

Headteachers' Update

The 5 O'Clock Update For Schools

DfE Updates

[Summer schools programme](#)

Page summary: Details of the summer schools programme for secondary schools including funding, requirements for running a summer school and best practice evidence.

Change made: Added a link to the confirmation form. Schools should now confirm their arrangements and secure their funding for their summer school by completing the confirmation form by 30 June.

[School reports on pupil performance: guide for headteachers](#)

Page summary: Guidance for schools on writing statutory end of year reports for parents.

Change made: Updated to confirm we have laid regulations to remove the requirement to report on attendance for the 2020 to 2021 academic year and on national curriculum assessments for summer 2021. There is also general information on what to include in reports for the 2020 to 2021 school year, given the disruption to assessments and attendance due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

[£3.4 million to expand The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in schools](#)

Page summary: Department for Education investment will support pupils in deprived schools in England to take part in volunteering and extra-curricular learning.

Change made: First published.

[Education recovery support](#)

Page summary: A list of resources to help early years settings, schools and 16 to 19 education providers support children and young people's wellbeing and education recovery.

Change made: First published.

[Teaching about mental wellbeing](#)

Page summary: Practical materials for primary and secondary schools to use to train staff about teaching mental wellbeing.

Change made: Added guidance to support relationships, sex and health education curriculum planning, as part of education recovery.

[Use of the NHS COVID-19 app in education and childcare settings](#)

Page summary: Actions for leaders and staff when using the NHS COVID-19 app in education and childcare settings.

Change made: Added further information on app features and situations for pausing it.

Phonics Screening Check 2021

Cancellation of the phonics screening check in June 2021 means incoming year 2 pupils will not have taken the check in year 1.

As in the 2020/21 academic year, it will be statutory for schools to administer a past version of the check to year 2 pupils during the second half of the 2021 autumn term.

Year 2 pupils who meet the expected standard in the autumn check will not be required to complete any further statutory assessments in phonics. Year 2 pupils who do not meet the expected standard in the autumn check will be expected to take the statutory check in June 2022.

Administration guidance available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-administering-the-phonics-screening-check-to-year-2-pupils>

Incoming year 3 pupils, who were due to take the statutory check in June 2021 are not required to take the autumn check. Schools are expected to maintain a programme of support for these pupils, which should be informed by formative assessment.

[Service pupil premium \(SPP\)](#)

Change made: Updated the eligibility section in Service Pupil Premium: what you need to know.

Health and Safety - Events in Schools – Delay in Step 4 of Roadmap out of Covid

As part of the government's Covid19 roadmap, the long term Covid controls which have been in place nationally were due to be reviewed before Step 4 of the roadmap, originally planned for 21 June 2021. As you know, the Government have now completed this review and in light of increased community transmission of Covid variants, and to increase the opportunity for more people to be vaccinated, Step 3 of the roadmap has been extended to 19 July (with the option to review this extension around 5 July).

This will have a major impact on any large scale school events which schools may have planned, such as transition days, sports day and leavers proms. These events must comply with the current [school operational guidance](#) in respect of existing covid controls, such as no mixing of bubble groups and social distancing. Schools are advised to review their existing plans and risk assessments for these events. It is likely to mean a number of events will have to be cancelled or drastically changed to comply with the current guidance. No doubt this will be very disappointing for staff and pupils, however, given the increasing rate of transmission nationally this delay was not unexpected.

The Corporate Health and Safety Team have updated their FAQ document to cover transitions days, sports day and leavers events. This provides further information and advice in relation to these events and includes a link to the model risk assessment for transition days which has been reviewed and updated:

[School FAQs](#)

[COVID19 - School Transfer Day Risk Assessment - Template \(version 2\)](#)

As always, the Corporate Health and Safety Team are available to discuss any specific queries you may have regarding the Covid19 arrangements in place within your school. Please speak to a member of the team (Amanda Young, John Froud, Nigel Chopping or Bryony Smith) or email healthandsafety@northumberland.gov.uk Public Health queries can be directed to the NCC Public Health Team via the [Covid report/enquiry form](#).