

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 1 June

Letter from Vicky Ford MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families

For children and young people with SEND, their parents/carers and families, and others who support them, about the wider opening of schools, colleges and other educational settings.

The letter can be accessed in our archives under 'June 2020 2.1 attachment – Minister Ford's open letter to SEND sector schools opening 010620'

Second notice to modify the duty relating to EHCP's

The Secretary of State for Education has extended the period of the notice from 1 to June 2020. [Modification notice: education health and care plans legislation changes](#)

EHCP statistics and analysis in England [Available here.](#)

School Inspections

The suspension of routine inspection as a temporary measure is extended from 1st June 2020 until 30th June 2020.

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 3 June

Update from the Director of Public Health

An update on the wider re-opening of schools in Lancashire can be found [here](#)

Space related educational resources for home schooling

The UK Space Agency has published a collection of space related educational resources that schools, parents and carers can use when teaching their children at home. The resources are [available here:](#)

Resources for parents – issue 9

[Home learning](#) ideas for children and young people with special educational needs.

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 5 June

Guidance from the Local Resilience Forum (LRF)

The LRF has circulated [newly released guidance](#) for contacts of people with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person.

Ofsted to review the online experience of FE students and apprentices

Ofsted is carrying out a review this month of the quality of learners' experiences of online education with managers, teachers and trainers. The article [can be found here](#).

Alternative Provision

Those at risk of falling out of education after GCSEs will benefit from mentoring, pastoral support and careers guidance under new plans. The article [can be found here](#).

Funding for children's charities

To help young people and their families most affected by coronavirus the [See, Hear, Respond](#) service, will provide targeted help. The article [can be found here](#).

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 8 June

Resources designed provided to boost mental health support

Videos, webinars and teaching materials, produced in partnership with charities, will be made available to schools and colleges, helping to foster conversations about mental health and reassure many young people who are worried about the impact of the virus on their lives. [Extra mental health support for pupils and teachers](#)

The Director of Public Health has reviewed his guidance that schools should not welcome more pupils

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/news/details/?Id=PR20/0168>

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 10 June

DfE guidance on SEND

This summary relates to the DfE guidance issued on 26 May and 29 May 2020 and must be considered in the context of local guidance issued by the Director of Public Health.

SEND resources – issue 10

[Home learning ideas](#) for pupils with Special Educational Needs.

Plan for all primary pupils to return to school

The plan for all primary school years in England to return to school before the end of term is to be dropped by the Government. [BBC Online](#).

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 12 June

Information for Year 11 pupils

[This document](#) contains general information about Lancashire based school sixth forms, colleges and apprenticeship providers. It includes how to apply for a place, where to find information on courses and how to prepare for Year 12.

Travelling to School – advice for parents

Section 5 of the DfE guidance has been updated in relation to children wearing face coverings when travelling to school. [What parents and carers need to know about schools, colleges and other education settings during the coronavirus outbreak](#)

New qualifications

This DfE press release about the new T Level roll-out, the technical alternatives to A Levels which combine classroom theory, practical learning and an industry placement can be read here: [Education Secretary accelerates T Level roll-out](#)

National Governance Association (NGA)

The NGA has provided answers to some frequently asked questions which will be updated on a regular basis. These answers provide broad guidance rather than legal or procedural advice. These can be [found here](#).

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 15 June

Wider opening of schools

The Director of Public Health in Lancashire has revised his guidance about schools and setting opening to more pupils from 22 June – you can read the update [here](#).

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 17 June

DFE Digital Programme – local update

A total of 3,745 devices have been allocated to Lancashire through the scheme; devices include laptops, chrome books and 4G routers. So far 2,174 devices have been ordered, with many devices already delivered for children and young people to use and orders being submitted for the remaining allocation.

Home learning resources for SEND

The [latest issue](#) of the home learning resources from the Specialist Teaching Service

Remote Learning

A document has been produced for schools to expand on the strategies suggested by the Education Endowment Foundation. It provides examples of remote learning practices which have been working well across Lancashire in English, mathematics and science departments. There are also booklets for [students](#) and [parent/carers](#).

Wider opening of schools

Headteachers are being encouraged to invite back more primary pupils before the summer, if they have capacity to do so

[Primary schools to be given flexibility to bring back more pupils](#)

Holiday schemes

A DfE [Holiday Activities and Food](#) programme will be available over the summer and a holiday scheme has also been announced for holiday childcare places, led by charities and community groups.

