

Headteachers' Update

For Schools and Academies

DfE Updates

[What maintained schools must publish online](#)

Page summary: The information that schools maintained by their local authorities must publish on their websites.

Change made: Added a section on remote education – linked to the guidance on remote education provision expectations and the optional template to help schools publish information.

[What academies, free schools and colleges should publish online](#)

Page summary: The information that academies, including 16 to 19 colleges and any educational institution that has academy arrangements, should publish on their websites.

Change made: Added a section on remote education – linked to the guidance on remote education provision expectations and the optional template to help schools publish information.

[Supporting your children's remote education during coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Page summary: Information and support for parents and carers of children who are learning at home.

Change made: Added top tips for supporting your child during remote education. Added links for information about the Reading Well booklist that supports mental health, how to find your local library and the services they offer, and online support for parents and carers to keep children and young people safe from online harm.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): keeping children safe online](#)

Page summary: Advice and guidance to help parents and carers to keep children safe online during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Change made: Links to extra resources added to help keep children safe from online harm.

[Mass testing for secondary pupils as all schools and colleges fully reopen from 8 March](#)

Page summary: Schools and colleges to reopen to all pupils from 8 March with asymptomatic COVID-19 testing in place.

[Consultation on how GCSE, AS and A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021](#)

Page summary: The approach to awarding GCSE, AS and A level grades in 2021 following the cancellation of exams.

Change made: Decisions and analysis of responses published.

[Awarding qualifications in summer 2021](#)

Page summary: What schools, colleges and students need to know about the arrangements for awarding GCSEs, AS and A levels, VTQs and other qualifications in summer 2021.

Change made: First published.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): school and college performance measures](#)

Page summary: Our approach to school and college accountability, performance tables and data during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Change made: Guidance has been updated to confirm the 2020 to 2021 accountability position.

Devices from the DfE

The DfE have made more devices available. Eligible schools will receive an email from the DfE outlining the number your school can order. If you have any queries please contact [Dave Cookson](#).

Educational Visits Update

Following the Prime Ministers press conference on 22nd of February and the release of new guidance by Department for Education we felt it useful to provide an update regarding educational visits and offsite activity.

The advice we have provided prior to yesterday's announcements remains valid. This is outlined by the DfE Guidance which applies up to 8th of March ([Restricting attendance during the national lockdown: schools](#)) and the new Guidance which is valid from 8th of March ([Schools coronavirus \(COVID-19\) operational guidance](#)).

Please refer to previous messages sent via Evolve to all Heads and EVCs on 20th January and 4th of February for further detail. A copy of these messages is also displayed on the [Evolve](#) home screen. All Heads and EVCs should have received an automated email advising that messages had been sent to them via the Evolve system at the time. If this is not the case, we suggest you log in to Evolve, to check your establishment and personal settings. Sometimes we find that email addresses require updating.

The DfE guidance states that the position regarding visits will be kept under review. We will continue to closely monitor the situation and will update all via the Evolve system as soon as updates become available.

For those establishments who have residential visits booked over the coming months we advise that early dialogue is essential to ascertain whether visits may be postponed or amended. Discussions with insurers regarding a potential claim due to COVID restrictions will help to identify when it would be appropriate to change original plans, consult with parents etc.

If there are any queries on the above, please do not hesitate to contact Nigel Chopping, Health and Safety Adviser for Educational/Offsite Visits, Corporate Health and Safety Team (healthandsafety@northumberland.gov.uk).

National Tutoring Programme (NTP)

The National Tutoring Programme (NTP) aims to support schools in providing a sustained response to the coronavirus pandemic and to provide a longer-term contribution to closing the attainment gap.

The website (<https://nationaleducation.org.uk/ntp-tuition-partners>) has been created to support schools to access the Tuition Partners and Academic Mentor pillars of the NTP.

You can find a summary of the schemes [here](#).