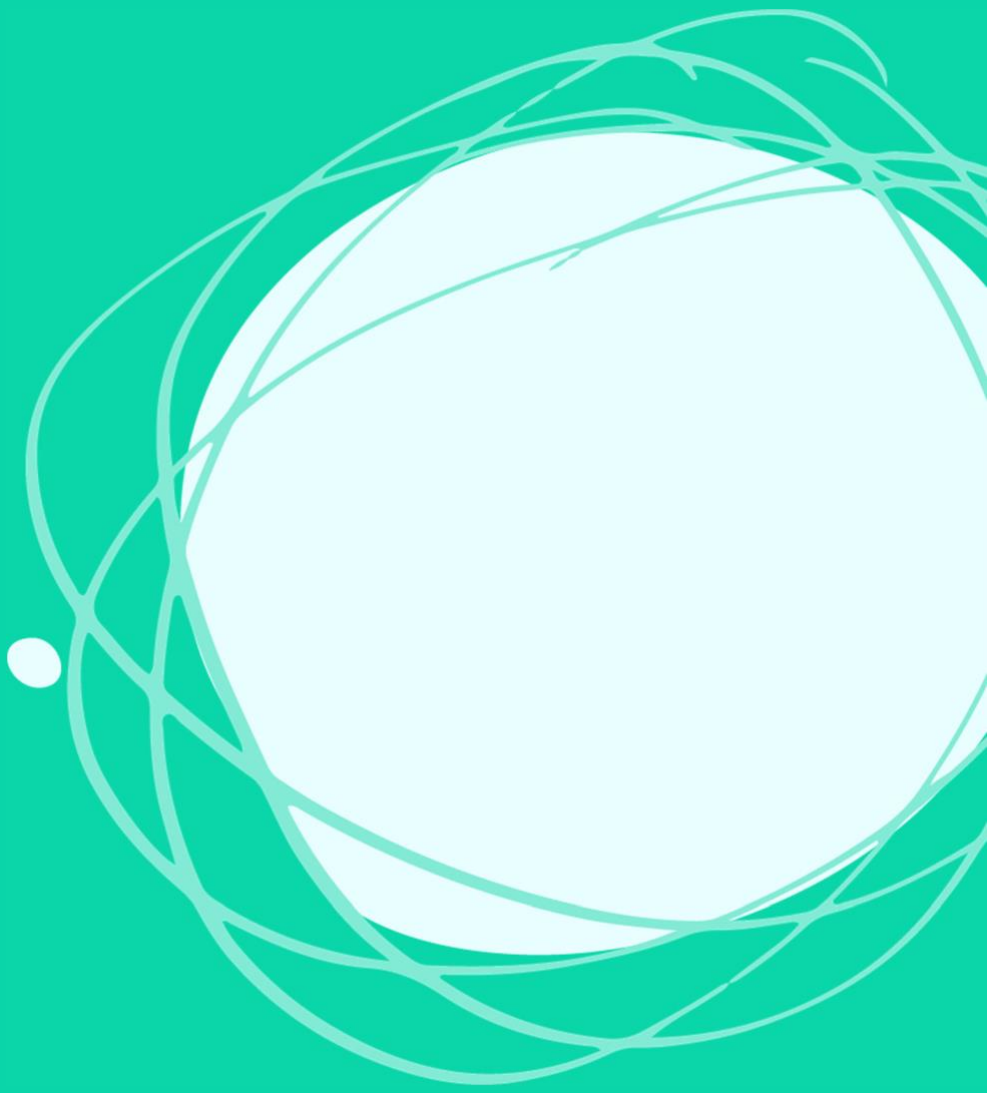


Duty Of Candour Report 2024/2025

Introduction

The Duty of Candour Procedure (Scotland) Regulations 2018 came into effect on 1 April 2018. It affects all health, social work and care services except childminders. It means that services must take specific steps to carry out their duty of candour when a serious adverse event happens. They will need to let the people affected know, offer to meet with them, and apologise. This is an important part of being open with people who experience care and also learning from things that go wrong.

