

## Project note

### Journal of Children's Services

#### Background

A constant finding of the Research Unit's work has been the multiple needs of children and the requirement for involvement of several agencies and disciplines. In the mid-1990s, the Unit coined the term 'children's services' to encompass provision organised by health, education, social care, police and youth justice services. With the commitment to an outcome agenda in England, provision became slowly more integrated until, in 2004, local authorities were required to form departments of children's services.

The *Journal of Children's Services* was first published in 2006 as a response to these changing trends.

#### Aim

The Journal aims to encourage the development of research-based, outcome-focused services to better safeguard and promote the well-being of vulnerable children and their families. It seeks to improve understanding of the way that child development and applied social research can contribute to the evidence-base and better integrate children's services.

#### Method

The *Journal of Children's Services* is a peer review journal published four times a year, and aimed at an international audience. Coverage includes: Child development research and its implications for services; Methodological issues and developments; Evaluations of innovative services; Applied research relevant to common tasks in children's services; Analysis of the social, economic, cultural and political context for child well-being; Critical discussion of the concepts that inform service provision; Promotion of stronger links between research, policy and practice; and Commentary on national and local policy.

#### Funder

Pavillion Publishing

#### Timescale

2006-

#### Dissemination

The *Journal of Children's Services* is aimed at an international audience of academics, policymakers, managers and practitioners in central and local government, and in the third sector.

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