

Children and Families, Early Years Division Weekly News Bulletin: 08.09.21



Department
for Education

Letter from the Secretary of State for Education

Here is a letter from Education Secretary Gavin Williamson. He has written to those working in education settings to thank them for all their efforts over the last 18 months and to look ahead to a new academic year that brings a greater sense of normality.



Letter to Education Leaders - 6th September.pdf

Ventilation and CO2 monitor delivery

On Saturday 21 August it was announced that CO2 monitors will be provided this term to state-funded education settings, including early years, schools and further education providers. The first deliveries will start this week. Special schools, alternative provision and residential schools have been prioritised to receive their monitors first, given their higher-than-average numbers of vulnerable pupils. For future reference, a 'how to' guide on using CO2 monitors in education and childcare settings is now available on the [ventilation document sharing platform](#).

Early Years Professional Development Programme

It was announced today that the Early Years Professional Development Programme (PDP) is to be extended to around 50 new local authorities across England in 2021/22. Up to 2,000 early years practitioners and teachers in the new areas will benefit from high-quality online training delivered directly by experienced trainers. You can see the full announcement here: [Targeted training for staff to teach early language and numeracy skills - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Early years foundation stage \(EYFS\) statutory framework](#)

The standards that school and childcare providers must meet for the learning, development and care of children from birth to 5.

Updated to make it clear that the new statutory framework for the early years foundation stage applies from 1 September 2021. Removed the previous version and the early years foundation stage coronavirus disapplications as they are no longer in force.

Updated: 3 September 2021

[Early years foundation stage \(EYFS\) statutory framework - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Early education update

Earlier this month we held a live webinar hosted by our policy leads discussing the return to routine education inspection framework (EIF) inspections and what the changes to the EYFS means for inspection from September. The webinar covered assessment data and workload, curriculum thinking and the role of assessment in early years. While the webinar was primarily aimed at childminders, the topics covered are useful for all registered early years providers. It is available to view on Ofsted's [YouTube page](#)

[Inspecting schools: guide for maintained and academy schools](#)

This guide gives a summary of what schools should expect and what they need to do as part of an Ofsted inspection.

Updated to reflect changes to inspection intervals following the pandemic.
Updated: 2 September 2021

[Inspecting schools: guidance for parents](#)

A leaflet for parents and carers of children whose school is due for inspection.

Updated to reflect changes to inspection intervals following the pandemic.
Updated: 2 September 2021

Corona Virus updates

[Reported coronavirus \(COVID-19\) notifications by registered early years and childcare settings](#)

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This data is published fortnightly. It gives the number of registered early years and childcare providers reporting one or more confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) by week.

Added data for weeks beginning 9 and 16 August. Recorded cases fallen to 595 as of 16.08.21.
Updated: 6 September 2021

[Reported coronavirus \(COVID-19\) notifications by registered early years and childcare settings - GOV.UK \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Remote education

Review your remote education provision

A framework to help schools and further education (FE) providers in England identify strengths and areas for improvement in their remote education provision

School framework guidance: updated statutory obligations and expectation, attendance and testing information. Added links to updated EdTech demonstrator programme. FE provider framework: removed outdated information and added links to EdTech demonstrator programme.

Updated: 3 September 2021

[Review your remote education provision - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/frameworks/remote-education)

Remote education webinars

How to access school-led webinars on remote education to help share good practice.

Added link to Statutory obligations and expectations – Get Help with Remote Education.

Updated: 3 September 2021

[Remote education webinars - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/webinars)

Department for Education COVID-19 helpline

The Department for Education COVID-19 helpline and the PHE Advice Service (option 1) is available to answer any questions you have about COVID-19 relating to education settings and children's social care.

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm

Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm

Department for Education Guidance

Our guidance to support education providers, local authorities and parents during the COVID-19 pandemic can be accessed using the links below:

- [Guidance for early years and childcare providers](#)
- [Guidance for schools](#)
- [Guidance for further and higher education providers](#)
- [Guidance for local authority children's services](#)
- [Guidance for special schools and other specialist settings](#)

Childminders

[Childminder agencies: list of agencies](#)

Information for childminders and providers of childcare on domestic premises wishing to register with a childminder agency; published: 7 September 2021

The 'List of childminder agencies' provides contact information for childminder agencies (CMAs) that are open for applications.

CMAs register childminders and providers of childcare on domestic premises (a group of 4 or more childminders) and help them with training, business support, advice and finding parents.

[Ofsted's CMA inspection report page](#) lists all registered CMAs including those who are not registering new childminders.

Childminders and providers of childcare on domestic premises provide childcare to children outside of the child's home.

Childminders and providers of childcare on domestic premises can choose to register with either a CMA or [Ofsted](#).

[List of childminder agencies - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Become a childminder: pre-registration briefing](#)

This is a presentation of the pre-registration briefing for childminders.

Updated slide 15, 'Certificates and forms' to include a completed paediatric first aid certificate.

Updated: 6 September 2021

[Become a childminder: pre-registration briefing - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)



Slough Specific COVID-19 Information (SEPTEMBER 2021)

From Dr Sohail Bhatti GMH, Consultant in Public Health/Associate Director, Slough Borough Council



Slough Specific COVID 19 Information August 2021b.pdf

This is only guidance (not a legal requirement) for settings. Settings should continue to follow the Government Guidance and follow the supplementary Slough-specific guidance where possible and where appropriate within their settings. The main change with the Slough-specific guidance is that 2 or more positive cases of COVID-19 within a class, group or year group are going to be classed as an outbreak in Slough (as opposed to 5 or more cases in national guidance).

