



Going digital: web-based support for social care

Interactive resources you can access from your computer

About SCIE

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) supports the transformation of social care by identifying and transferring knowledge about good practice. We provide practical guides, learning materials and information based on sound knowledge about what works in planning and delivering social care. We also ensure that the experiences and expertise of people who use services, their carers and workers are reflected in all aspects of our work.

Established in 2001, we are an independent charity working across the UK. We support care services for adults, children and families and we work collaboratively with partners at national, regional and local levels.

'I have SCIE's website on my favourites list and visit it first for information about social care.'

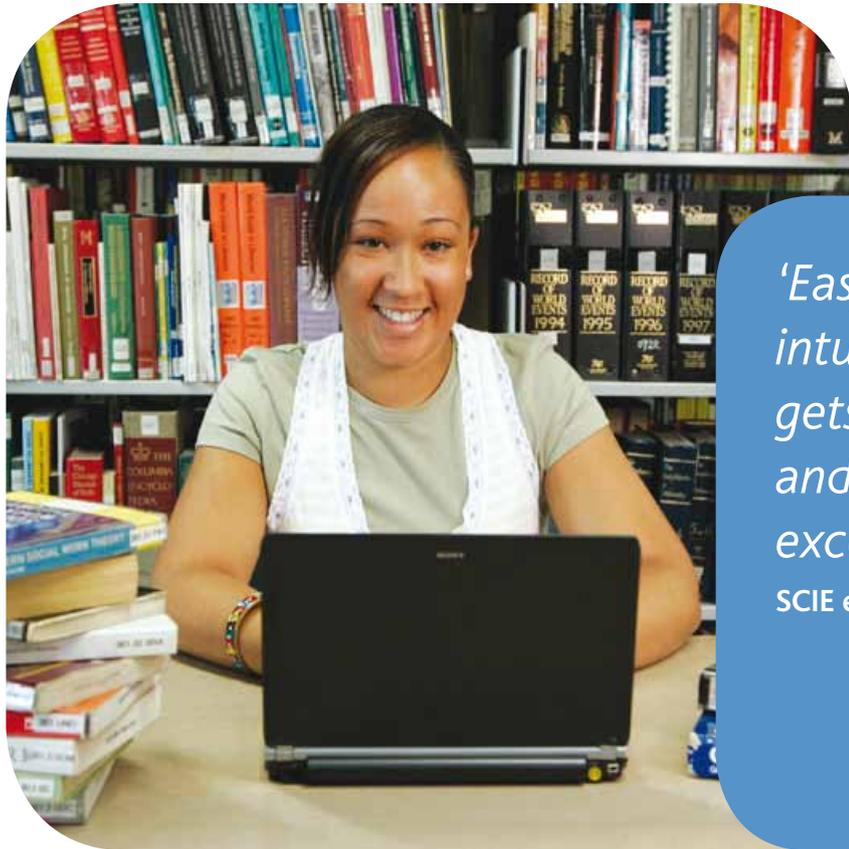
Commissioner at a local authority in England

Introduction

The internet has transformed the way everyone in social care communicates, learns and works. The web can deliver training and information support services, in a fun and interactive way, direct to your computer. SCIE encourages all care providers to maximise the benefits of new technology and we are developing a range of web-based resources to suit the learning and information needs of different groups – from social care students and potential employees, to practitioners and managers.

To do this we use a range of media – video, audio, text and image – and users are encouraged to interact actively with content.

All SCIE resources can be accessed free of charge from the SCIE website: www.scie.org.uk



'Easy to navigate and intuitive. The learning gets straight to the point and the feedback text is excellent.'

SCIE e-learning resources user

e-Learning resources

Our e-learning resources are interactive learning resources available online. Their key features are outlined below:

Fun and interactive

We try to make our resources as interactive, visually attractive and enjoyable as we can. We always test them with real users to see what they think.

Flexibility

Our e-learning resources can be used for individual self-study or they can be used by a trainer with a group.

Expert authors

Our resources are always written and reviewed by experts.

Accessibility

Our resources are independently assessed to ensure that they are as accessible as possible to a wide range of people who may have physical or sensory disabilities.

Different formats

You can access fully designed, interactive resources. Or you can see the text-only versions, or download them onto your own organisation's intranet or content management system.

Multimedia

Films and audio recordings bring alive the views of practitioners and people who use services.

Evidence of learning

You can test your knowledge, record your own scores, and keep them as a record of your learning.

Free!

