

Headteachers' Update

The Daily 5 O'Clock Update For Schools

Welcome to the Head teacher Update from the team. We plan to continue to produce the updates at 5 pm twice per week until October half term, then review the frequency. The days of distribution will be Tuesday and Thursday to avoid a Friday night reading focus on the latest guidance.

Late on Friday, updated guidance for local authorities and local decision-makers on containing and managing COVID-19 outbreaks at a local level was published.

As you will know, this document sets out how NHS Test and Trace and the Joint Biosecurity Centre (JBC) will work with local authorities, Public Health England (PHE) and the public to contain and manage local COVID-19 outbreaks.

As mentioned above, the updated guidance sets out four tiers of restrictions for education settings, for use as an absolute last resort in areas subject to local restrictions.

All schools, colleges and other education settings are opening for the start of term. This includes all those in areas subject to local restrictions currently at Tier 1 being fully open to all pupils full-time. In these areas, face coverings are required in corridors and communal areas for pupils in Year 7 and above. In the specific guidance on planning for Tier 2 local restrictions, the Government has confirmed that local authority leaders and directors of public health, alongside national Government, would be at the centre of any decision-making to move out of Tier 1 for education settings. Where local authorities with public health responsibility believe that there is a case for limiting attendance at education settings, this will be rapidly escalated and decisions taken by the Secretary of State for Education. All other possible measures should be taken, including implementing restrictions on other sectors, before considering restricting attendance in education.

If all other measures have been exhausted, Tier 2 could be adopted where it is necessary and safe to do so. Under this tier, secondary schools and colleges in a restricted area will be advised to use rotas to help break chains of transmission of COVID-19, while primary schools remain open to all pupils.

Tiers 3 and 4 would introduce remote learning full time for wider groups of pupils, with vulnerable children and children of critical workers continuing to attend.

Guidance setting out principles likely to apply where a tier 2 rota system is required. This guidance is for decision makers at mainstream schools with secondary year groups, to help them plan a tier 2 rota model if required.

It has been developed with input from:

- school leaders
- unions
- sector bodies
- Public Health England (PHE)
- the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-schools-can-plan-for-tier-2-local-restrictions/how-schools-can-plan-for-tier-2-local-restrictions> (Published 28 August 2020)

Guidance for education providers about Ofsted's phased return to inspection

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-plans-from-september-2020?utm_source=54860016-634e-4ad7-b771-30db5fae9665&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Change made - Added links to guidance on interim activity for state-funded schools, independent schools and further education and skills providers.

Statutory guidance for schools and colleges on safeguarding children and safer recruitment

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2?utm_source=936e83f0-b458-4d7d-82cd-3ce68cde0fdf&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

Change made - The September 2020 version of the keeping children safe in education guidance is now in force and replaces previous versions. We have made changes in 3 circumstances: where legislation has required it e.g. reflecting mandatory Relationship Education, Relationship and Sex Education and Health Education from September 2020. where we have helpful additional information that will support schools and colleges protect their children e.g. mental health, domestic abuse, child criminal and sexual exploitation and county lines. important clarifications which will help the sector better understand and/or follow our guidance. A table of changes is included at Annex H.

Attendance guidance for schools

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance?utm_source=1c60772f-8392-413c-8f2c-0bbe90fd1424&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

Change made - Added 'Securing full attendance: support for schools and local authorities' and updated details text to clarify how these documents can be used. Covers registers and attendance codes (including circumstances due to coronavirus (COVID-19)), school hours and term dates, and improving school attendance.

Guidance for schools and local authorities on school meals arrangements during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

Updated information on school food from September 2020, universal infant free school meals, additional costs incurred before summer 2020, school food contracts and free school meals eligibility. Also includes guidance on providing water in school and support for pupils who have to stay at home due to coronavirus (COVID-19).

