

Headteachers' Update

The Daily 5 O'Clock Update For Schools

DfE Updates

Actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June

The DfE has published guidance for education and childcare settings on the actions required to prepare for wider opening from 1 June. In the document below, it sets out the overarching aims and principles of this next phase and its wish to work with the education sector to produce further guidance ahead of 1 June.

From 1 June, the DfE expects to be able to ask primary schools to welcome back children in nursery, Reception, year 1 and year 6. They will also ask secondary schools, sixth form and further education colleges to offer some face-to-face support before the summer holidays to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 students who are due to take key exams next year. Nurseries and other early years providers, including childminders, will also be asked to begin welcoming back children from 1 June. Existing arrangements for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers in all settings will continue, and the DfE is encouraging all eligible children in these priority groups to attend.

The local authority has had discussions with the DfE today regarding the need to recognise that some of the aims and principles contained in the guidance may not yet meet the needs of the three-tier system. We were assured that further guidance would be forthcoming once consultation with all local authorities had taken place this week.

In addition, a number of phase specific meetings with headteachers have been taking place in order for headteachers to plan collaboratively with each other for re-opening and to offer shared views for the local authority to act upon.

The guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020>

Implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings

The DfE has published guidance on the implementation of protective measures in education and childcare settings. There are important actions that can be taken to open settings to more children in the safest way possible, focusing on protective measures that can be put in place to limit the risk of the virus spreading.

The guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/corona-virus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

Guidance for parents and carers as schools and other education settings in England open to more children and young people

The DfE has published guidance for parents and carers on the opening of schools and other education settings to more children. This guidance provides information on when and how we will open education settings to more children.

The guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

A link has been added to the Government's roadmap for recovery and the associated guidance for all settings is available at:

<http://northumberlandeducation.co.uk/recovery/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance for schools and other educational settings

A link has been added to the guidance on 'Actions for educational and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June 2020' in the 'Overarching guidance for educational settings' section.

Also, a link has been added to guidance on 'implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings' in the 'COVID-19 infection prevention and control' section.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings>

On Track for Statutory RSHE

The Sex Education Forum (SEF) are offering a [free webinar](#) for members this week (there is one more tomorrow, 13th May).

Following the inevitable disruption caused by the current COVID19 crisis, the SEF explained today that it is likely that some Ofsted expectations of schools 'may be softened' when term begins in September.

There have been no communications to suggest that the implementation of the new curriculum will not go ahead as planned but it is expected that Ofsted will not inspect in the autumn with 'harsh expectations' of RSHE. It is expected that every element of the new curriculum (for example, evidence that schools have consulted widely with parents) will be inspected from April 2021. The advice given was, 'if you haven't yet consulted with parents, don't rush to do it before September, but wait and do it well in the autumn'.

Schools that cannot evidence consultation with parents could be open to legal challenge, so it is very important to do this.

The slides from today's webinar are now on the Northumberland Education PSHE Padlet. You can access them [here](#).

Home Learning Voluntary Survey

I have been contacted by Dr Matthew Easterbrook, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, from the University of Sussex requesting that our schools complete a voluntary questionnaire on home learning. I have copied his email below. If you are interested, please contact Dr Easterbrook direct.

'I hope you don't mind me getting in touch out of the blue, but I am leading a research project that I wanted to alert you about and hope you might be interested in.

I was awarded some research funding to investigate the provisions for home learning that schools are providing, what parents and teachers think of these and what they find most useful and engaging. We will share the results widely and hope to work with organisations producing online materials so that we can produce evidence-based resources informed by the results of the project that we will be able to share with schools and parents.

As the Director of Education at Northumberland Council, I am hoping that this project and its outcomes might be of interest to you, and that you might be able to help us by distributing the survey to your local schools and asking them to pass it on to their teachers and parents. The more responses we get to the survey, the more robust our results will be and the more confident we will be about the evidence-based materials that we hope to produce and, of course, share. The survey is anonymous, and no schools will be identified.

Anything you can do to help us to improve home learning would be incredibly valuable.

Here is the link to the survey, and the project's Facebook page:

Survey:

https://universityofsussex.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ahPAXiHKmoOlgI5

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/EduAtHomeUK/>

Thank you for your time – if you have any questions, please just ask.'

m.j.easterbrook@sussex.ac.uk