



Ofsted Updates February 2021

Please click on the links below to access documents.

[National free school meals voucher scheme opens to orders](#)

...

www.gov.uk > [government](#) > [news](#) > [national-free-scho...](#)

18 January 2021 - DFE

[Parents and carers | Free school meals voucher information](#)

www.edenred.co.uk > [reward-recipient](#)s > [Free-School-...](#)

Schools can order free school meal vouchers for eligible pupils, adding to the support available for disadvantaged families.

An online service for schools, the scheme allows schools to place orders for supermarket gift cards on behalf of parents and carers whose children are eligible for free school meals.

The vouchers are worth £15 a week per child and families can receive codes by email to redeem themselves, or as a gift card provided by post, collection or delivery to families without internet access.

[Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020 - Gov.uk](#)

assets.publishing.service.gov.uk > [attachment_data](#) > [file](#)

Updated – 18 January 2021 (Post EU Exit)

[Ofsted: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rolling update - GOV.UK](#)

www.gov.uk > ... > [Childcare and early years](#)

Updated 26 January 2021- Ofsted

Remote inspections of schools and further education providers will begin from 25 January, with a particular focus on how well children and learners are being [educated remotely](#). Ofsted will inspect schools rated 'inadequate' or 'requires improvement' as planned, but we will also follow up on complaints raised by parents across all grades of school in order to resolve issues. As these inspections will not involve an on-site visit, they will be unable to cover the full scope of a monitoring inspection. We will publish details of the inspection process shortly.

Ofsted will continue to undertake on-site inspections if they have immediate concerns – for example about safeguarding, the leadership of a school or a failure to provide education to children.

[Ofsted's phased return to inspection - GOV.UK](#)

www.gov.uk > [government](#) > [publications](#) > [ofsteds-ph...](#)

Updated 27 January 2021- Ofsted

Routine inspection remains suspended until later in 2021 due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

However, resuming some inspection activity in January 2021 – particularly for those providers most in need of support – will enable Ofsted to continue to fulfil these requirements.

- From January, Ofsted will resume monitoring inspections of schools judged inadequate at their previous inspection and some schools graded as requires improvement. These will not result in a grade.
- Emergency inspections of schools will continue as they have done throughout the pandemic, in response to any serious concerns raised with Ofsted.
- **Routine inspections, which result in a school being awarded a new grade or being confirmed in its current grade, will resume in the summer term.**

Ofsted are publishing this statement alongside their [operational notes and guidance](#) for monitoring visits in schools, colleges and other further education and skills providers and early years assurance inspections for the spring term.

An operational note for Her Majesty's Inspectors carrying out inspections in state-funded schools from January 2021.

[January 2021: maintained schools and academies - GOV.UK](#)

[www.gov.uk](#) > [guidance](#) > [january-2021-maintained-sc...](#)

Updated 20 January 2021 — Ofsted

Contents

1. Introduction
2. The legal context
3. How we will select schools
4. Length and timing of inspections
5. Before the inspection
6. Monitoring inspections
7. Inspections with no formal designation
8. After the inspection
9. Conduct and complaints
10. Incomplete inspections
11. Privacy notice

An operational note for Ofsted inspectors carrying out assurance inspections of registered early years providers.

[Assurance inspections 2021: registered early years providers](#)

[...www.gov.uk](#) > [guidance](#) > [january-2021-registered-earl...](#)

Updated - 20 Jan 2021 - Ofsted

These assurance inspections cannot be carried out remotely. Therefore, Ofsted will not start them until national restrictions allow them to inspect on site.

[School inspection data summary report \(IDSR\) guide -](#)

GOV.UK [www.gov.uk](#) > [guidance](#) > [school-inspection-data-sum...](#)

Updated 22 January 2021- Ofsted

IDSR 2020

Due to COVID-19 (coronavirus), performance-related data within the IDSR still relates to 2019. Ofsted have updated contextual information in order to include the 2020 data because it was collected before the COVID-19 outbreak. Guidance amended to reflect the latest version of the IDSR, including example reports.

[Restricting attendance during the national lockdown ... -](#)

Gov.uk [assets.publishing.service.gov.uk](#) > [attachment_data](#) > [file](#)

Updated 14 January 2021- DFE

This guidance includes new information on:

- Attendance – including confirmation of who should attend (including in alternative provision and special schools) and how attendance should be recorded
- Testing – including confirmation that the testing programme can continue in secondary schools
- Workforce – including advice for those who are extremely clinically vulnerable
- Free School Meals
- Educational visits – confirmation that no visits should take place during this period
- **Remote education – including further information on remote education expectations**
- Accountability expectations – including inspections, exams and assessments

[Ofsted publishes short guide to what works well in remote ...](#)

[www.gov.uk](#) > [government](#) > [news](#) > [ofsted-publishes-s...](#)

Published 11 January 2021- Ofsted

Ofsted has published some advice for leaders and teachers, aimed at helping them develop their remote education offer. The advice has been written by the head of Ofsted's research team, Professor Daniel Muijs, and draws on findings from Ofsted's interim visits, as well as wider sources.

Ofsted recommend a number of useful resources to help you with remote education, including:

- the Department for Education's [guidance, resources and support for teachers](#)
- the Education Endowment Foundation's [overview of evidence on remote learning](#)

www.thenational.academy

'We're here to help. Register for our [upcoming webinars for teachers](#) to get direct support and advice for implementing your remote education plan.

[Join our community of teachers and parents](#) and be among the first to know about new lessons, resources and helpful guides, or visit our [help and support pages](#) for FAQs, advice and tips. Oak is funded by the Department for Education to support you and your school.'

