



## Ofsted Updates September 2020

Please click on the links below to access documents.

### **[Ofsted: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rolling update - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ofsted-coronavirus-covid-19-rolling-update)**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ofsted-coronavirus-covid-19-rolling-update>

Updated 24 August 2020 – Ofsted

### **[Ofsted visits to schools and colleges to begin this month - Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofsted-visits-to-schools-and-colleges-to-begin-this-month)**

[www.gov.uk > government > news > ofsted-visits-to-sc...](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofsted-visits-to-schools-and-colleges-to-begin-this-month)

2 September 2020 – Ofsted Press Release

Ofsted will notify a school of the visit on the day before and talk about the practicalities of the visit – including any specific considerations related to COVID-19. Normally, 2 inspectors will visit a school for 1 day, when they will have collaborative conversations with school leaders.

On the visit, they will talk about any barriers that the school is facing in managing the return to opening fully, how pupils are getting back into expected routines and their behaviour, and the school's safeguarding arrangements. Inspectors will also talk to school leaders about how remote learning fits into their wider curriculum plans. After a visit, the inspector will write a short letter, which will be published on our reports website.

The first visits will take place at the end of this month. Inspectors will observe social distancing and all other national or local guidance from the government to carry out these visits safely.

Full inspection is set to resume in January 2021, but this is being kept under review.

### **[Education plans from September 2020 - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-plans-from-september-2020)**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-plans-from-september-2020>

12 August 2020- Ofsted

Ofsted will be carrying out a phased return to inspection, starting with an interim period of visits during the autumn term.

#### **Section 8 emergency inspections**

Ofsted will continue to make emergency inspections as and when required. These are in response to serious concerns, such as safeguarding.

## Visits

Ofsted will visit all inadequate schools and a sample of schools across the other Ofsted grades (outstanding, good, requires improvement).

The visits will be based around a series of professional conversations with senior and middle leaders. They will focus on:

- identifying the barriers schools have faced and are still facing in managing the return to full education for pupils
- how leaders are ensuring pupils resume learning the school's extant curriculum, including the blend of classroom teaching and, where necessary, remote education
- how pupils are settling back into expected routines and behaviours
- how any identified and specific health and well-being issues for particular pupils are being addressed and what may be needed at local and/or national level to support this
- safeguarding

These visits are not inspections. They will:

- not use the education inspection framework and school inspection handbook, but they will publish a brief operational note in September about how they will carry out visits
- not result in any grade or progress judgement; they will publish a brief letter after a visit containing information agreed with leaders about their next steps in managing the return to full-time education for their pupils
- not judge schools on their response to COVID-19 during the spring and summer terms 2020
- not require any pre-written planning or other documentation for the visit; the lead inspector will make a simple phone call to discuss the logistics of the visit
- not ask schools for documents or records in a certain format; we will use what schools have already, if needed to support discussion
- not require teachers to prepare any lesson plans or examples of assessment, or to put up any displays for the visit
- not use lesson visits as a method of collecting evidence
- not involve a general review of a school's policies

### **[Interim visits: registered early years providers - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/interim-visits-registered-early-years-providers)**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/interim-visits-registered-early-years-providers>

12 August 2020 - Ofsted

From September 2020, Ofsted will be visiting some nurseries to make sure that standards are being maintained and that there is well-run, safe and effective childcare available for all who need it.

The visits are part of a [phased return to routine inspection](#). They are not

inspections and will not result in an inspection grade, though inspectors will still be able to use regulatory or enforcement powers if necessary. Details of the interim inspection process can be found in the link above.

Their findings will be published in an outcome summary while routine inspections are suspended. Routine inspections of early years settings will not start before January 2021.

## **[Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK](#)**

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) > [Safeguarding children](#)

Updated 1 September 2020

### **COVID-19**

The department issued non-statutory interim guidance on safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers during the coronavirus outbreak. This guidance has now been withdrawn as the government expects all settings across the nation to reopen for the new academic year in September, with full availability to all learners. Requirements for local interventions in educational settings will continue to be reviewed.

Schools should update all their references to this document to the 2020 KCSIE and replace it on their websites.

