

Hertfordshire Headteacher Update

DfE briefing

This DfE briefing paper provides a summary of the current DfE publications and guidance materials. This list is not exhaustive and additional guidance can be found on the Department for Education website www.gov.uk/df

Publications and guidance
Title: Searching, screening and confiscation at school
Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/searching-screening-and-confiscation
Description: Guidance explaining the powers schools have to screen and search pupils, and to confiscate items they find. This guidance is for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• school leaders• school staff• governing bodies• local authorities It applies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• local-authority-maintained schools• academies and free schools• pupil referral units (these provide education for children who can't go to a mainstream school)• non-maintained special schools (for children with special educational needs that the Secretary of State for Education has approved under section 342 of the Education Act 1996) The guidance covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• powers to search without consent• prohibited items schools can search for• powers to confiscate items found during searches
Title: Approaches to preventing and tackling bullying
Link: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/715359/Approaches_to_preventing_and_tackling_bullying_-_case_studies.pdf
Description: Qualitative research to understand anti-bullying practices schools have found effective. These include approaches to tackling bullying generally and more specific types of bullying, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• racial bullying• special educational needs and disability (SEND) bullying• lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) bullying The report contains common themes found throughout the research and 7 case studies. It's intended to be used as a resource by schools and other stakeholders looking for examples of anti-bullying practices
Title: Reducing teacher workload
Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reducing-teachers-workload
Description: Information on the Government's policy to reduce workload for teachers. The reducing teacher workload action plan sets out the steps the DfE will be taking following the findings from the teacher workload survey 2016 . The DfE developed the protocol in response to the

2014 workload challenge survey. It sets out the DfE commitment to:

- introduce minimum lead-in times (the times schools have to prepare for the changes they need to make) for significant changes to accountability, the curriculum or qualifications
- do more to consider the workload of staff in schools when introducing such changes

Title: Staffing and employment advice for schools

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staffing-and-employment-advice-for-schools>

Description:

This guidance applies to maintained schools and academies in England.

It is for:

- school leaders, school staff and governing bodies
- local authorities
- academy trusts

It will help with managing staffing and employment issues, and making decisions. It replaces the statutory guidance from 2009, 'Guidance on managing staff in schools'

Title: 16 to 18 Headline accountability measures

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/16-to-19-accountability-headline-measures-technical-guide>

Description:

The 5 new headline measures in the performance tables covering 16 to 18 education in 2017 and 2018 are:

- progress
- attainment
- progress in English and maths
- retention
- destinations

The technical guide explains how the headline measures are calculated.

There's also information about 16 to 18 progress score bandings in the school and college performance tables

Title: Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexual-violence-and-sexual-harassment-between-children-in-schools-and-colleges>

Description:

This is for:

- governing bodies of maintained schools and colleges
- proprietors of independent schools (including academies, free schools and alternative provision academies) and non-maintained special schools
- management committees of pupil referral units
- headteachers, principals, senior leadership teams and designated safeguarding leads

It covers:

- what sexual violence and harassment is
- schools' and colleges' legal responsibilities
- a whole school or college approach to safeguarding and child protection

Title: Keeping Children Safe

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>

Description:

This guidance applies to all schools and is for:

- headteachers, teachers and staff
- governing bodies, proprietors and management committees

It sets out the legal duties schools must follow to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people under the age of 18 in schools and colleges.

All school and college staff should read part 1 of this guidance. Part 1 of the guidance is also available as a standalone document.

'Regulated activity in relation to children: scope' describes work that a barred person must not do. We have also published guidance on 'Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006'

Title: Charging for school activities
Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charging-for-school-activities
<p>Description: Guidance to help schools set out their policies on charging for school activities and visits. This is for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local authorities • governing bodies • school leaders • school staff <p>It applies to all local-authority-maintained schools.</p> <p>The guidance outlines what schools can charge for including voluntary contributions and reduced charges.</p>
Title: GCSE new grading scale: factsheets
Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-new-grading-scale-factsheets
<p>Description: Information about the new GCSE grades for parents, employers and further and higher education providers.</p> <p>Factsheets showing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the new GCSE grading scale • standard and strong pass marks and what this means for students, schools, parents and employers • when the new grades will apply to different subjects
Title: Data protection: toolkit for schools
Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/data-protection-toolkit-for-schools
<p>Description: Guidance to support schools with data protection activity, including compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). To support the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which came into force in May 2018 all organisations handling personal data, including schools, need to have the right governance measures. This guidance will help schools develop policies and processes for data management, from collecting and handling the data through to the ability to respond quickly and appropriately to data breaches</p>
Title: Protection of children's biometric information in schools
Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protection-of-biometric-information-of-children-in-schools
<p>Description: Guidance for schools, sixth-form colleges, 16 to 19 academies and further education institutions wishing to use automated biometric recognition systems The legal duties of schools and colleges that wish to use pupils' biometric information with automated biometric recognition systems.</p>