All health and social care services in Scotland have a duty of candour. This is a legal requirement which means that when unintended or unexpected events happen that result in death or harm as defined in the Act, the people affected understand what has happened, receive an apology, and that organisations learn how to improve for the future.

An important part of this duty is that we provide an annual report about how the duty of candour is implemented in our services. This report describes how Common Thread Group has operated duty of candour between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025.

Common Thread hopes you find this report useful, however if you have any further questions on organisational duty of candour please contact:

info@commonthreadgroup.com

About Common Thread

Common Thread is a company committed to excellence and seriously improving opportunities for children in the care system. We are resolute in challenging unacceptable practice and perceptions.

Our mission

Our Mission is to lead in the creation and provision of innovative healing environments for children and young people who have been hurt by trauma, abuse and neglect.



Our values and behaviours

All employees of and suppliers to Common Thread are required to sign up to our Core Values and Behaviours:

Values

- Young People First – In All We Do
- Creativity and Positivity – Promote, Identify and Focus on in Ourselves and Others
- Leaders – In Our Areas of Expertise and Capability
- Operating Sustainably and Ethically – Ensuring Viable, Responsible Citizenship
- Integrity and Honesty – In How We Conduct Ourselves

Behaviours

- Demonstrates and Encourages Integrity and Honesty
- Learns through Creative Opportunities, Experience and Reflection
- Chooses and Promotes Sustainable and Ethical Practice
- Driven by Professional and Personal Excellence and Celebrates Success
- Promotes Mutual Respect and Confidence
- Delivers and Operates with Tenacity and Courage
- Interacts with Openness and Suspends Judgement

Our history



We are often asked where the name Common Thread came from. We believed that the common thread through any organisation could be narrowed to the people that are involved with it. In this case we felt it was important that the young people would always be the primary focus of our organisation. So, our common thread is, simply put, our young people.

We were founded in 2004 by Julie Joseph, initially with two houses. Our initial intent was to develop good practice and to broadcast that good practice to as many organisations as we could. We have grown our company organically as people who displayed the skills to help that growth came to us. The expansion of our footprint into the central belt and Highlands of Scotland was done carefully in order to ensure success. When we opened our first school near Dumfries in 2009 it was the culmination of a dream for Julie who had a clear vision and belief that we could not provide outstanding childcare without the educational element being available internally. We are proud of our educational provision and have increased the opportunities for our young people to access education in a supportive, specialised environment by opening a school in Kilmarnock. Our original school moved to beautiful new premises in Lockerbie in December 2024.



Our primary intent remains excellent care and education for the young people that come to stay with us.

Duty of Candour incidents

Between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025, there have been no incidents where the duty of candour applied.

Common Thread Group identifies through the debrief process if there are factors that may have caused or contributed to the event, which helps to identify duty of candour incidents.

Type of unexpected or unintended incident (not related to the natural course of someone's illness or underlying condition)	**Number of times this happened**
The death of the person	0
Permanent lessening of bodily, sensory, motor, physiologic or intellectual functions	0
A person's treatment increased	0
The structure of a person's body changed	0
A person's life expectancy shortened	0
A person's sensory, motor or intellectual functions were impaired for 28 days or more	0
A person experienced pain or psychological harm for 28 days or more	0
A person needed health treatment in order to prevent them dying	0
A person needed health treatment in order to prevent other injuries as listed above	0
TOTAL	**0**

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Registered Address: Farries, Kirk and McVean, Dumfries Enterprise Park, Heathhall, Dumfries DG1 3SJ

Internal controls

Policies and Procedures

Common Thread Group has produced a “Duty of Candour” policy which has been made available to all staff. This policy is reviewed and updated in line with the internal document control procedures.

Reporting procedures

As part of an update to The Care Inspectorate’s E-Forms reporting system Common Thread Group must confirm, for each notification, if duty of candour was triggered. The internal procedures around notifications have been updated to include these requirements.

Additional information

As required, we have produced this report and placed it on our website.

If you would like more information about this report, please contact:

info@commonthreadgroup.com