Free School Meals

Guidance is awaited from the DfE about the change of policy in relation to Free School Meals over the summer period announced in the media yesterday and this will be shared as soon as it is available.

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 19 June

National Catch Up Programme

The government has announced a [Billion pound Covid catch-up plan to tackle impact of lost teaching time](#)

A response from the council can be found [here](#)

DfE Advice for parents and carers

The guidance for parents has been updated – the changes include a new section on flexibility for primary schools; an amended definition of vulnerable children, advice on safety in schools and use of face masks. [What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

SEND Regulations – extended powers and duties

The 2-year trial to extend powers of the SEND Tribunal was due to end on 31 August 2020 has been extended until 31 August 2021 as the Government believes it is not the right time to introduce any changes to this policy.

[Extended powers SEND tribunal: national trial](#)

Supporting children and young people with SEND - changes to guidance

The DfE has updated this guidance to add a new section on requesting medical evidence ahead of re- admission and removed the paragraph relating to wider opening on 1 June. [Supporting children and young people with SEND as](#)

[schools and colleges prepare for wider opening](#) The main points in the new section are that education settings:

- should not seek medical evidence except to help them to support the child or young person
- should not take the clinical vulnerability as a reason to refuse a place to a child or young person.

The guidance also states that:

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- the return to educational settings of children and young people with EHC plans should be informed by risk assessments to help educational settings and local authorities ensure the right support is in place for them to come back.
 - children in the clinically vulnerable group should therefore continue to attend or return to school.
 - where clinically extremely vulnerable children do not attend school or other educational settings, the setting should continue to ensure that these children and young people continue to engage in learning as far as possible.
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MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 22 June

SEND resources for home learning

[Issue 12](#) of home learning ideas for pupils with Special Educational Needs.

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 24 June

DFE Digital Programme

A total of 3,745 devices- lap tops, chrome books and routers, have been requested from the DfE for Lancashire's digitally disadvantaged young people. This was the maximum number that the DfE had decided could be allocated to Lancashire.

For children with a social worker who are of statutory school age and on a school roll the vast majority will have been delivered by today. Laptops for disadvantaged Year 10 pupils have nearly all been delivered direct to schools.

Prime ministers' statement of 23 June with references to education: 'Wrap-around care for school age children and formal childcare will restart over the summer. Primary and secondary education will recommence in September with full attendance and those children who can already go to school should do so – because it is safe.' [Full statement.](#)

Education Secretary 19 June coronavirus press briefing full transcript, including the £1 billion Covid catch-up plan to tackle impact of lost teaching time.

[Education Secretary's statement on coronavirus \(COVID-19\): 19 June 2020](#)

MESSAGES FOR PARENTS 26 June

Home learning

Additional tips to help parents and carers: [Home education: tips for parents](#)

Safety online

The BBC website and app [Own It](#) aims to help children online. A free smartphone app can be downloaded from the Google Play or Apple App Stores.

An app for parents to help safeguard children from online risks like cyberbullying and sexting is available from [SafeToNet](#). The full guidance from the DfE is available here [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): support for parents and carers to keep children safe online](#)

Keeping children safe from abuse and harm

Information about help and support available and the risks to children during the coronavirus pandemic. [Advice to parents and carers on keeping children safe from abuse and harm](#)

Summer Food Fund

In addition to the free school meals national voucher scheme a [COVID Summer Food Fund](#) has been established for those who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals to claim vouchers to the value of £90 for the 6-week holiday period.

Social distancing in schools

Following the Prime Minister's announcement about reducing the need for social distancing in public places, the DfE blog looks at why pupils do not need to be kept apart in the classroom. [Full text here.](#)

SEND resources for home learning

Issue 13 of the SEND resources focuses on Transition.

The document can be accessed in our archives under 'June 2020 2.2 attachment – Issue 13 Parent SEND Resource Toolkit'

Admission to school of vulnerable children

Consultation launched on changes to the School Admissions Code to reduce time vulnerable children spend out of the classroom [Vulnerable children to get better support when moving school](#)

School Building Programme

The first major rebuilding programme to be launched since 2014. Schools and colleges will also receive funding this year to refurbish buildings, with the rebuilding

programme starting in 2020-21. [PM announces transformative school rebuilding programme](#)
