

Headteachers' Update

The Daily 5 O'Clock Update For Schools

DfE Updates

Attendance in education and early years settings during the coronavirus outbreak

This is a summary of attendance in education settings since Monday 23 March and early years settings since Thursday 16 April.

The latest data has been added up to 22 May 2020 for attendance in education and early years settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak".

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-attendance-in-education-and-early-years-settings?utm_source=cd568f39-2454-403f-8a96-e18244f59e97&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

School HR Drop-In Sessions

Following on from the HR update provided last week, we have now established the following HR Drop-In sessions on a weekly basis.

HR Drop in - 1.00pm - 2.00pm every Thursday commencing from **tomorrow, 28th May 2020** and running until the end of this current term (when we will review if there is an ongoing need);

The purpose of the Drop-In is to provide a set time each week where colleagues can drop-in/drop-out to raise a specific query or gain some clarity. If there is a need for a more detailed, confidential conversation or specific query, the discussion can be taken off line on a 121 basis or arranged to be discussed via call back/follow on conversation. The HR helpline will continue to operate outside of these times as it has done since the 23rd March.

We will also arrange specific HR updates as needed outside of these times as a single agenda item.

To drop-in tomorrow, follow this link:

https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_ZTAwZWYxOTEtMWJmNy00YTZILWlxMTgtNzdINWVmODFiNTII%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%25228c6b9e26-34d7-4394-b7ef-f110c955f0fc%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%2522927fcbef-1a06-4b43-995c-274bbcd0c36a%2522%257d&data=01%7C01%7Cdeborah.anderson01%40northumberland.gov.uk%7C4538f133a3134a3ae6d108d8024ef08f%7Cbb13a9de829042f0a980dc3bdfe70f40%7C0&sdata=4il56S42rdv6x2JFtTvK4dMcpIDphYxHqOL4910%2Fmog%3D&reserved=0

The Parliamentary Education Select Committee

The Parliamentary Select Committee for Education met this morning to discuss '*The impact of COVID19 on education and children's services*'. Giving evidence and answering questions were Nick Gibb, Minister of State for School Standards, and Andrew McCully, DfE Director General for Early Years and School Groups.

In an interesting and wide-ranging discussion, key areas covered included, amongst other issues, school reopening, SEN, Edenred, disadvantage and GCSE outcomes. A transcript of the meeting will be available soon which I will include on a future Update.

You can watch or listen to the meeting now at:

<https://parliamentlive.tv/Event/Index/507564f2-c0f0-4984-9ae0-b494f206fd7d>

An early report of today's Select Committee meeting is available on the Schools Week website and can be found at:

<https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fschooldweek.co.uk%2Frotas-for-primary-pupils-u-turn-on-fsm-vouchers-and-ppe-concerns-gibb-at-education-committee%2F&data=01%7C01%7Cdean.jackson%40northumberland.gov.uk%7C7bb38847d6894fbc58ba08d802399020%7Cbb13a9de829042f0a980dc3bdfe70f40%7C0&sdta=HAN%2FHJWSn%2BhHaaF6A0Hpg6jGcSmvPcg2V13%2FwJI0vq4%3D&reserved=0>

Meeting with Locality Headteachers

Just to confirm that this meeting will be taking place on **Friday 29th May, 1.00pm -2.30pm**. The joining instructions have now been sent out.

School equipment used in the home environment

Whilst schools remain closed to the majority of pupils, teachers will have considered lending school equipment to some pupils and their families. This can help reduce inequality and improve pupil access to online teaching and resources.

However, schools need to be alert to the possibility that devices in the home, connected to the home broadband connection, can be used to access inappropriate content. This may be directly harmful to pupils, and inappropriate content stored on the device will then be brought back into school and could potentially compromise the school systems.

The Department for Education's statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' obliges schools and colleges in England to "*ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place. Children should not be able to access harmful or inappropriate material from the school or colleges IT system*". Although school devices may be in a home environment, they are still part of the school's IT system and measures should be taken to mitigate against the risks of inappropriate activity.

If your school is sending equipment home, please consider whether you can reduce risks by:

1. Asking parents to enable parental controls on their home broadband connection – most ISPs offer this at no additional cost.
2. Enable filtering on the device if this is available e.g. through Lightspeed RELAY or a similar product.
3. Where possible, ensure that the device is monitored using Senso monitoring software or similar, and that key staff regularly review monitoring reports on pupil activity.
4. For Windows or Mac devices, ensure a suitable anti-malware product is installed and fully functioning.

Early Career Framework Forthcoming Webinar

The Early Career framework is being piloted in a number of areas, including Northumberland, from September 2020. All schools with new NQTs from September are strongly advised to sign up.

In conjunction with the North of Tyne Combined Authority, we are arranging a webinar containing an introduction to the Early Career Framework, with presentations by the four providers, to help schools decide which of the four providers is most suitable for them.

The date and time are being finalised. In the meantime, professional tutors and/or mentors should familiarise themselves with the Early Career Framework. Full details are available via <http://northumberlandeducation.co.uk/ecf/>.

Newcastle University Knowledge Exchange Education Seminars

You may recall that we hosted a Newcastle University Knowledge Exchange Education Seminar at County Hall last December. Future seminars are now being moved online. The University is keen to engage an audience of decision makers and would welcome your contribution.

The seminars aim to promote evidence led policy making and provides a forum for researchers to present their research findings to local decision makers. Details of the next two forthcoming seminars are as follows:

Newcastle University Knowledge Exchange Seminar Series (NU-KESS) – A Learning City?

Series focusing on Newcastle University research that addresses local policy issues. This event will include a presentation from Professor David Leat arguing for a 'Learning City' approach, providing more joined-up, visible and coherent learning opportunities.

Wednesday 3rd June – [Further info and registration](#)

Newcastle University Knowledge Exchange Seminar Series (NU-KESS) – Playing Out: Promoting Community and Belonging through Play.

Series focusing on Newcastle University research that addresses local policy issues. This event will include a presentation from Professor Alison Stenning exploring the potential for the "playing out" model and include a final section with some reflections on children, streets and play in the context of covid-19 and physical distancing.

Wednesday 10th June – [Further info and registration](#)

Global Bridge North East Future Stars2020

An organisation that we have worked with in the past, Global Bridge, are hosting an online conference for students and schools to support careers education. The event publicity says:

'We've gone digital! Future Stars 2020 will now be hosted online, as a virtual event meaning you can participate and enjoy the day from the comfort of your own home! Join us on the 17th of June for a fantastic day filled with prizes, advice and tips from top employers and much much more.

This is YOUR opportunity to explore exciting pathways and discover the skills needed to succeed.

Learn how to develop your career pathways, break into the industries you're interested in, and showcase your talent to the top employers.'

More details and booking for the event, and more information on Global Bridge, can be found at:

<https://www.myglobalbridge.com/futurestarsnew>