All of SCIE's e-learning resources are absolutely free. To access them, simply go to SCIE's website.

e-Learning resources

The following resources are currently available:

- Managing risk, minimising restraint
- The open dementia programme
- Interprofessional and inter-agency collaboration
- Law and social work (updated 2009)
- Communication skills
- Children of prisoners
- An introduction to residential child care
- Poverty, parenting and social exclusion
- An introduction to the mental health of older people.

New e-learning titles coming soon:

- Personalisation
- Parental mental health
- Knowledge management
- Sexual and reproductive health and abuse.



These resources will be of use to you if you are a social work student, practitioner or carer, or anyone requiring an introduction to a specific area of social care.



Social Care TV

Social Care TV is a new online service for everyone involved in the social care sector. It aims to bring to life the work and lives of people involved in all aspects of social care, through a mix of multimedia programmes and e-learning resources. The channel offers access to video-based training resources, and general interest programmes, reflecting the issues, challenges and rewards in current social care practice.

The online nature of Social Care TV means you can choose what to watch when you want to watch it. You can search for programmes by subject area or take a look at our 'pick of the day' for new suggestions.

Log on to Social Care TV at: www.scie.org.uk/socialcaretv

Social Care TV topics

- Personalisation
- Dementia
- Safeguarding adults
- Seldom-heard groups
- Safeguarding vulnerable children
- Days in the life...

Topics coming soon

- Nutritional care for older people
- Mental capacity
- Principles of participation
- Gay and lesbian perspectives on social care
- Assistive technology and telecare
- Managing risk, minimising restraint
- Parental mental health and child welfare



Star rating tool

SCIE hosts a Star Rating Tool, developed by the Prolix (Process-orientated Learning and Information Exchange) project. The tool allows care home organisations to assess their own performance and generate the star rating that the care home is likely to achieve if an inspection were to be carried out.

The Star Rating Tool can be used to benefit residential and nursing care homes for older people in the following ways:

- as a pre-inspection diagnostic tool to assess the likely Star Rating an inspection would award
- to demonstrate the strengths and weaknesses of a home across 38 measures of service performance, pointing to the relevant National Occupational Standards for staff at various levels
- by trainers and managers to raise awareness in staff groups of the standard Key Lines of Regulatory Assessment (KLORA) outcome measures of quality used in independent inspections
- by individual staff to assess their own strengths and areas for development across the outcome measures, with guidance to relevant areas of improvement in the National Occupational Standards
- to compare assessments and monitor progress over time.

Access the SRT at: www.scie.org.uk

This resource will be of use to you if you are a care home manager, member of staff or trainer looking to assess and improve performance.



Care Skillsbase

Everyone working in social care needs to be able to use information and communicate effectively in order to work safely and meet quality standards. However, evidence suggests that many social care staff lack the ability and confidence to apply communication and number skills effectively in their job.

SCIE, together with Skills for Care, have created Care Skillsbase to help social care employers improve the communication and number skills of their staff. These are free, practical web-based resources to:

- identify the skills staff need to do their jobs
- check staff skills
- discuss skills issues constructively
- manage any risks to safety and quality
- facilitate staff development.

Access Care Skillsbase via the SCIE website at:
www.scie.org.uk



This resource will be of use to you if you are a social care service manager or trainer looking for support to develop the skills of your workforce.

Open up – get connected

The Department of Health is establishing a fund to enable registered care providers to access digital technology more effectively. The fund will be administered by SCIE, in partnership with a group of care providers. It will distribute grants to providers of adult social care services in England – with a strong focus on those who do not have good access to the internet. The scheme will be officially launched in Autumn 2009.

To register your interest in this scheme, email getconnected@scie.org.uk

People Management

Managing people well ultimately results in improved experiences for people who use services, but it can be a real challenge to achieve in the social care sector. SCIE's People Management website helps managers, practitioners and HR professionals improve practice in this important area. It will be of particular help to smaller social care providers, who may not have access to specialist people management advice.

Access People Management via the SCIE website at: www.scie.org.uk

This resource will be of use to you if you are a manager, practitioner or HR professional seeking to improve your people management practice.

Good Practice Framework

SCIE's Good Practice Framework is a web-based audit tool that helps you to:

- audit your practice
- link to the evidence base
- share your effective practice, and find out what others are doing.

Features of the site:

- audit tools – to help individuals and organisations to evaluate their people management policies and practice
- resource directories, articles and links
- good practice information



This resource will be of use to you if you are a social work student, educator or practitioner, for considering the principles of good practice and how to evidence them.

