

COVID19 BULLETIN – 15th June 2020

Message from Edwina Grant OBE Executive Director Education and Children's Services Council

Our Director of Public Health has revised his guidance about schools reopening to more pupils and we can now encourage you to take the decision to open more widely to pupils from 22 June if, having undertaken your risk assessment, you consider yourself ready to do so.

Dr Sakthi Karunanithi had issued blanket guidance to schools to delay wider opening to more pupils, because his professional view was that two of the government's five coronavirus tests were not being met in the county. However, a reduction in the rate of confirmed coronavirus infections combined with our readiness to support the local implementation of the national NHS Test and Trace Programme means that enough progress has now been made to revise this advice. It is important to stress that the prevalence of coronavirus is still higher in Lancashire than elsewhere in the country so the room for manoeuvre is limited.

As has been the case throughout the emergency, all schools are encouraged to admit vulnerable pupils and those children of key workers as long as their risk assessments suggest it is safe to do so. The government guidance states that children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 can now be welcomed back. For secondary schools and colleges, the government is keen for teachers to have some face-to-face contact with specified year groups.

The decision to welcome back more pupils to Lancashire's schools lies with head teachers, in consultation with your board of governors, taking into account your individual circumstances.

We appreciate that each school in Lancashire is different, and you will need to consider a number of factors in your risk assessment to make your setting Covid-secure. Critical to this is your ability to introduce measures to encourage social distancing for pupils. The advice also applies to early years settings such as nurseries and childminders. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your adviser or to email me directly.

Update from the Director of Education and Skills

a) Arrangements for Recovery Planning/Implementation

SEND training for Schools

Free local training is available, focussed on returning to school following COVID 19.

Stepping up for Teachers and Young People during COVID and Beyond Tuesday 30th June 1.00-2:30pm

This free webinar will cover:

How COVID lockdown may have affected children and young people with SEND
What do SENDCOs and Teachers need to consider for the transition back into school and beyond – [book here](#).

Stepping Back into Schools

Thursday 2nd July 1:00-2:00pm

This free webinar will cover:

How to use the wellbeing intervention as part of the school 'Recovery Curriculum'
The resources are free to Lancashire Schools and will be available on booking – [book here](#).

b) DfE Guidance and Information (12 June 2020)

Guidance

New and substantial updates.

Curriculum planning guidance and examples (new guidance)

A summary of the key messages within the following resources will be available on the Schools Portal by the end of the week.

All phases

Deciding what to teach during a phased return.

[Planning a curriculum to teach at school and at home](#)

Examples of supporting staff in curriculum planning.

[Supporting staff in curriculum planning for a phased return](#)

Secondary

Deciding what to teach in the classroom and what to teach at home.

[Making the most of reduced classroom time](#)

How schools can provide additional emotional and pastoral support for pupils when they return to school following the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. **[Pastoral care in the curriculum](#)**

How schools can find out how much pupils know, and do not know, after a long period of remote education due the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

[Identifying and addressing gaps in pupils' understanding](#)

Press Releases

No new releases.

Statistics and Information (12 June)

Ofqual Open Letter to Headteachers regarding Examination Arrangements

This [short letter from the exam regulator](#) confirms a number of key points:

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- Following the national moderation process this summer, all centres should expect to see **adjustments** to grades in at least one subject;
 - **Certificates** will be identical to previous years and results will be issued to centres on the existing scheduled **dates** (Thurs 13th August for KS5, Thurs 20th August for KS4);
 - The **embargo** on releasing results to candidates has been shifted from 6am to **8am**;
 - Materials will be provided to assist centres in explaining the **appeals** process to students, particularly those who might normally be less inclined to question their grades (e.g. from disadvantaged backgrounds and groups with protected characteristics);
 - Decisions regarding the proposed **additional autumn exam series** (to allow exam re-sits) will be published before the end of term;
 - A consultation on proposals for **exams in 2021** will be undertaken before the end of term.

Curriculum planning and teaching case studies - all phases

A large multi-academy trust (MAT) made up of primary and secondary schools shares its approach for their primary schools.

[Adjusting the curriculum for use in school and at home](#)

Secondary

An all-through school with a higher than average level of pupils who speak English as an additional language (EAL) shares their approach.

[A secondary school's approach to adjusting the curriculum for use in school and at home](#)

A large high school in a small multi-academy trust with a higher than average number of pupils with English as an additional language (EAL) shares their approach. [Organising mixed ability pupils in smaller groups and helping those who need to catch up](#)

A teacher in a secondary school with a lower than average number of pupils with English as an additional language (EAL) shares approaches to mitigating educational loss and adds his views on what he thinks is coming next.

[Regaining knowledge and improving wellbeing](#)