimum Wage and scrapping the lower apprentice pay rate. Other plans in the Lib Dem manifesto include creating new Lifelong Skills Grants for adults to spend on education and training throughout their lives. The Lib Dems also want to:

- Develop National Colleges as national centres of expertise for key sectors, such as renewable energy, to deliver the high-level vocational skills that businesses need.
- Identify and seek to solve skills gaps, such as the lack of advanced technicians, by expanding higher vocational training like foundation degrees, Higher National Diplomas, Higher National Certificates and Higher Apprenticeships.
- Improve the quality of vocational education and strengthen careers advice and links with employers in schools and colleges.



The Green Party

The Green Party's manifesto does not contain any pledges referencing apprenticeships directly but does put forward several policy ideas relating to work, training and education. These include increasing the minimum wage to £15 an hour, regardless of age, with the costs to small businesses offset by reducing their National Insurance payments. As part of plans to create a fairer greener economy, Green MPs say they will push for a £12.4bn investment in skills and training, equipping workers to play a fuller role. Their manifesto also says that the Greens will support every higher education student by restoring grants and ending tuition fees.



The Reform Party

In the Reform Party manifesto - or contract as they prefer to call it - MPs are calling for tax relief for businesses that undertake apprenticeships. The party wants to raise The National Insurance rate to 20% for foreign workers to 'incentivise businesses to employ British citizens whose National Insurance rates would stay at 13.8%.' Under their plan essential foreign health care workers would be exempt from the tax, as would businesses who employ five staff members and under. This policy, say Reform, would boost wages and could raise more than £20 billion over five years to pay for apprenticeships and training for young British people.



Scottish National Party

Scottish National Party have pledged in their manifesto to protect and defend free education, meaning graduates in Scotland are thousands of pounds better off.



The Labour Party

The Labour Party, who are still some distance ahead in the polls, want to reform what they call the 'broken' apprenticeship levy if they win the election. They believe the levy's current rigid rules ignore vital skills and training needed to access apprenticeships. Fewer people are taking part in apprenticeships and training, say Labour, and Higher education is in crisis. Meanwhile, they add, too many young people in Britain are leaving school unprepared for the future. To address the funding issue, Labour plan to create a flexible Growth and Skills Levy, with Skills England consulting on eligible courses to ensure qualifications offer value for money. And alongside promoting the value of apprenticeships the party also want to continue to support those people who aspire to go to university. Labour's manifesto says "We recognise that UK higher education creates opportunity, is a world-leading sector in our economy, and supports local communities. To better integrate further and higher education, and ensure high-quality teaching, Labour's post-16 skills strategy will set out the role for different providers, and how students can move between institutions, as well as strengthening regulation." Labour also adds that they will act to improve access to universities and raise teaching standards.



