



## Updates from Ofsted and the DFE March 2023

Since 1 September 2022 inspection outcomes published in Essex for primary Schools and academies have been as follows:

49 schools that were category 2 schools remained as category 2 schools  
2 schools that were category 4 schools remained as category 4 schools  
4 schools that were category 1 schools remained as category 1 schools

4 schools that were category 3 schools are now category 2 schools  
1 school that was a category 4 school is now a category 2 school  
2 schools that were category 3 schools are now category 2 schools

3 schools that were category 1 schools are now category 2 schools  
2 schools that were category 3 schools are now category 4 schools  
2 schools that were category 2 schools are now category 3 schools

This means that of the 69 schools identified 55 remained the same, 7 improved and 7 declined.

*Please click on the links below to access documents.*

### [Ofsted's 2023 priorities for schools and further education and skills](#)

Published 1 February 2023- Ofsted- Lee Owston Acting National Director Education

- Pupils' attendance. Schools that have secured better attendance are characterised by leaders clearly and consistently communicating their high expectations. These leaders analyse any trends carefully to help them target their actions.
- Ofsted will continue their curriculum insight work by publishing further research reviews and subject reports.
- Training for inspectors to help them understand some of the complexities that small schools face in delivering a broad, well-sequenced curriculum.

### [Ofsted's 2023 priorities for early years](#)

Published 2 February 2023- Ofsted- Lee Owston Acting National Director Education

- Ofsted will be publishing further parts of their research review for the early years. Subsequent reviews will explore the 7 areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage, taking into account that the areas of learning are all interconnected.
- Ofsted will continue their focus on communication and language.
- Ofsted are awaiting the results of the consultation on updating and improving the Level 3 criteria for Early Years Educators. These criteria need to capture the right things and be brought up to date.

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

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

[IDSR: news and updates](#)

Updated- 14 February 2023

The main changes are revised key stage 2, final key stage 1 and final phonics data.

## **[Research review series: art and design](#)**

<https://www.gov.uk> › [government](#) › [publications](#) › [res...](#)

Published 22 February 2023- Ofsted

This review explores some factors that contribute to a high-quality art education.

In this review, we:

- explain the national context of art and design
- summarise our review of research into factors that can affect the quality of education in art and design
- consider curriculum progression in art and design, pedagogy and assessment, and the impact of school leaders' decisions on the provision

**Speech:** [Amanda Spielman launches the art and design research review](#)

**Press release:** [Art should command an important place in every school](#)

## **[Subject report series: science](#)**

[Subject report series: science](#)

Published 2 February 2023 - Ofsted

This subject report evaluates the common strengths and weaknesses of science in the schools inspected. The report shares what Ofsted have learned and builds on the

Ofsted [science research review](#) which identified factors that contribute to high-quality school science curriculums, assessment, pedagogy and systems.

Ofsted talk about:

- aspects of the curriculum
- pedagogy
- assessment
- the way schools are organised
- the impact of this on what pupils learn

**News story:** [Science curriculum in schools improving despite pandemic pressures](#)

## **[Senior mental health lead training](#)**



GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk> › [guidance](#) › [senior-mental-health...](#)

Updated: 17 February 2023- DFE

The Department for Education (DfE) is offering a grant of £1,200 for eligible state-funded schools and colleges in England to train a senior mental health lead to develop and implement a whole school or college approach to mental health and wellbeing.

Eligible schools and colleges are now able to apply for a senior mental health lead training grant to commence training by 31 July 2023. Grants will be provided to cover (or contribute to) the cost of attending a quality assured course and may also be used to hire supply staff while leads are engaged in learning.

## **[Data protection in schools - Guidance](#)**

GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk> › [guidance](#) › [data-protection-in-sc...](#)

Published 3 February 2023 - DFE

The policies and processes schools and multi-academy trusts need to protect personal data and respond effectively to a personal data breach. This toolkit will help school staff, governors and trustees:

- understand how to comply with data protection law
- develop their data policies and processes
- know what staff and pupil data to keep
- follow good practices for preventing personal data breaches







