

Headteachers' Update

The Daily 5 O'Clock Update For Schools

Vulnerable Learner Monitoring and Safeguarding Return and EHCP Risk Assessments

We thought it might be helpful to clarify the request we have made to schools and settings about vulnerable learner monitoring and safeguarding return and EHCP Risk Assessments.

Earlier this week, we circulated information and a request to you relating to the safeguarding and monitoring of vulnerable learners across all the settings that we use. In total, this is approximately 280 settings.

The form that we have asked you to return on a weekly basis is accessed via a 360 account, for which you should have received a notification and log in details if you do not already have an account. This is a PREPOPULATED form which includes the learners in your school who have EHCPs and those who have a Social Worker. There is a series of questions to be answered for each learner via drop downs. This information will be pulled from the forms, once submitted, and will allow us to look at the county-wide picture, and to follow up where we see additional vulnerability emerging. One of the questions on the form relates to whether a risk assessment has been carried out, and when this took place.

Separate to this, we have made available a risk assessment proforma (via pdf, word and google docs) which can support you to complete this risk assessment and which informs the decision about attendance (or not) for your EHCP learners. We are not asking you to return those to NCC. They can be used internally by you and be kept in your children's files. Of course, if you would like any advice around completing those risk assessments, please ask.

Government guidance indicates that these should be revisited as circumstances change for learners.

DfE Updates

Coronavirus (COVID-19): financial support for education, early years and children's social care

The funding and financial support available for education, childcare and children's social care organisations has been updated to align with updated HMT/HMRC guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-financial-support-for-education-early-years-and-childrens-social-care#history>.

Pupil Numbers.

We had 137 schools and Alternative Providers open on Wednesday, with 46 schools and AP providers closed.

We have seen a further increase in attendance for the vulnerable and EHCP learners this week. 1149 pupils in total attended yesterday, which included 769 key worker children, 273 children that schools have identified as vulnerable and 109 with an EHCP.

IT Kit and Connectivity for Disadvantaged Pupils

In a letter from the Government to Councils last weekend [and in this document](#), the Secretary of State for Education indicated his intention to support remote education for some disadvantaged Year 10 children, children with a social worker and care leavers through the provision of IT devices and improved connectivity via 4G routers. We do not have the full details but it would appear that:

- Year 10 disadvantaged children will receive a device
- Devices will be made available to disadvantaged children and children with social workers from pre-school to year 9 and to Care Leavers

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- Disadvantaged children in Year 10, Care Leavers and children with a social worker in a secondary school who cannot access the internet will be provided with free 4G routers while schools are closed.
 - 4G routers will be owned and distributed by schools and LAs
 - Students currently aged 16 - 19 (therefore Year 11 and Sixth Form), however, already have access to devices and/or connections through the flexible bursary funding run by schools.

We therefore need to ask you a few questions in order to target this kit more accurately. We will be doing this tomorrow via the daily return to the LA.

In addition, the North of Tyne Combined Authority is looking to fund devices/connectivity to support some pupils who fall outside of the DfE scheme. The data you provide tomorrow will also be used to inform procurement for that project.

In order to answer the questions, you may need to survey parents/carers of the children falling into the relevant groups. We have taken this into account and will be asking you to respond to these questions by Thursday 30th April.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

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ResearchEd

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