

Headteachers' Update

For Schools and Academies

[Teaching about relationships, sex and health](#)

Page summary - Support and training materials for schools to help train teachers on relationships, sex and health education.

Change made - Added links to teacher training modules on healthy eating and physical health and fitness.

[Catch-up premium: coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Page summary - Find out which schools are eligible, what the funding is for, when payments will be made and how funding can be used to help pupils catch up on missed education.

Change made - First published.

[Laptops, tablets and 4G wireless routers provided during coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Page summary - Guidance for local authorities, academy trusts and schools on managing Department for Education (DfE) devices provided for children, families and young adults most in need.

Change made - Removed section on device eligibility during the summer term. Added section encouraging reallocation of any 4G wireless routers sent during the summer term that are not being used.

[Guidance for full opening: special schools and other specialist settings](#)

Page summary - What all special schools and other specialist settings will need to do during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak from the start of the autumn term to support the return of children and young people with special education needs and disability (SEND).

Change made - Updated guidance on SEND legislation (to reflect that temporary changes have now ceased), the system of controls, residential settings, attendance, workforce, safeguarding, wraparound provision and extra-curricular activity, curriculum expectations, behaviour expectations and contingency planning for remote education.

[Guidance for schools: coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Page summary - What school leaders, teachers and school staff need to do during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Change made - Added 'Help with accessing and buying resources for remote education' to the remote education section.

[Assistive technology \(AT\) stakeholder reports](#)

Page summary - Insights on the use of assistive technology in educational settings by pupils and students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Change made - First published.

[Curriculum sequencing for primary and secondary](#)

Page summary - Ark Schools share their experiences of curriculum sequencing following the outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Change made - First published.

[Remote education webinars](#)

Page summary - How to access school-led webinars on remote education to help share good practice.

Change made - Added information to 'New webinars for middle leaders'.

What happens if someone in your family gets sick?

The BBC have produced a diagram of timelines for families to understand who should isolate for how long in certain circumstances. It might be useful to share with parents/pupils. The timeline is [here](#).

Telephone Call Purporting to be from Google

A Northumberland school received a phone call purporting to be from someone who claimed to be working for Google. The initial question was to confirm the school address. The lady then proceeded to ask the headteacher a range of questions about Covid and our arrangements.

The LA would suggest not answering such questions as there is no way of confirming the identity of the caller. If you receive such a phone call please let [Dave Cookson](#) know.

Christmas Events in Schools During Covid-19 - Health and Safety Advice

With the festive season fast approaching, a number of schools have raised queries regarding events taking place in schools to celebrate Christmas.

The Corporate Health and Safety Team have updated their [Health and Safety FAQ document](#) for schools which covers the key issues to consider when planning events within school.

Head Teacher Wellbeing

You will be aware that the findings from the HT Wellbeing survey suggested the following actions:

1. HT Wellbeing is made a fixed agenda item at every partnership meeting
2. A HT Wellbeing action group is set up, supported by HR
3. Information sharing is done at appropriate times of the day and week and the quantity moderated where possible
4. One to one catch up and support is offered from known members of the central teams
5. HR and H+S teams continue with drop in sessions
6. Phase forums continue to be supported

With the last action in mind, I would like to reopen invitations to the following forums:

- First School Forum
- Primary School Forum
- Special School and other SEND settings Forum
- Middle School Forum (if required in addition to NAMH)
- High School Forum (if required in addition to NASH)

The proposal is that the forums continue on a monthly drop-in basis facilitated by David Street or Dave Cookson. There will be no set agenda but they will cover the pressing Covid issues of the day and any other phase related issues, with a view to sharing and finding solutions to those challenges, reducing workload and the associated stresses. All head teachers will receive an email invitation shortly. To continue to attend or to start attending just accept the invite.