Conservative Party

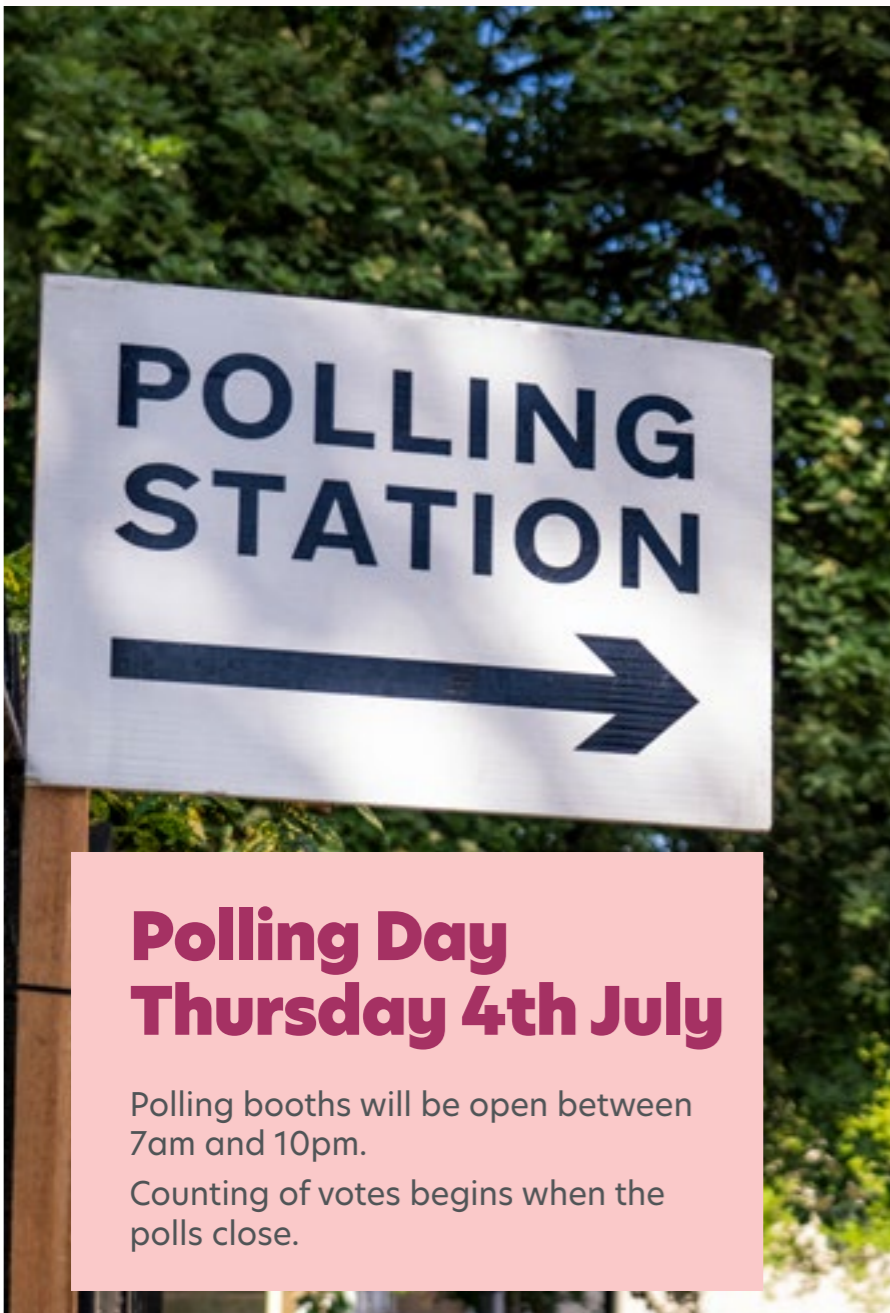
The Conservative party have announced it is their plan to create 100,000 more apprenticeships in England every year by the end of the next Parliament. The cost of these additional apprentice places would be met by scrapping higher education courses with a high drop-out rate of which 'leave students worse off than had they not gone to university. A proposed change to the law would, states the party's manifesto, shut down those courses with the worst outcome for students, protecting graduates from mis-selling and the taxpayer from having to pay off their student loans. The Conservatives say they want to prioritise apprenticeships. Their manifesto states that since 2010, they have delivered 5.8 million apprenticeships and created apprenticeship routes into 70% of occupations, including via degree apprenticeships. While in Government, they add, they passed new laws requiring children are taught about technical education opportunities, not just university routes, and have set up 21 Institutes of Technology. Also included in the manifesto - and relevant to youth training - is the Conservatives' much publicised plan to reinvent National Service for the 21st century, which, they say will 'give young people valuable life skills and build a stronger national culture'. Under this initiative, National Service will be compulsory for all 18-year-olds, but they can choose to volunteer in the community alongside work or study or take up a 12-month full time placement in the armed forces or cyber defence.



General Elections

A general election is an opportunity for people in every part of the UK to choose their MP. This person will represent a local area (constituency) in the House of Commons for up to five years.

There is a choice of several candidates in each constituency. Some will be the local candidates for national political parties. The candidate that receives most votes becomes their MP.



Polling Day Thursday 4th July

Polling booths will be open between 7am and 10pm.

Counting of votes begins when the polls close.

When is the next general election?

The Prime Minister has announced that the next general election will take place on 4 July 2024.

Who decides when to call a general election?

The government of the day can decide when to call a general election.

The Dissolution and Calling of Parliament Act 2022 revived the power of the monarch to dissolve Parliament, at the request of the Prime Minister of the day.

When was the latest that the next general election could be held?

The maximum term of a Parliament is five years from the day on which it first met. The current Parliament first met on Tuesday 17 December 2019 and would have automatically dissolved on Tuesday 17 December 2024, had it not been dissolved sooner.

When was the last general election?

The date of the last general election was 12 December 2019.

Do general elections have to be held on Thursdays?

