

# Headteachers' Update

## The Daily 5 O'Clock Update For Schools

### **Schools HR Update (1) CEV/CV, BAME or others who deem themselves to be vulnerable**

Please find a link here to the latest [Schools HR Update/ Guide](#) to provide a reminder on actions that schools need to take where you continue to have individuals who are clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable who are working from home - this will include pregnant workers. In addition, the document also aims to help you to identify individuals who are BAME or who may have another health condition that you may not be aware of.

As you are aware, the Schools Health & Safety team advised when they sent out the first draft of the risk assessment template that they would provide periodic updates to the risk assessments to ensure that the template remained up to date/ fluid. The team have undertaken some additional work on the risk assessment template and will be issuing an updated version with (all changes tracked) for schools to be able to consider / compare with their existing risk assessments on MONDAY, following a meeting with teacher unions today.

It is not the aim for you to start your risk assessment again; what you are being asked to do is to consider the updates and to see if you need to make any additions to the school's risk assessment or if you have already factored in such updates or can use any of the additional resources/ tools included.

The attached HR document complements the additions in the template risk assessment - particularly where it will help a school to identify those individuals who are BAME or have another underlying health condition or need.

Finally, we have been asked to provide schools with an outline EIA (Equality Impact Assessment) to support the operation of the risk assessment at a school level. The Schools Health & Safety Team

and the Schools HR Team are working on this and aim to provide schools with a template/ baseline EIA for consideration/ amending at a school level. As with a risk assessment, the EIA must be tailored to each individual school setting/ employee population. We will also provide some guidance on how to undertake an EIA and how this needs to be communicated/used.

Schools HR, [schoolshr@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:schoolshr@northumberland.gov.uk)

### **Schools HR Update (2) Schools Briefing Paper/ Guidance Note: Requirements and Expectations – Effective Consultation for Health & Safety Risk Assessments**

To support you with the consultation process when completing Health and Safety Risk Assessments, Schools HR have produced the following document:

<http://northumberlandeducation.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/NCC-Schools-HR-update-effective-consultation-050620.docx>

### **National Governance Association (NGA)**

An interesting article from the NGA on '*The role of governing boards in reducing the impact of COVID-19 school closures on disadvantaged pupils*' can be found at:

<https://www.nga.org.uk/getmedia/4f2d9f90-7f29-4867-95ac-ef158cf90fdb/NGA-COVID-19-Issue-8-Guidance-4-June-2020.pdf>

### **Early Career Framework Webinar - 10 June**

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 have arranged a webinar containing an introduction to the Early Career Framework with presentations by the four providers, to help schools decide which of those providers is most suitable for them.

Date: 10 June

Time: 2.00 - 3.30pm

Meeting link: [meet.google.com/gsk-pwzq-bec](https://meet.google.com/gsk-pwzq-bec)

For more details about the Early Career Framework visit <http://northumberlandeducation.co.uk/ecf/>

## Safe to Learn, Issue 40

This week's copy of Safe to Learn, along with previous issues, is available from:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Children/Look-ed-after/Virtual.aspx>

## DfE Updates

### **Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus outbreak**

What childcare services early years settings, childminders and local authorities need to provide during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

CLARIFICATION: The DfE has clarified the requirement for providers to carry the appropriate insurance (for example, public liability insurance) to cover all premises from which they provide childcare or childminding.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures>

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19): initial teacher training (ITT)**

Information for providers about managing initial teacher training courses impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19).

UPDATED GUIDANCE: The guidance has been updated to help initial teacher training (ITT) providers reduce the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on their ITT provision.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-initial-teacher-training-itt>

## Ofsted Updates Collection

### 1. **Postponing routine inspections**

Ofsted has responded to concerns from providers that the postponement of routine inspection can lead to a delay in opportunity to improve their last inspection judgement, which in turn can impact on decisions about where children should live and receive support. As such, commissioning frameworks may need to be more flexible while inspections leading to judgements are not taking place. Ofsted has confirmed that as urgent monitoring activity has continued during the restrictions, it expects reports from these monitoring visits to inform commissioners' decisions.

### 2. **Exploratory review of learning experiences**

Ofsted is working with the Department for Education (DfE), the Association of Colleges (AoC) and the Association of Employer and Learning Providers (AELP) to review further education learners' recent experiences of online learning.

The aim is to provide insights into the sector's experiences of online education and to identify areas of strength and potential for improvement. This will support post-16 providers re-visiting their online education strategies, particularly from September 2020 onwards. The review will take place during June and will involve remote interviews with managers, teachers and trainers in volunteer further education colleges and skills providers to discuss their delivery of online teaching and learning.

Further details are available [here](#).

### 3. **Inspection of early years providers**

This week Ofsted has confirmed it will not be conducting routine inspections, which report on the quality of education that children in the EYFS receive while attending an early years or childcare provider. The inspectorate will, however, continue to take action against providers who are not meeting the requirements set out for this period.

Further details are available [here](#).