

Headteachers' Update

The Daily 5 O'Clock Update For Schools

DfE Updates

NOTE: The local authority is putting together a web page with all of the documents for September opening -

<http://northumberlandeducation.co.uk/september/> - that we will update as new documents emerge. Please let Dave Cookson know if anything is missing.

Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak

NEW GUIDANCE: This is the long-awaited DfE guidance detailing what all schools will need to do during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak from the start of the autumn term.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

Schools and colleges to reopen in full in September

DfE PRESS RELEASE: The DfE has provided detailed plans for all children and young people to return to full-time education from September.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/schools-and-colleges-to-reopen-in-full-in-september>

Schools Week Summary of the above Guidance
<https://schoolsweek.co.uk/teachers-can-move-freely-around-schools-and-most-staff-expected-back-dfe-s-safety-plans-for-september/>

Guidance for full opening: special schools and other specialist settings

NEW GUIDANCE: The DfE has issued new guidance for special educational settings to prepare for the September return of pupils with special education needs and disability (SEND).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-full-opening-special-schools-and-other-specialist-settings>

What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

Information for parents and carers about the opening of early years providers, schools and colleges, safety in schools, attendance, transport, school meals and exams.

UPDATED GUIDANCE: The DfE has added guidance for parents and carers about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

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

UPDATED GUIDANCE: The DfE has updated its guidance and now sets out a change to the protective measures in early years settings that will be effective from 20 July and to removes the requirement to keep children in small consistent groups within settings (sections 2.1 and 3.3). New content has been added on risk assessments (3.1), supporting staff with increased risk factors (3.2) and systems of controls (3.3). The content has been updated on attendance at settings for those shielding, with changes to the advice effective from 1 August. The content on vulnerable children since settings are open for all children (section 4) has been removed. Finally, there is additional content on wraparound care (5.3), the updated Early Years Foundation Stage reforms (7.6) and the Reception Baseline Assessment (7.7).

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

Arrangements for examinations and assessments in 2020/21

DfE LETTER: The DfE has published a letter from the Secretary of State for Education to Sally Collier, Chief Regulator of OFQUAL on the policy objectives related to exams and assessments in 2020/21.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/arrangements-for-examinations-and-assessments-in-2020-21>

Local government Association (LGA) Update: Online Learning / Remote Teaching Plans

Despite the intention for all pupils to return to school, there's still potential for local lockdowns, continued shielding or classes on rotas. Schools will therefore be expected to have remote teaching plans.

To support this, [the Department for Education has funded Oak National Academy to be available throughout 2020/21 as a free, optional, resource as part of any school's contingency planning.](#)

Oak National Academy is an online classroom that has been providing video lessons and resources during the pandemic, with 14 million lessons accessed. For next year, they aim to help schools with the transition between learning in school and at home. They will:

- Next week publish a full curriculum map of all lessons that will be available for the year, covering Reception to Year 11 plus specialist content
- Make available most of the year's lessons before September - around 10,000 free lessons and associated resources which can help with lesson planning for both teaching in-school and remotely.

Schools leaders can hear more about how to make the most of Oak by signing up to webinars taking place from Monday next week. There are specific webinars for [Primary](#), [Secondary](#) and [Specialist](#). [You can also sign up for updates directly from Oak.](#)

COVID19 - SUMMER FOOD FUND

This is a reminder to all schools that, if you are using Edenred to obtain supermarket vouchers for the pupils eligible for free school meals during the summer holidays, you need to ensure that you place your orders prior to 10th July or at least 7 days before the end of term, whichever is earlier. This is to allow time for the codes to be issued and for any errors to be rectified before the school closes for the summer holidays.

Schools have all received an email directly from Edenred giving instructions. The earlier you apply, then the less chance there is of delays and backlogs in processing the orders. If your school is using the 'self-delivery' method, it is advised to order vouchers as soon as possible so these can be redeemed and sent to parents before the end of term.

Orders can be placed on the Edenred portal following the guidance detailed on page 3 of the Edenred Admin User Guide:

https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FreeSchoolMeals_AdminUserGuide.pdf

If your school is experiencing any problems with Edenred please contact ross.downey@northumberland.gov.uk for assistance.

School Term Dates 2020/21

I would like to confirm that the school year will officially start on **Tuesday 1st September 2020**. There had been an error on the webpage stating that the term would not start until Wednesday 2nd September. Apologies if there has been any confusion; our webpage has now been updated.

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Holidays.aspx>

We had initially suggested that Tuesday 1st September could be a training day across the county, but we have now asked school partnerships to agree and set training days locally, to give you as much flexibility as possible, given the uncertainty around the expectations on schools for a wider opening.

If you require any further information, please email
the School Admissions Team
schooladmissions@northumberland.gov.uk

Union Details for Sharing Risk Assessments

We have been made aware that some schools are using out-of-date lists of union contacts. Please use the list below when you need to share any documentation with the unions. Details can also be found at: -

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

stevebird.nasuwt@gmail.com
julie.parkinnasuwt@gmail.com

richard.woolhouse@neu.org.uk
john.sanderson@neu.org.uk

Chrisburns@voicetheunion.org.uk

andrew.gibson@northumberland.gov.uk
michael.hunt@gmb.org.uk

unison@northumberland.gov.uk

suzanne.reid@unitetheunion.org