There is no statutory requirement for parliamentary elections to be held on Thursdays; by law, they can be held on any weekday. However, using Thursdays has become an election convention. Since 1935 every general election has been held on a Thursday.

The Fixed-term Parliaments Act 2011 specified that elections should ordinarily take place on 'the first Thursday in May', but this Act has now been repealed.



Who forms the government?

The Prime Minister appoints ministers who work in government departments. The most senior of these attend Cabinet meetings.

What is a hung Parliament?

A 'hung Parliament' is a Parliament in which no political party wins a majority of seats. The largest party can either form a minority government or enter into a coalition government of two or more parties.

Where can I find the results of the general election?

Local and national media report on election results. Many providing live coverage of the results as they happen.

Local authorities publish results for constituencies in their area.

The Electoral Commission publishes the national election results. It also publishes results for individual constituencies.

Eligibility to vote

You can vote when you're:

- 18 years old in England and Northern Ireland
- 16 years old in Scottish Parliament and local elections (and other elections when you're 18)

Remember!

You need to show photo ID when voting in person in some elections and referendums in England, Scotland and Wales. Check what types of ID you can use before you go to vote.



Can I vote for a new Prime Minister?

You can only vote to elect your local MP in a general election. You cannot vote for a new Prime Minister. If you live in the constituency represented by the current Prime Minister you are still only voting for them as your local MP in the next Parliament. This is the same if you live in the constituency of the leader of another political party. You will only be voting for them as your local MP.

Who chooses the Prime Minister?

The Prime Minister is appointed by the monarch. The monarch's appointment of the Prime Minister is guided by constitutional conventions.

The political party that wins the most seats in the House of Commons at a general election usually forms the new government. Its leader becomes Prime Minister.

These conventions, laws and rules are set out in the Cabinet Manual. These affect the conduct and operation of government. It includes the role of the Sovereign.

Did you know?



Cheese Rolling is a sport!

It is estimated that the sport started in the 15th century. Once a year, competitors compete in a cheese rolling competition at Cooper's Hill in Gloucestershire. During these competitions participants chase a 3.2-kilogram (7lb) wheel of Double Gloucester cheese down a steep hill. It is certainly a sport at risk, but it is a tradition not to be missed in the region. The winner, the one crossing the finishing line first, wins the wheel of cheese as their prize.



A Welsh town has the longest name in Europe

Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch is the longest town name in Europe and one of the longest town names in the world.



Liverpool has the most number-one music hits, with many local bands reaching the number-one spot on the UK music charts.

Liverpool's first number one was delivered by Lita Rosa in 1953, who got to the top with (How Much Is) That Doggie In The Window.

FUN

Facts about Maths

0	zero	10	ten	20	twenty
1	one	11	eleven	30	thirty
2	two	12	twelve	40	forty
3	three	13	thirteen	50	fifty
4	four	14	fourteen	60	sixty
5	five	15	fifteen	70	seventy
6	six	16	sixteen	80	eighty
7	seven	17	seventeen	90	ninety
8	eight	18	eighteen	100	one hundred
9	nine	19	nineteen	1,000	one thousand

From 0 to 1,000 the only number that has the letter "a" in it is "one thousand"



In France, a pie chart is sometimes referred to as a "camembert"



Four' is the only number in the English language that is spelt with the same number of letters as the number itself.

Have you ever wondered what next?

A day in the life Police Officer

Becoming a police officer is not just a job, but more of a way of life. Your colleagues and the communities you would serve, become an extension of your life, if not family. Police officers serve to make a real difference to the community by assisting others and help to solve crime and bring offenders to justice. Their goal is to provide a safe environment for all members of the community.

What may a typical day may look like?

The answer to this is other than getting to work and starting your shift: there is no typical day.

As a serving police officer, no two days are ever the same. This is one of the most appealing aspects of the role, and makes the role as diverse as the community it serves. Each day you will be assisting different members of the community with different queries and issues, as well as assisting your colleagues to prevent and solve crime and bring offenders to justice.

So, if you want a career that offers exciting and different challenges on a daily basis and you are looking to break away from a repetitive role you are working in currently, a career as a police officer could be the one for you.

Although the role is rewarding in so many aspects, it is also physically, mentally and emotionally demanding.

During your career, you will be witness to many traumatic situations, so before applying there is much to consider, as the role is not suitable for all. Being a police officer will require you to have an existing set of skills and attributes which are suitable for the role of a police officer, you will be assessed against these during the various stages of the selection process.

