

Selection Criteria

Aim: to identify the most relevant, current and generalisable information and research.

Step 1: Inclusion / Exclusion Criteria

Published Research

Inclusion criteria

All published research and reviews may potentially be included, subject to the exclusion criteria

Exclusion criteria

Published research and reviews will not be included if they are one of the following:

- More than ten years old
- Not based on research / evidence (there is no list of references)
- Non-UK research or reviews of practices rather than principles (for example, the role of named types or grades of staff, which may not exist in the UK)

Policy, Guidance and Good Practice documents

Inclusion criteria

All documents may potentially be included, subject to the exclusion criteria

Exclusion criteria

Documents will not be included if they are one of the following:

- Non-UK
- Not available online
- More than ten years old
- Not based on research / evidence (there is no list of references)

*Studies and documents which pass the inclusion / exclusion criteria are catalogued as “abstract included” in Reference Manager

The only exception to this is if a resource or article is specifically flagged by a SCIE or SCARE expert as very important but does not fulfill the usual criteria. When included, the inclusion is qualified with the statement “This resource has been recommended to the SCARE group by a subject expert”

Step 2: Grades of Study

The briefings are compiled using the highest grades of study, and lower graded studies should be discarded. The content of briefings should be informed by as many Grade 1 studies as possible. If no Grade 1 studies are available to answer the question(s) set by the briefing, Grade 2 studies should be used, and so on.

Published Research

Grade	Origin	Date	Focus	Study
1	UK	5 years	Primary ¹	Research (P/S) ³
2	UK	5 years	Primary	Review
2	UK	5 years	Mixed ²	Research (P/S)
2	UK	5 years	Mixed	Review
2	UK	5-10 years	Primary	Research (P/S)
2	UK	5-10 years	Primary	Review
3	UK	5-10 years	Mixed	Research (P/S)
3	UK	5-10 years	Mixed	Review
3	Non-UK	5 years	Primary	Research (P/S)
4	Non-UK	5 years	Primary	Review
4	Non-UK	5 years	Mixed	Research (P/S)
4	Non-UK	5 years	Mixed	Review
4	Non-UK	5-10 years	Primary	Research (P/S)
4	Non-UK	5-10 years	Primary	Review
5	Non-UK	5-10 years	Mixed	Research (P/S)
5	Non-UK	5-10 years	Mixed	Review

¹ The briefing topic is the principal focus of the study, or the briefing population is the principal or only population in the study

² The briefing topic is not the principal focus of the study, or the briefing population is not the principal or only population in the study

³ The study is primary (original) or secondary (systematic review or meta-analysis) research

*Included studies are catalogued as “\$\$Grade 1” to “\$\$Grade 5” in Reference Manager

Policy, Guidance and Good Practice documents

No Grades are applied to these documents, only the inclusion / exclusion criteria defined above.