[Providing remote education information to parents: template ...](#)

www.gov.uk > [government](#) > [publications](#) > [providing-...](#)

Updated 11 January 2021- DFE

So that pupils and their parents know what to expect from their school if they need to self-isolate, or where national or local restrictions require them to remain at home, **we are asking schools to publish information about their remote education provision on their websites by 25 January 2021.**

To support school leaders in setting out that information on their websites, the department has worked with schools to design this template. It is aligned to the [expectations for remote education](#), to which schools must have regard under the [temporary continuity direction](#) given by the Secretary of State for Education.

The template is not mandatory, and schools should feel free to adapt it to suit their context. For example, while it has been designed to be used at the whole-school level, some schools might find it helpful to provide different information for different key stages or subjects.

Here is the link to the document which contains the DfE's remote learning template: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/providing-remote-education-information-to-parents-template>.

Schools can find further help and support on how to meet the expectations for remote education via the [remote education good practice guide](#) and [school-led webinars](#).

[Get help with remote education - GOV.UK](#)

www.gov.uk > [guidance](#) > [get-help-with-remote-educat...](#)

Published 3 December 2020- DFE

Use this service to:

- understand your statutory obligations and the expectations on remote education
- find information on safeguarding when teaching remotely
- get help with devices, internet access and digital education platforms
- discover teacher resources and examples of good practice to support remote education
- read guidance on how to support pupils and students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- get support for recovery and catch-up

Access guidance, resources and support for teachers and school leaders on educating pupils and students

during coronavirus (COVID-19).

[Remote education good practice](#) · [Example lessons for remote...](#)

[Remote education research - GOV.UK](#)

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

25 January 2021- Ofsted

Ofsted's summary of findings on remote learning from several strands of research activity that they carried out in 2020.

Contents

1. Introduction
2. What is remote education?
3. Curriculum alignment in remote education
4. Pedagogy – keeping it simple
5. Checking what pupils are learning
6. Engagement
7. Remote education systems
8. Overcoming common challenges
9. Future benefits to remote education
10. Conclusion
11. Annex: Methods

[Review your remote education provision - GOV.UK](#)

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

12 Jan 2021 — DFE

A framework to help schools in England identify strengths and areas for improvement in their remote learning. The framework differs from the remote education template, which is a high-level summary of remote education provision for parents, carers and pupils. The review framework is for internal school/trust use and to support detailed discussions with staff and governors in schools on appropriate next steps.

This framework aims to help MAT leaders, school leaders and governors in England to:

- identify the strengths and areas for improvement in their school or trust's remote education provision
- find resources (including training), guidance and networks to help them improve their provision

[Mathematics guidance: key stages 1 and 2 - Gov.uk](#)

[assets.publishing.service.gov.uk](#) › [attachment_data](#) ›

Updated 21.1.21- DFE

This publication provides non-statutory guidance from the Department for Education. It has been produced to help teachers and schools make effective use of the national curriculum.

This publication aims to:

- bring greater coherence to the national curriculum by exposing core concepts in the national curriculum and demonstrating progression from year 1 to year 6
- summarise the most important knowledge and understanding within each year group and important connections between these mathematical topics.

[Early years foundation stage profile handbook - GOV.UK](#)

[www.gov.uk](#) › [Exams, testing and assessment](#)

Updated 29 January 2021- DFE

[Early years foundation stage: coronavirus disapplications ...](#)

[www.gov.uk > government > publications > early-years...](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years...)

Updated 15 January 2021 — DFE

We have updated this guidance to:

- provide guidance on the arrangements for the early years foundation stage profile (EYFSP) assessment in 2021, which will not be mandatory but which providers will be required to use 'best endeavours' to complete (sections 2.1, 2.3, 4.2, 6.2)
- provide guidance on what to do if paediatric first aid (PFA) certificate requalification training is prevented for reasons associated directly with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, or by complying with related government advice (section 7.2)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-framework--2/early-years-foundation-stage-coronavirus-disapplications>

[Best practice guidance for school complaints procedures 2020 ...](#)

[www.gov.uk > government > publications > best-practi...](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/best-practi...)

Updated 15 January 2021- DFE

[School governance update: December 2020 - GOV.UK](#)

[www.gov.uk > ... > School governance update](http://www.gov.uk/.../School-governance-update)

Updated 2 December 2020- DFE

Contents

1. 1. Governing and trust boards meetings and visits into schools
2. 2. (Academy trusts only): 'View my financial insights (VMFI)' tool update is now live and available to academy trustees
3. 3. Diverse Governance Webcast Series
4. 4. Efficiency savings with Teaching Vacancies services
5. 5. 'Something's Not Right' Home Office campaign
6. 6. Get funding and support to set up a digital education platform
7. 7. Information about the transition from the European Union for schools and academy trusts

[Virtual School Library | Oak Academy](#)

library.thenational.academy

Children in England can access books online free during school closures via a virtual library.

Internet classroom Oak National Academy created the library after schools moved to remote learning for the majority of pupils until February half-term.

The library will provide a book a week from its author of the week.

The aim is to increase young readers' access to e-books and audiobooks, particularly the most disadvantaged.

[Buying for schools - Guidance - GOV.UK](#)

[www.gov.uk > Running a school or college](http://www.gov.uk/Running-a-school-or-college)

Updated 13 January 2021- DFE

1. **Buying for schools during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak** Information for buyers in schools and those who manage supplier contracts, including procurement policy notes (PPN), free school meals, personal protective equipment (PPE) and temporary staff.