## **[Guidance for full opening: schools - GOV.UK](#)**

<https://www.gov.uk/.../guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Updated 29 August 2020 – DfE

This guidance is in 5 sections. The first section sets out the actions school leaders should take to minimise the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) in their school. This is public health advice, endorsed by Public Health England (PHE).

The rest of the guidance is focused on how the Department for Education (DfE) expects schools to operate in this new context. This includes:

- school operations
- curriculum, behaviour and pastoral support
- assessment and accountability
- contingency planning to provide continuity of education in the case of a local outbreak

### **Below you will find the main changes in the 29 August 2020 update.**

- managing confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community
- the framework for supporting transport to and from schools
- pupils who are shielding or self-isolating
- use of face coverings in schools
- actions for all schools and local authorities with regards to recording attendance and absence

- employer health and safety and equalities duties
- support available for schools with regard to supply teachers
- performance management and appraisal for teachers
- music, dance and drama in school
- wraparound provision and extra-curricular activity
- physical activity in schools
- new resources available for pupil wellbeing and support
- behaviour expectations
- primary assessment
- additional resources available for delivering remote education
- changes to SEND legislation

### **What parents and carers need to know about early years ...**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers...>

Updated 21 August 2020 – DFE

The DFE have produced this useful information to share with parents and carers about going back to **schools and nurseries** in the autumn term.

### **Guidance for full opening: schools - GOV.UK**

Updated 29 August 2020 – DFE

#### **Online education resources for home learning**

The DfE has produced a [quality-assured list of remote education resources](#) which are available to schools and parents for free.

Where pricing models have changed, schools may consider using some of their catch-up funding on remote resources in line with the access to technology section of the [EEF's COVID-19 support guide for schools](#).

#### **Video lessons**

From the start of the autumn term, Oak National Academy will make available video lessons covering the entire national curriculum, available to any school for free. These are being developed in partnership with a wide group of teachers and school leaders to develop lessons in the popular topics. The resources will be as flexible as possible, allowing schools to reorder topics and lessons, to match their own plans and curriculum.

#### **SEND**

Oak National Academy specialist content for pupils with SEND. This covers communication and language, numeracy, creative arts, independent living, occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech and language therapy. Their provision for next academic year will include an expanded range of content for the specialist sector.

#### **Digital education platforms**

There's government-funded access to one of 2 free-to-use digital education platforms: Google for Education or Microsoft Office 365 Education. Schools can apply through [The Key for School Leaders](#). The Key also provides feature comparison and case studies on how schools are making the most of these platforms.

## **[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) catch-up premium - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-catch-up-premium)**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-catch-up-premium>

Updated 24 August 2020 - DFE

What school leaders need to know about the catch-up premium and the National Tutoring Programme, including funding amounts and how funding should be spent.

### Contents

1. [Eligibility](#)
2. [Funding allocation](#)
3. [Use of funds](#)
4. [Accountability and monitoring](#)
5. [National Tutoring Programme](#)

## **[Early years support package to help close Covid language ...](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/early-years-support-package-to-help)**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/early-years-support-package-to-help>.

24 August 2020 -DFE

Up to £9 million is available for the early years 'catch up' programme to provide schools with training and resources, helping them deliver one-to-one and small-group support for five-year-olds whose spoken language skills may have suffered as a result of the pandemic.

The investment is part of the National Tutoring Programme, a key plank of the Government's £1 billion Covid catch-up package [announced in June](#). Every state funded school which has a Reception class [will be invited to apply for this support](#), with priority given to schools with a high proportion of disadvantaged pupils.

## **[Changes to the school exclusion process during the ...](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion/changes-to)**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion/changes-to>

Updated 28 August 2020 - DFE

This statutory guidance describes the temporary changes the DFE have made to the school exclusion process due to coronavirus (COVID-19).

The [e-Bug coronavirus \(COVID-19\) website](#) recommended by the DFE, contains free coronavirus resources for schools, including an e-book, lesson plans and materials to encourage good hand and respiratory hygiene.

## **[Recording attendance during the coronavirus ... - Gov.uk](#)**

Updated 27 August 2020 - DFE

What educational settings need to do when recording attendance in the educational settings form from 1 September 2020.

There's separate guidance on recording attendance at [addendum: recording attendance in relation to coronavirus \(COVID-19\) during the 2020 to 2021 academic year](#).

