

Guidance & Resources - June / July 2023 Updates

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Updates to National Guidance

School suspensions and permanent exclusions

- Guidance on [school suspensions and permanent exclusions](#) has been updated, coming into force from September 2023.
- The updates underpin the [School Discipline \(Pupil Exclusions and Reviews\) \(Amendment and Transitional Provision\) \(England\) Regulations 2023](#) to allow headteachers to cancel exclusions if appropriate. In addition, school governing boards' exclusion review and independent review panels will be able to take place remotely, ensuring exclusions are conducted in a lawful, reasonable and fair way.
- The DfE have also [published a guide for parents and carers](#) to help them understand the suspension and permanent exclusion system in schools in England. The online guide is a comprehensive resource to help parents navigate the system should their child get suspended or permanently excluded. It also gives a list of organisations providing free advice and support.

School Uniforms: guidance for schools

- The DfE have updated their guidance for schools on uniforms to include a link to the Equality and Human Rights Commission guidance on 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'. See [here](#) for more information.

Keeping Children Safe in Education

- Updated statutory guidance coming into force on 1 September 2023 has been published. Please note that the current 2022 guidance will remain in force until then. See [here](#) for more information.

Changes made to school inspections

- Changes to inspection processes, a revised complaints procedure and new wellbeing investment from government, are part of a package of measures being announced following a wide-ranging debate about the impact of school inspections. See [this press briefing](#) for more information.

When will my school be inspected?

- Ofsted are giving schools more information about the broad timing of their next inspection and have published [a blog](#) to give more clarity about when you are likely to be inspected.

Data protection: privacy notice model documents

- A number of updates have been made to suggested privacy notices for schools and local authorities to issue to staff, parents and pupils about the collection of data. See [here](#) for the latest versions of the documents 'Explanation of privacy notices', 'Privacy notice: suggested text for pupils', 'Privacy notice: suggested text for school workforce' and 'Privacy notice: suggested text for school and trust governance roles',

Updates to National Guidance

Home to school travel & transport: statutory guidance

The Department for Education previously consulted on revised statutory guidance for local authorities on home to school travel and transport for children of compulsory school age (5-16). Whilst there have been no changes in the law, the guidance was last updated in 2014.

The majority of responses received agreed that the revised guidance was clear and easy to understand, and would help local authorities to fulfil their school travel duties in relation to children of compulsory school age. However, there were a number of further improvements have suggested and these have been included in the [revised statutory guidance published](#) on 29 June 2023. These improvements include considering whether a parent can be expected to accompany their child, encouraging independence for children with disabilities and managing children's medical needs.

The full response to the consultation in full can be found at [here](#).

The policy for transport to post-16 education and training is different from that of children of compulsory school age, and as such is not included within this consultation. Separate guidance for post-16 travel is available at [Transport to education and training for people aged 16 and over](#).

Resources

Senior mental health lead training

- The Department for Education (DfE) is offering a grant of £1,200 for eligible 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. This training is not compulsory, but it is part of the government's commitment to offer this training to all eligible schools and colleges by 2025.
- To be eligible you must be a state-funded school or college in England (including those in receipt of ESFA pre-16 revenue, high needs block, or 16 to 19 programme funding). Further information and a list of eligible setting types is available in the [conditions of grant](#).
- See [here](#) for more information about the grant and how to apply

Behaviour case studies - use of behaviour hubs

- [Using simple, clear behaviour expectations in school](#) - How Forest Academy used the Behaviour Hubs programme to change perceptions of misbehaviour and respond to pupils' complex needs.
- [Celebrating positive behaviour in schools](#) - How St Benedict's Catholic High School used the Behaviour Hubs programme to develop a consistent behaviour policy, standards and expectations.

School inspection data summary report (IDSR) guide

- Ofsted's IDSR is now a web-based page showing data for Ofsted inspectors to use when preparing for and during inspection. The IDSR is designed to align with our [school inspection handbook](#), so that areas of interest can be used to identify inspection trails.
- Ofsted have updated the IDSR for all schools, as well as the online IDSR guide. The guide, which gives an overview of the IDSR for primary and secondary schools and information to help interpret the charts, has been updated to include the 16 to 18 final 2022 data, including the updated retention measure. The trust / local authority level information section has also been updated to include the most recent inspection outcome (graded or ungraded) based on the latest URN for trusts only.

Ofqual looking ahead to exam results days webinars

- Join Ofqual's Dr Jo Saxton (Chief Regulator) and Richard Garrett (Director of Policy and Strategic Relationships for General Qualifications) to look ahead to this summer's exam results. They will talk about the grading approach that is in place this summer, and what it will mean for students and centres. They will also set out the range of post-results services and support in place for students.
- Please register to join on either [Wednesday, 5 July 12pm to 12:45pm](#) or [Thursday, 13 July 4pm to 4:45pm](#)

Resources

Get help with flexible working in schools - resources for teachers & leaders

- Flexible working can help recruit and retain teachers, improve staff wellbeing and promote equality in the workforce. Despite the benefits, there are challenges associated with implementing flexible working in schools. Flexible working ambassador multi-academy trusts and schools (FWAMS) have, therefore, been appointed by DfE to support school leaders in implementing and embedding flexible working in their schools.
- See [here](#) for the support offered.
- There are also a range of published resources (including guidance and case studies) to help promote flexible working in schools - see [Flexible working: resources for teachers and leaders](#)

Local authority interactive tool (LAIT)

- The DfE have recently updated their LAIT which is An interactive spreadsheet for comparing data about children and young people across all local authorities in England
- See the [Local authority interactive tool \(LAIT\)](#)