- Are you flexible in regards to your work location? When joining the police, you may not be posted within your local community or a preferable location.
- Are you able to work effectively as part of a team? Becoming a police officer will require you to collaborate with other police officers, other services and members of the community. If you are someone who prefers to work alone, then possibly the role is not for you.
- Are you able and willing to work unsociable hours? Becoming a police officer is a 24/7 role and requires all year-round coverage including bank holidays and weekends. You would also be required to work shift patterns. The format for the shift patterns may vary between forces. So, it is important before applying that you are happy to work shifts, weekends and bank holidays, as this is a compulsory part of working life in the police service.
- Do you enjoy new challenges and solving problems? No two days will be the same in the police service and you will be required to solve complex and different problems on a daily basis.
- Can you adapt to new technology and learn new skills? It is vital that police services adapt to new technologies and can utilise the data it provides to help assist solve crimes in an ever-increasing complex environment.
- Can you remain calm and act logically under extreme circumstances? It is vital that police officers have exceptional communication skills and are able to communicate sensitive information to others, sometimes in often traumatic situations while remaining calm and showing appropriate levels of empathy.
- Do you enjoy working with, and helping others? It is essential that police officers have excellent people skills and enjoy communicating and helping others.
- Are you able to consistently make the correct decisions with decisiveness and fairness at all times?
- Do you have good analytical and reasoning skills? Police officers will need to utilise these skillsets when dealing with complicated cases and situations.
- Are you willing and able to stand in court and give accurate evidence when required?

You can find out more [here](#) regarding eligibility and entry requirements

Watch the video [here](#) to find out more



Staying Safe Abroad



Going on holiday is exciting, a change of scenery, new experiences and cuisine.

Here are some useful tips to help you and the other members in your group enjoy your holiday and avoid possible pitfalls.



Before you travel

- Read the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) travel advice for the country you are visiting, www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice.
- Take out travel insurance and make sure it covers all activities you will be doing.
- Remember the free Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) only entitles you to basic state medical care in participating countries, it won't cover any extra costs getting you home.



Preparing for travel

- Speak to your GP or a travel clinic to see if you need any vaccinations.
- Check the luggage policy of your airline, especially weight limits and items you're not allowed to take away with you.
- If you're on medication take a supply in your hand luggage and before travel check if there are restrictions in your destination on what you can take.
- Take a digital copy of the ID pages of your passport in case you need to get a replacement.

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and National Travel Health Network and Centre have up-to-date advice on staying safe and healthy abroad.

For the latest travel advice from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, including security and local laws, plus passport and visa information

check www.gov.uk/travelaware and follow [@FCDOtravelGovUK](https://twitter.com/FCDOtravelGovUK) and [Facebook.com/FCDOtravel](https://www.facebook.com/FCDOtravel).

Keep informed of current travel health news by visiting www.travelhealthpro.org.uk. The advice can change so check regularly for updates.



Security

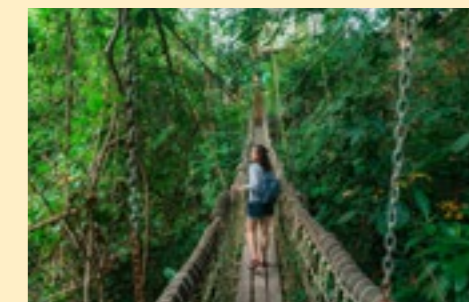
- Keep accommodation doors locked even when you are inside the room.
- Use the safe for your money and other valuables.
- If you are caught up in a security incident follow the guidance to 'Run, Hide, Tell'.
- Be aware and be safe
- Never leave children unsupervised.
- Keep all furniture away from the balcony wall/railings. Never climb or stand on balcony furniture.
- Drink bottled water and don't put ice in drinks.
- Check warnings on beaches and never swim where it is not permitted.
- Apply high-factor sunscreen frequently and drink plenty of water.
- Take extra care with babies and children in the sun.
- Use insect repellent in mosquito prone areas.

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Out and about

- Always book any excursion through a reputable supplier recommended by your travel company or the tourist office and make sure your holiday insurance covers what you're doing.
- Be careful, in some countries traffic isn't required to stop at pedestrian crossings.
- We strongly advise that you don't hire mopeds, motorbikes or quad bikes.
- Stay with your group, keep your drink with you at all times, or nominate a friend to watch your drinks.
- Don't take recreational drugs - they are almost certainly illegal and could substantial prison sentence.
- Only use licensed taxis and never accept a lift from a stranger.



