

Emerging Evidence.

# Coronavirus and children and young people's mental health

Issue 6 Research Bulletin

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The coronavirus pandemic continues to affect populations around the world. In issues 1-5 of this series, we presented evidence about the impact of the pandemic on children and young people's mental health emerging over the period January to August 2020. In the current issue, we summarised key findings from a rapid review of evidence emerging between September and November 2020<sup>a</sup>

Mairi Jeffrey, Tanya Lereya, Julian Edbrooke-Childs, Jess Deighton, Nick Tait, Melissa A. Cortina

1. What is the mental health impact on the general population?

## 2. What is the impact on children with pre-existing health and education needs?

Overall, children and young people with pre-existing health and education needs appear to be experiencing elevated mental health challenges.

- Children and young people with Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and autism spectrum disorder (ASD) had worse mental health outcomes in relation to emotional symptoms and hyperactivity, and decreased prosocial behaviours when

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## 5. Has there been a change in access to services?

Some children and young people have experienced a lack of access to mental health services during the coronavirus pandemic.

- Children with a genetic disorder or a neurodevelopmental disorder, including developmental delay, epilepsy, intellectual disability and ASD, have experienced

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