

Headteachers' Update

The Daily 5 O'Clock Update For Schools

May Bank Holiday Opening

The DfE have updated their guidance to schools to include advice on next week's May Day Bank Holiday. It says:

'Schools should decide, in consultation with the parents of children who are currently attending school, whether it is necessary for them to continue to look after critical workers' children and vulnerable children on Friday 8 May 2020.'

As with the two Easter Bank Holidays, I would request that you ask your parents as soon as possible as to whether or not they will be requiring places for their children on May 8th. We will contact you early next week to ascertain how many schools and settings will be open on that day.

I will also be discussing this issue with headteacher representatives at our phone-in tomorrow, so if you have any views or questions, please let your locality representative know before 2pm tomorrow.

Digital education platform hub (DfE/The Key)

The government has now offered support to get set up on one of two free-to-use digital education platforms: G Suite for Education and Office 365 Education.

More information about the support can be found here:

<https://schoolleaders.thekeysupport.com/covid-19/deliver-remote-learning/make-tech-work-you/digital-education-platform-hub/?marker=module-imageprom-o-block>

Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak

The guidance has been updated on what schools need to do during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

The DfE has updated its guidance on bank holidays, Early Years Foundation Stage, recruitment and workforce

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures#history>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): attendance in education and early years settings

A summary of how many children and teachers attended education and childcare settings since Monday 23 March 2020 has been issued.

Updated data and added summary of data returns to 24 April 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-attendance-in-education-and-early-years-settings>

Northumberland Schools HR Updates

All the HR documents listed below can be found at: <http://northumberlandeducation.co.uk/coronavirus-hr/>

1. Exam Invigilation for Secondary Schools

This update is for secondary and high schools (but you can all read it!) and provides specific guidance on exam invigilation.

2. Northumberland Schools HR Guidance Documents: Employer Information for the Testing of Essential Workers

Following on from last Thursday's Headteacher meeting, Schools HR have been asked questions about how the above will operate. We have, therefore, written a number of guidance documents (links below) that will be of interest to headteachers and Chairs of Governors if you have not received or sourced similar documents already.

The following is a common question we are being asked – and note the guidance from the document. Schools HR will pick up any queries/ offer support directly via the HR Helpline.

6. If an employee has tested negative, can they come back to work straight away?

Employees with negative results should only return to work if they feel well enough to do so. If everyone with symptoms who was tested in their household receives a negative result, the employee can return to work immediately, providing they are well enough, and have not had a fever for 48 hours.

If a household member tests positive, but the worker tests negative, the worker can return to work on day eight from the start of their symptoms if they feel well enough and have not had a fever for 48 hours.

If the worker does not have symptoms but a household member tests positive, the worker should continue to self-isolate in line with national guidance.

3. General Schools HR COVID19 Updates

- i. Employee Wellbeing: COVID – 19
- ii. Behaviour and Conduct During COVID-19
- iii. Guidance for Recruitment During COVID-19
- iv. Financial Wellbeing COVID19
- v. Home Working During COVID-19
- vi. Furlough Guidance During COVID19
- vii. Payroll Instructions for Non-Standard Working Arrangements COVID-19