Safeguarding



Scotland

Scotland has highest rate of people living alone
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cn33mxe98p4o>

What's happening in your area?



Yorkshire and the Humber

Child safeguarding concerns over Bradford nursery - inspectors
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-bradford-west-yorkshire-68654731>

North East

Hull and North East Lincolnshire cash offer to boost childcare worker numbers
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-humber-68941344>

East Midlands

Finley Boden: Safeguarding of murdered baby 'inadequate' - report
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-derbyshire-68666783>

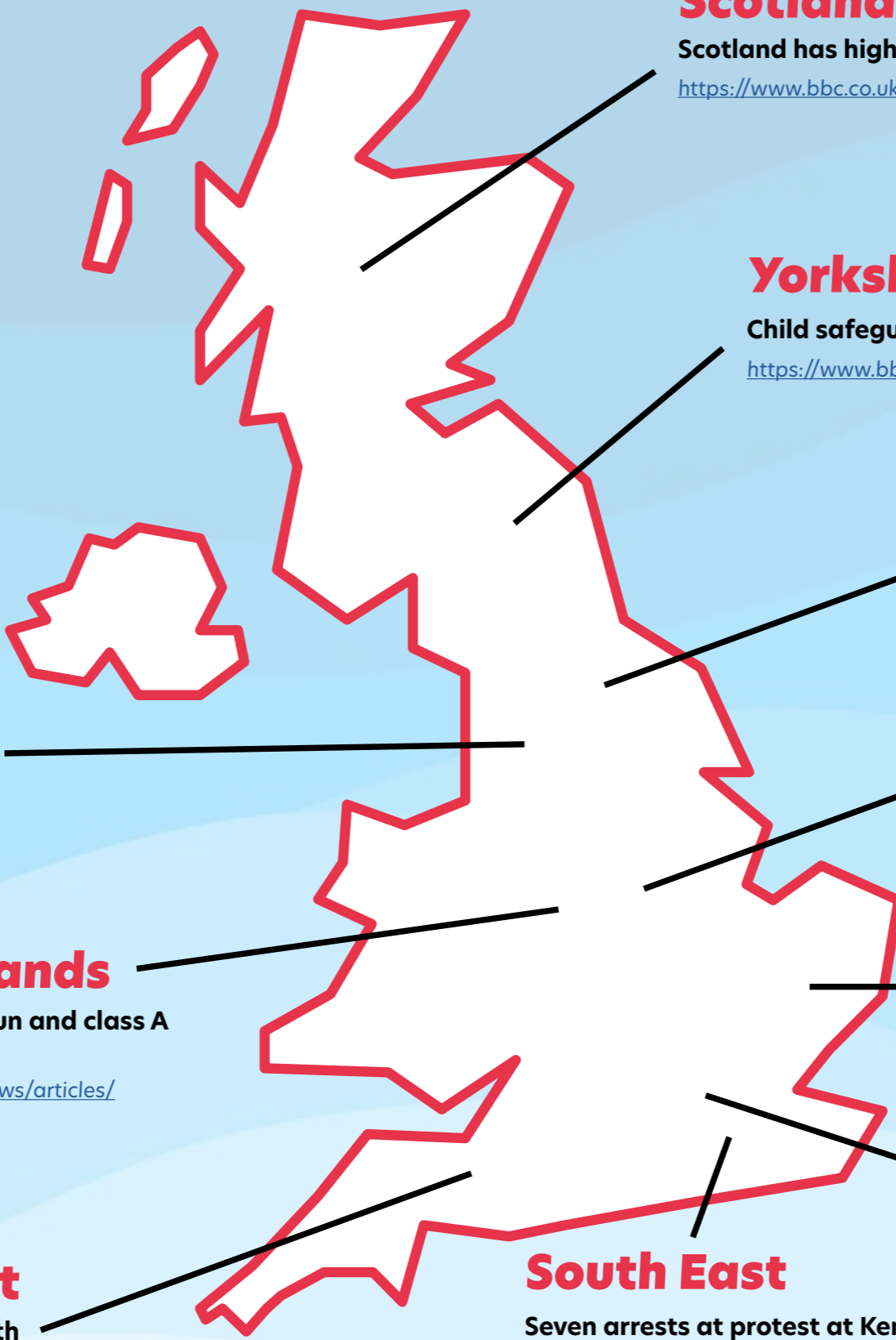


East of England

Pupils given safety workshop about gangs and drugs
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ckddyvynvwd0>