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance?utm_source=72c22273-dc-a6-4d1d-85af-a502a066d086&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate (Updated 28 August 2020)

The Medical Director of Public Health England and Chief Medical Adviser of NHS Test and Trace have written to school and college leaders

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letter-from-phe-and-nhs-test-and-trace-to-school-and-college-leaders?utm_source=0bfd7edd-ae2a-4b7d-9d18-506077d1a61d&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate (3 September 2020)

Holiday Quarantine

Just to keep you informed there have been a number of anecdotal reports regarding teaching staff and pupils planning to return to school when they should be still in quarantine following a foreign holiday. Obviously no staff or pupils should be returning to school for 14 days after having visited any country not on this list

<https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fguidance%2Fcoronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors%23countries-and-territories-with-no-self-isolation-requirement-on-arrival-in-england&data=01%7C01%7Cath.mcevoy-car%40northumberland.gov.uk%7C95bbdab0216c4a17f78c08d84eb3f9b7%7Cbb13a9de829042f0a980dc3bdfef70f40%7C0&sdata=rwnHLyu%2FUf3ZI9edGkhESYtuBAYeAbmSE7s%2FY0vSySE%3D&reserved=0>.

Discussion around this is occurring on some social media sites, this message is just a heads up to make you aware and give yourself a chance to check all is well before an issue crops up on Facebook.

What (maintained schools) must publish online

On 27 August the DfE updated what [maintained schools](#) need to publish online, adding one section. Below is what maintained schools now need to add:

Financial information - You must publish:

- how many school employees (if any) have a gross annual salary of £100,000 or more in increments of £10,000 - we recommend using a table to display this
- a link to the webpage which is dedicated to your school on the [schools financial benchmarking](#) service - follow the prompts to find your school's specific page.

Open letter from Vicky Ford, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families to children and young people with SEND, their families and carers and those who work to support them

In the letter Minister Ford recognises that this is a challenging and anxious time for children and their families and also recognises the challenges and obstacles many people have faced during the pandemic. The letter provides advice and guidance on several issues, including behaviour, risk assessments, face coverings, specialist and visiting practitioners, mental health and wellbeing, aerosol generating procedures and hospital schools, as well as linking to some of the support available to help.

<https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/attachemnt/Vicky%20Ford%20letter%20to%20SEND%20sector%202nd%20Sept%202020.docx>

In addition to the updates two opportunities to make schools aware of:

Invitation to European Day of Languages Online Festival hosted by Lingotot

Details of the Lingotot European Day of Languages Online Festival.

Celebrated on 26 September, the European Day of Languages is a means of promoting awareness among the general public of the importance of language learning.

Our event will take place on Friday 25th September all day long.

At this time of global pandemic, it is especially important for young learners to understand that children across the world face similar issues. Languages are one way to connect people and to allow them to share experiences. The fantastic European Day of Languages Festival is a wonderful way to celebrate linguistic diversity, promote language learning and discover the vibrant teaching approach of talented educators.

Our **FREE** online festival will allow children at home, school and nursery to take part in free classes, quizzes, storytelling sessions, challenges and karaoke by tuning in to the day-long livestream online.

Children will be able to take part in a range of fun activities in French, Spanish, German, Italian, Mandarin, Arabic, Welsh and Dutch, all languages which are vital for future success in the global economy.

There are even sessions to help upskill teachers and conversation classes for adults. You may choose to follow the live events all day long, or instead drop in to sessions which are of particular interest. We will be publishing our timetable so you can plan your day.

Register your interest at www.lingotot.co.uk/EDoL2020 and you will be sent further information between now and the event itself, including the timetable and FREE resources to use in class to keep the learning flowing even after the big day.

We hope to see you online on 25th!

Michelle Marsland,
Director: Lingotot Tyne and Wear,
Tel: 07852 132 604 E:northtyne@lingotot.com

Stemfest in Space



Join us for a virtual celebration of all things Spacey at STEMfest in Space!

Get hands-on with STEM Ambassadors who support the international space industry, discover all about space missions, learn about the career opportunities within the space sector, listen to inspiring speakers and question real astronauts!! If your school or youth group is interested in taking part, please register your details.

Your host for the day, Dallas Campbell, TV presenter and author.

**LET'S EXPLORE SPACE! JOIN US FOR THIS
ONLINE INTERACTIVE EVENT**

8TH OCTOBER 2020

<https://stemfest.org.uk/>