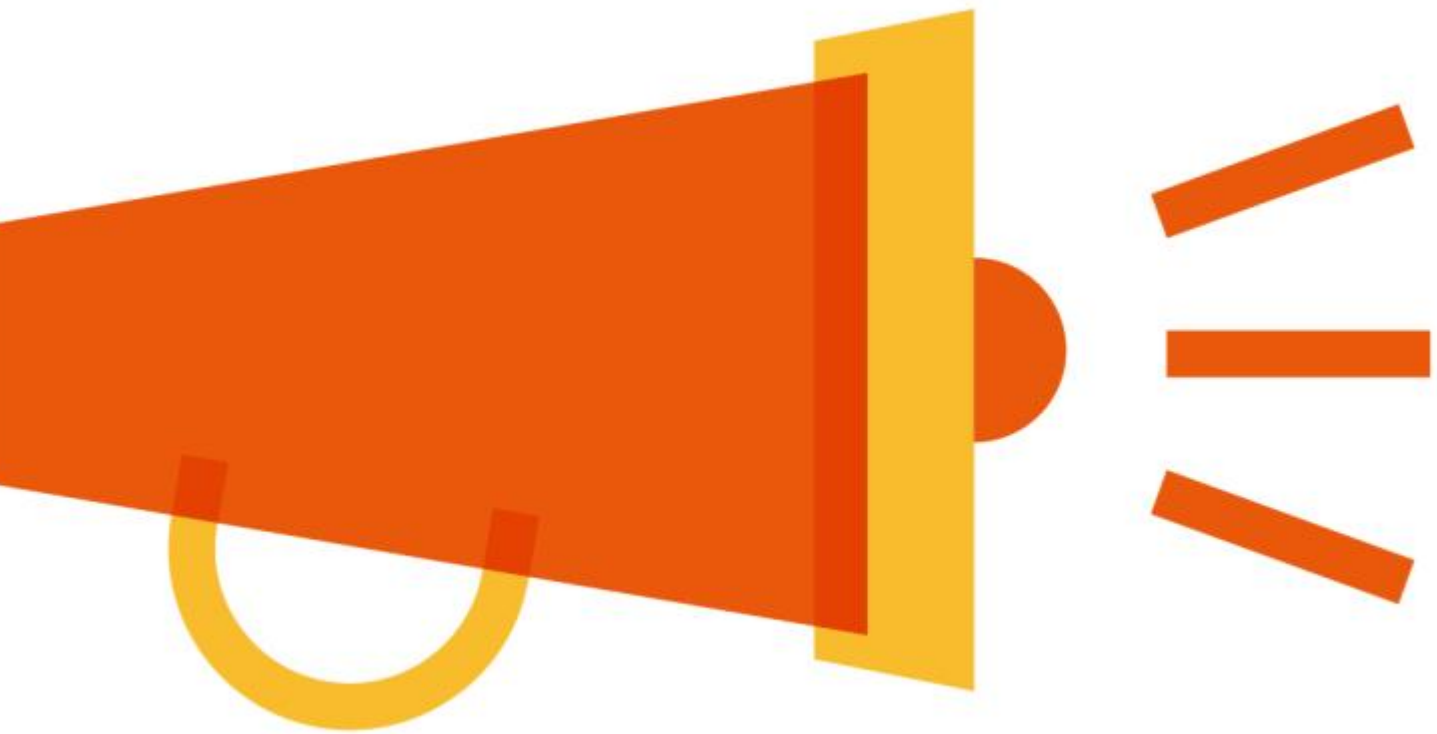


# News and Updates

Image



For the latest news stories on migration, please visit the [news section of our website](#). For the stories relating specifically to UASC from the last 6 months, please see below.

**02 February 2026**

- The [Home Office](#) has introduced a pilot allowing eligible 16- and 17-year-old asylum seekers to proceed to a substantive interview without submitting a [Statement of Evidence \(SEF\) form](#), if they have legal representation and have consented to take part. (Source: UK Visas and Immigration)

**26 January 2026**

- Young people who have been through the UK asylum system talk about the importance of access to education?and how this?impacts?their prospects; the article includes the story of a young woman placed in an asylum hotel in Yorkshire. Relatedly, ?a Birmingham school describes how they support young refugees with an intensive English course?and related activities prior to entering the mainstream system. (Source: ITV news)?
- Research by a teacher in Lebanon shows?supportive, high-quality education can transform the resilience and motivation of Syrian refugee students during conflict. (Source: The Northern Echo)?

**08 December 2025**

- The Upper Tribunal has issued one of the first rulings overturning an age assessment by the Home Office's National Age Assessment Board. (Source: Doughty Street Chambers)

**01 December 2025**

- This article examines how proposed asylum policy changes create uncertainty and present further risks to already vulnerable children. (Source: The Conversation)
- This data report highlights the ongoing issue of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and child victims of trafficking going missing from care, with policy, systemic failures and inadequate safeguarding exacerbating the problem. (Source: ECPAT UK)
- The UkraineCast podcast featured a special episode for World Children's Day answering schoolchildren's questions and hearing stories from Ukrainian children in Kyiv and in the UK. (Source: BBC, 38 minutes)
- In anticipation of a UK child poverty strategy, this article calls for linkage to migration policy , specifically the No Recourse to Public Funds policy. (Source: The Conversation)

**10 November 2025**

- A freedom of information request revealed more than 50 unaccompanied children remain missing from Kent, after being placed in reception centres and hotels over the last five years. (Source: the Guardian)
- Lord Dubs proposed an amendment to the Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill to allow parents with protection status to reunite with their children who are outside the UK, but this was not taken forward by the House of Lords. (Sources: Politics Home, UK Parliament)
  - This updated legal briefing outlines options for children in care to regularise their immigration status. (Source: Free Movement)

**27 October 2025**

- A UN Committee reports that flaws in France's age determination system for unaccompanied children lead to systematic rights violations. Similarly, this article highlights how inaccurate age assessments can severely impact those affected. (Source: UN Press Release, Free Movement)

**13 October 2025**

- Through stories of a foster carer and young people, this article highlights aspects of the system that affect the quality of support for unaccompanied children. In case you missed it in September, this report by Nottingham Trent University on the experiences of unaccompanied asylum seeking children offers recommendations across areas such as health, legal support, and education. (Sources: The Observer, East Midlands Councils)

**29 September 2025**

- The Independent Child Trafficking Guardianship (ICTG) scheme, which has played a vital role in supporting trafficked children including asylum seekers and refugees, is being expanded to all local authorities in England and Wales through a new government tender. (Source: Home Office)

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