This means that settings will need to be vigilant around informing us of their positive cases and should contact Heather Cook (COVID Schools programme Officer) at Heather.cook@slough.gov.uk tel 07599 102789 if they have 2 or more cases in a group.

September 2021 Public Health Campaign

During the Covid-19 pandemic it has been important to maintain good mental wellbeing and to keep physically active. There are several campaigns during September 2021 that support this aim including:

- Know your numbers week – 6-12 September 2021 – the UK's biggest blood pressure testing and awareness event (<http://www.bloodpressureuk.org/know-your-numbers/>)
- National Eye Health week – 20 – 26 September 2021 – which encourages more people to have regular sight tests and make lifestyle choices that benefit their vision and wellbeing (<http://www.visionmatters.org.uk/>)
- National Fitness day – 22 September 2021 – which encourages people all across the country to make the 22nd September the most active day of the year (<https://www.nationalfitnessday.com/>)
- Healthy Lunch boxes – timed for the return of school in September – to give information to parents and carers to encourage healthy eating in schools

With a focus on oral health, the theme of our September 2021 Public Health Campaign is **'Healthy Mouth, Healthy Body, Healthy You'**. There is an inter-relationship between oral health and general health. Oral health affects general health and vice-versa. Keeping our teeth and gums healthy can reduce the risk of certain cancers, diabetes, strokes, heart attacks and Alzheimer's (Information source: <https://www.dentalhealth.org/healthysmile>).

Please find attached posters and leaflets to support both the national campaigns and our focus on oral and dental health. Please note the 2021 posters for 'National Eye Health Week' from Vision Matters will be on their website w/c 30th August. We have included versions from 2020.

You may be interested in the following website links:

How healthy is your heart – the heart age test tells you your heart age compared to your real age

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/nhs-health-check/check-your-heart-age-tool/>

Lunch box resources - Tips, recipes, lunch box swaps

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

British Nutrition Foundation

Video on healthy packed lunches for children

<https://youtu.be/QNKpfWwup4k>

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us: Oral.Health@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Further health and wellbeing information can be found on the HWS homepage: <https://healthandwellbeingslough.co.uk/>



Focus on your health in September - SL.pdf



Healthy Mouth, Healthy Body, Healthy You - SL.pdf

Early Years Survey

Thank you to everyone that completed the Early Years Survey; here is the summary of the data received:



Survey Analysis Outcome - Early Years Aug 21.pdf

In the news

Amanda Spielman at researchED National Conference 2021

The Chief Inspector discussed Ofsted's research on education during the pandemic, remote education and curriculum. Read the speech here:

[Amanda Spielman at researchED National Conference 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/amanda-spielman-at-researched-national-conference-2021)

Targeted training for staff to teach early language and numeracy skills

The Government is providing funding for training to help two to four year-olds with language and mathematic skills, as part of early years recovery investment. Read the press release below.

Published: 6 September 2021

[Targeted training for staff to teach early language and numeracy skills - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/press-releases/2021/09/06/targeted-training-for-staff-to-teach-early-language-and-numeracy-skills)

Foundation Years

Foundation Years have published a number of useful vodcasts; click to watch and don't forget to subscribe to their channel

[Foundation Years vodcast: Development Matters - YouTube](#)

[Foundation Years vodcast: Understanding the revised EYFS - headteachers & senior leadership - YouTube](#)

[Foundation Years vodcast: Implementing the new EYFS in primary schools - YouTube](#)

[Foundation Years vodcast: Understanding the revised EYFS - PVI's & childminders - YouTube](#)

[Foundation Years LED events: Introduction from the National Children's Bureau - YouTube](#)

A promotional banner for the Nursery World Outdoor Play conference. The left side contains text: 'NurseryWorld' in blue, 'Outdoor play: Priorities, provision and practice' in blue and red, 'Online conference 23-24 November 2021' in blue, and 'www.outdoorplayconference.com' in red. A 'CPD CERTIFIED' logo is in the bottom right. The right side features a photograph of a young child in a red heart-patterned shirt playing on a green rope structure at a playground.

NurseryWorld
Outdoor play:
Priorities, provision and practice
Online conference
23-24 November 2021
www.outdoorplayconference.com
CPD CERTIFIED
The CPD Centre for Learning

Nursery World Outdoor Play conference

23rd-24th November 2021 | 3.00pm to 6.00pm each day

Interest in outdoor play has soared since the start of the pandemic, as early years settings moved most of their provision outside during lockdown and now plan to prioritise outdoor learning in future.

Everything a child can learn indoors, they can learn outdoors, but outdoor play has qualities that cannot be afforded inside: it can be freer, calmer, more adventurous, healthier, louder, larger in scale... So, what does outdoor play actually look like? And what is involved in maximising its potential for young children's learning and development?

The fee to attend this online event is just £99.00 +VAT (£118.80) per person

[Nursery World - Outdoor Play | Home \(eventsforce.net\)](https://www.eventsforce.net)
[Music Tech | Programme \(outdoorplayconference.com\)](http://www.outdoorplayconference.com)