Social Care Online

Social Care Online is the UK's most extensive free database covering all aspects of social care. Receiving up to 90,000 visitors a month, it is our most widely used resource.

Key features

Free

- free to use, the Social Care Online database gives access to over 110,000 social care resources to support research and practice

Latest information

- new content is added daily so you can always find the latest information on new and innovative practice, policy, guidance, legislation, and research

Email alerts

- register with My Social Care Online then let us do the work! You will receive email alerts on the topics that are of interest to you

Share your knowledge

- you can comment on your use and experience of content on Social Care Online

Events

- post your events on Social Care Online so all our users can see what is happening in the sector

Alternative perspectives

- user and carer perspectives and experiences let you know how services impact on people's lives

Good practice

- use Social Care Online to support you in your research and practice.

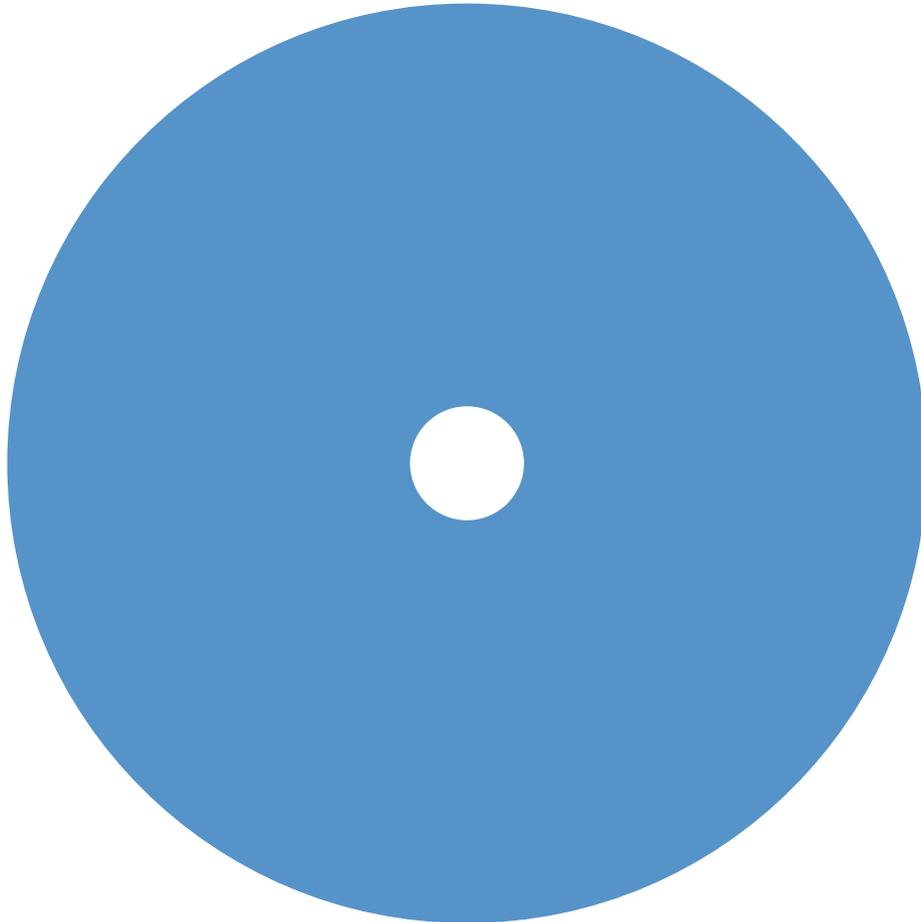
Access Social Care Online via the SCIE website via: www.scie.org.uk

Research Register for Social Care

Developed in conjunction with the Department of Health, the Research Register is a searchable resource containing records of social care research that has been subject to independent ethical and scientific review. Research is broadly defined as any activity that utilises established research methods, such as questionnaires, observation or interviews. The register covers research in both children and adult sectors. Its scope is UK-wide and includes ongoing and completed research, as well as research carried out by both students and practitioners.

These resources will be of use to you if you are a social work student, educator, researcher or practitioner looking for up-to-date social care information and evidence.

On the CD below you will find a selection of our e-learning resources:



How do I access SCIE's web-based resources?

It's simple! Just go to www.scie.org.uk where you will see our resources listed by theme.

Please note that you need to be registered on our website to access the e-learning resources – you can do this on the resources page. Registration is quick and easy and only needs to be done once.

All SCIE's resources and publications are free of charge and can be downloaded or ordered from the SCIE website at www.scie.org.uk

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