Updated 6 August 2020

The DFE are asking schools to work with families to secure regular school

attendance from the start of term as this will be essential to help pupils catch up on missed education, make progress and promote their wellbeing and wider development.

They are asking schools and local authorities to:

- Communicate clear and consistent expectations around school attendance to families (and any other professionals who work with the family where appropriate) throughout the summer ahead of the new school year.
- Identify pupils who are reluctant or anxious about returning or who are at risk of disengagement and develop plans for re-engaging them. This should include disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people, especially those who were persistently absent prior to the pandemic or who have not engaged with the school regularly during the pandemic.
- Use the additional catch-up funding schools will receive, as well as existing pastoral and support services, attendance staff and resources and schools' pupil premium funding to put measures in place for those families who will need additional support to secure pupils' regular attendance.
- Work closely with other professionals as appropriate to support the return to school, including continuing to notify the child's social worker, if they have one, of non-attendance.

#### **Remote education**

If a pupil is not attending school due to circumstances related to coronavirus (COVID-19), the DFE expects schools to be able to immediately offer them access to remote education. Schools should keep a record of, and monitor engagement with this activity, but this does not need to be tracked in the attendance register.

#### **[Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are ...](#)**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and>

Updated 18 August 2020

Shielding advice for all adults and children paused on 1 August 2020. This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding.

#### **[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): home test kits for schools ... - Gov.uk](#)**

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) > [government](#) > [publications](#) > [coronaviru...](#)

26 August 2020- DFE

From 26 August, all schools and FE providers will receive an initial supply of 10 home test kits. Home test kits should only be offered to individuals in the exceptional circumstance that you believe an individual may have barriers to accessing testing elsewhere.

#### **[Changes to the law on education, health and care ... - Gov.uk](#)**

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) > [government](#) > [publications](#) > [changes-to...](#)

Updated 26 August 2020 - DFE

On 1 May 2020 some aspects of the law on education, health and care (EHC) needs assessments and plans changed temporarily to give local authorities, health commissioning bodies<sup>1</sup>, education settings and other bodies who contribute to these processes more flexibility in responding to the demands placed on them by coronavirus (COVID-19).

These changes were:

a) The [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(Coronavirus\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2020 \(the 'Amendment Regulations'\)](#). This instrument temporarily amends 4 sets of Regulations that specify timescales that apply to local authorities, health commissioning bodies and others: principally for various processes relating to EHC needs assessments and plans. Where it is not reasonably practicable or is impractical<sup>2</sup> to meet that time limit for a reason relating to the incidence or transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), the specific time limit (such as to issue a plan to someone eligible for one within 20 weeks of the initial request) in the regulations being amended will not apply. Instead, the local authority or other body to whom that time limit applies will have to complete the process as soon as reasonably practicable or in line with any other timing requirement in any of the regulations being amended (see [Annex A: details of the amendments to the existing Regulations](#)). These changes will come to an end on 25 September 2020, after which all the usual statutory timescales will come back into force.

b) From 1 May to 31 July 2020, section 42 of the Children and Families Act 2014 (duty to secure special educational and health care provision in accordance with EHC plan) was modified by a notice from the Secretary of State for Education issued under the Coronavirus Act 2020. During this period, local authorities and health commissioning bodies were required to use their 'reasonable endeavours' to discharge this duty. To help ensure that children and young people receive the support they need to return to school, we will not be issuing further notices to modify this duty unless the evidence changes.

Public Health England has published revised [guidance for cleaning non-healthcare settings](#) to advise on general cleaning required in addition to the existing advice on cleaning those settings when there is a suspected case.

## [Protective measures for holiday and after-school clubs, and ...](#)

[www.gov.uk](#) › [government](#) › [publications](#) › [protective-...](#)

Updated 20 Aug 2020 – DFE

### **Main changes to guidance**

The DFE have updated this guidance as follows:

- Amended the guidance to extend its applicability into the autumn school term
- Set out a change to the protective measures which will be effective from the point at which all pupils return to school in the autumn, making clear the position on group sizes and how providers can minimise the risk of children mixing outside their school bubbles
- Updated content on music and performing arts
- Added additional content on educational visits
- Added additional content on shared resources