London

One gun a day seized in London, Met Police says
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cxee411r07xo>



North West

MP backs Brianna Ghey mum's call for social media safeguarding
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-68204499>

West Midlands

Boy arrested after gun and class A drugs seized
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cj556zve9rvo>

South West

Controlled drugs stolen from south Devon pharmacy
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c722g52kewyo>



What's going on in July



Portsmouth Kite Festival - 27th - 28th July

Portsmouth International Kite Festival brings two days of amazing kite displays to Southsea Common. Intricate and beautiful kites take to the sky to perform gravity-defying tricks and amazing routines to music.

Visitors can add to the festival feel with their own kites and displays. Bring them to Southsea Common and fly them with the pros. There will be entertainment, boutique stalls and kites for sale throughout the weekend, so you can get in on the action.

<https://www.portsmouthkitefestival.org.uk/>



Warrick Folk Festival 25th - 28th July

With the traditions frequently passed down from generation to generation, Warwick Folk Festival is an important part of our cultural heritage with a valuable insight into our musical pasts and futures.



Scottish Festival of Motoring 14th July Royal Highland Centre Edinburgh

Enthusiasts of all vehicle types come from across the country to take part in our annual celebration of all things motoring!

We've a host of attractions and a jam-packed schedule of entertainment planned for the day, with everything from super cars and bike demo's to live music, stunt shows, drift cars, exhibitions, passenger experience, trade village, food and a dedicated free indoor kid's zone, this is the perfect summer day out for the whole clan! Su

<https://www.festivalofmotoring.co.uk>



Join our teaching sessions

○ Early Years sessions

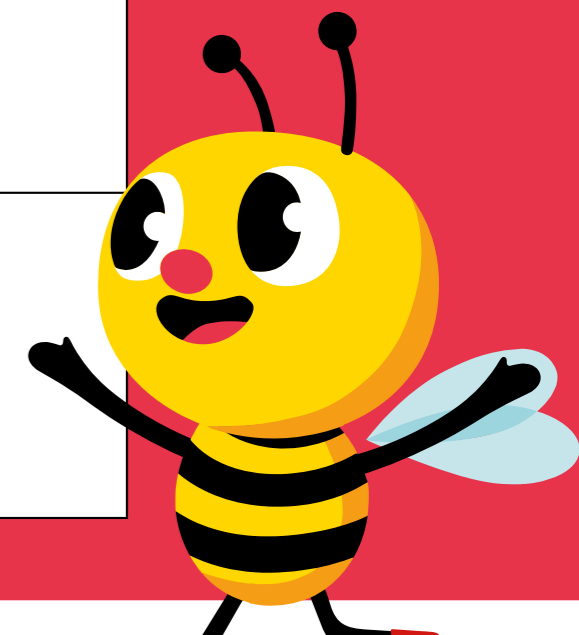
● Residential care sessions

● Management sessions

● Teaching Assistant sessions

● Adult Care sessions

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2 9.30am - 11.30am Working in Partnership with Others	3	4 11:30 - 12:45 Group Living Partnership Working Health	5 9.30am - 11.30am Development, Assessment Play, and Pedagogy	6	7
8 9.30am - 11.30am Safeguarding 10:00 - 11:00 EPA support session	9	10	11 9.30am - 11.30am EPA Support Session 3pm - 4.30pm Theme 3 - Keeping Children Safe in Education 10:00 - 12:00 Professional Development	12 10:00 - 11:30 EPA Support - Observation Brief 2pm - 4pm Introduction to Leading within an Early Years Setting	13	14
15 3pm - 4.30pm Theme 4 - Health and Safety	16	17 14:00 - 16:00 Cognitive Development 9.30am - 11.30am Health and Safety	18 08:30 - 10:30 Legislation and Guidance 9.30am - 11.30am Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion	19	20	21
22 9.30am - 11.30am The Reflective Practitioner	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 2pm - 4pm Health, Wellbeing and Resilience	30	31 3pm - 4.30pm Theme 4 - Health and Safety				



We would love to hear your ideas and suggestion of content you would like to be included in our future editions. Please scan the QR code to share your thoughts and ideas:

