

education insight

Education Insight: for those working in the education sector

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welcome

to the October edition of our newsletter for those working in the education sector. We hope you will find this a useful summary of latest developments in schools, further and higher education and the training and apprenticeships arena. If you have any comments on the format or want more detail about a particular subject, please do not hesitate to contact any of us.

education secretary visits sheffield

Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson attended the University of Sheffield Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) where cutting edge technology is being used to drive innovations in manufacturing, in addition to offering training and apprenticeships.

The centre provides high-quality apprenticeship training and higher education in engineering and manufacturing designed to deliver the skills the likes of Boeing require to allow them to complete globally.

The Education Secretary has stated how:

"It is absolutely vital that we continue to grow that nations' skills particularly in key areas like science, technology, engineering

and maths so that we have a workforce that is fit for the future..."

Boeing opened its production facility in Sheffield in 2018 – the company's first manufacturing site in Europe. This site employs 70 people, with more than 30 of these being apprentices.

During the Education Secretary's trip to Sheffield, he visited Grace Owen Nursery School which is situated in one of the city's most disadvantaged areas. As a maintained school, Grace Owen received supplementary funding from the Department of Education in recognition of the role it plays in disadvantaged children's lives. 40% of the children who attend the school are eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium, in comparison to the national average of 11.4%.

Following the visit, the Education Secretary has noted that:

"Children only get one chance at a good education. This must start in the very earliest years because a child's development at age five can determine their chances later in life, which is why we are investing £3.5 billion in our early education entitlements this year alone."

To read the full article, please [click here](#).

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prime minister boosts schools with £14 billion package

The Prime Minister announced that schools across England will receive a cash boost, with an investment of over £14 billion being pumped into primary and secondary education between now and 2022/2023.

This investment will be distributed in funding packages, with 5-16 schools set to receive £2.6 billion for 2020/2021, £4.8 billion for 2021/22 and £7.1 billion for 2022/2023. This will increase the schools budget to £52.2 billion in 2022/2023.

As part of this investment, every secondary school will receive a minimum of £5,000 per pupil next year, with every primary school set to receive a minimum of £4,000 from 2021/2022.

In addition to this, £700 million will be made available for children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities in 2020/2021.

The Prime Minister stated:

"When I became Prime Minister at the start of the summer, I promised to make sure

every child receives a superb education – regardless of which school they attend or where they grew up..

Today I can announce the first step in delivering on that pledge – funding per pupil in primary and secondary school will increase, and be levelled up across the entire country."

The Chancellor, Sajid Javid has noted:

"As I know from my own experience, nothing is more important to a child's future than their education. That's why we are putting in place the funding that helps them realise their potential, to the benefit of us all."

Since 2010, the standard of education across England has improved massively. Government reforms have seen more primary school children on track to become fluent readers, more 19 year olds leaving education with England and Maths GCSEs and almost one million school places created.

To read the full article please [click here](#).

What are people saying?

It is without surprise that the Government's pledge has come under scrutiny. The Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) has found in their second annual report that the figures do not quite calculate to the amount the Prime Minister has promised. The IFS has reported that the £7.1 billion rise that schools have been promised annually, actually only cashes in at £4.3 billion in today's money (not including future inflation). Geoff Barton, the general secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders has said how the IFS report was a:

"sober assessment of the Government's hyped-up announcements over education funding."

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chancellor announces £400 million investment for 16-19 year olds' education

In addition to the £14 billion investment in primary and secondary education, the Government has announced that providers of 16-19 education will receive £400 million additional funding to train and teach young people the skills they require for well paid jobs in the modern economy.

The Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson stated:

"As former FE students, the Chancellor and I both know first-hand how important the further education sector is so I'm really pleased that today the Government is giving our sixth forms and colleges a major funding boost – the single biggest annual uplift since 2010."

There will be £35 million more for targeted interventions to support students on level 3 courses who failed GCSE Maths and English, so that they can re-sit their exams in these critical subjects.

Colleges and further education providers will receive an extra £25 million to deliver T levels. The new qualification will start rolling out in September 2020 and is set to transform vocational education with two year courses in subjects as varied as accounting, digital production and onsite construction.

A new £20 million investment will also help the sector to continue to recruit and retain top quality teaching staff and leaders, and

provide more support to ensure that high quality teaching is available for those studying T levels.

To read the full article, please [click here](#).

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£30,000 starting salaries proposed for teachers

By 2022/ 2023, the starting salary for new teachers is set rise to £30,000 following Government plans to reform teacher pay.

The Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson announced the plans on 2 September 2019, with which he addressed his determination to recognise teaching as the high value prestigious profession it is.

This move will make teacher starting salaries place amongst some of the most competitive graduate labour market.

Gavin Williamson has noted:

"Teachers truly are the lifeblood of a school and I have been instantly impressed by the dedication, commitment and hard work that I have seen from those at the front of our classrooms..."

"...Teachers should be in no doubt that this Government fully backs them in every stage of their career, starting with rewarding starting salaries, and giving them the powers they need to deal with bad behaviour and bullying and continue to drive up school standards right across the country."

It was further announced that a group of Ambassador Schools are to be introduced to champion flexible working in order to ensure that teaching continues to be attractive as teachers' lives develop.

The Education Secretary stated:

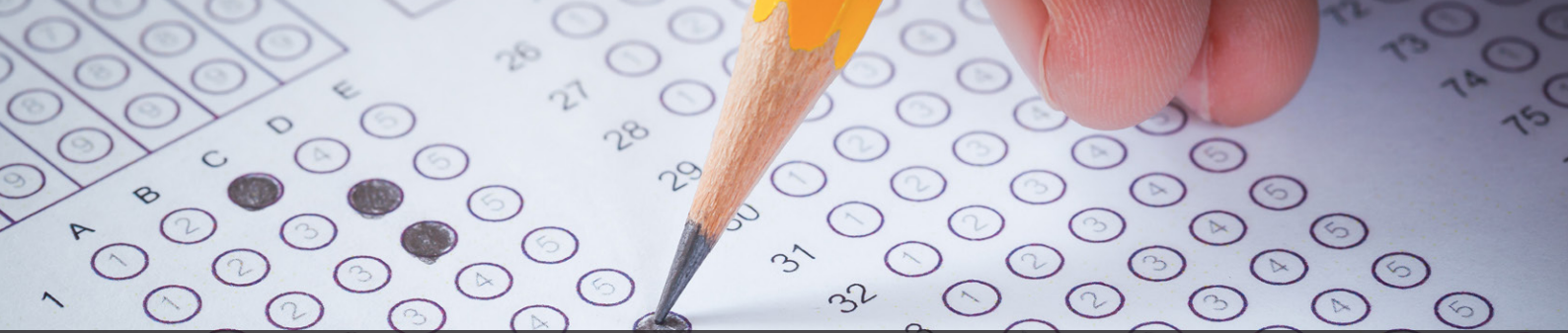
"I want to keep great teachers in the profession, and we know that the lack of flexible working opportunities is often cited as a reason for leaving."

Other sectors have embraced flexible working and the benefits it provides – I want to see the same in schools. There are great things happening in some schools, but I want it to be the norm.

These new Ambassador Schools will break down the barriers and show schools who are nervous about flexible working that not only can it be done, it can change their school for the better."

To read the full article please [click here.](#)

"It was further announced that a group of Ambassador Schools are to be introduced to champion flexible working in order to ensure that teaching continues to be attractive as teachers' lives develop. "



SATs results show more primary pupils reach the highest standards

Data from this year's key stage 2 assessment has indicated that more pupils in England are reaching the highest standards of reading, writing and maths in comparison to last year.

The results highlighted that typically, the longer a primary school has been an academy, the better its results have been. 71% of pupils in converter academies open for 8 or more years met the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, with 66% of pupils in those open for one year.

The results gained by pupils at sponsored academies, which were converted due to previous poor performance, have increased nationally.

The School Standards Minister Nick Gibb has stated;

"We want all pupils to leave primary school equipped with the knowledge and skills that will help them to be successful in the rest of their education and beyond – that's why I'm pleased to see an increase in pupils reaching the very highest standards at the end of primary school."

The fact that the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers has significantly reduced since 2011 illustrates how the programme of reforms we've put in place since 2010 is helping to level the playing field."

To read the full article please [click here](#).

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policy — your need to know guide

Major review into support for children with special education needs

The review aims to improve services available to families who need support, equip staff in schools and colleges to respond effectively to their needs as well as ending the 'postcode lottery' they often face.

The review will conclude with action to boost outcomes and improve value for money, so that those children who are vulnerable can have the same opportunities and succeed.

Minister for Care, Caroline Dineage has said:

"The support for people with special education needs and disabilities is one of the my top priorities. The SEND review will be crucial in widening our knowledge of the parts of the system which are working well and the areas which need improvement."

To read the full article please [click here](#).

Prime Minister pledges thousands more good school places

The Prime Minister has pledged to create thousands more good school places as he announces a new drive for the next wave of free schools. The new schools will build on the successes of more than 500 free schools that have opened since 2010 and already created more than 133,000 school places across the country.

Over 40% of free schools are in the 30% most deprived communities in the country and 18% of all free schools are dedicated to special needs or alternative provision.

There are currently 500 open free schools nationwide, with a further 220 set to open in the near future.

On 9 September 2019, the Government launched its 4th round of applications, this is open to everyone, but will be targets at areas in most need of good mainstream schools. The deadline for submitting an application to open a new free school in Wave 14 is 11 November 2019.

To read the full article please [click here](#).

Review of GCSE, AS and A level physical education activity list

The Government has reviewed the responses for all of the 54 activities that are recognised sports and not on the current lists. Following the consultation, a number of new activities or new disciplines of an activity have been added to the approved activity lists for GCSE, AS and A level PE.

To read the outcome of the consultation please [click here](#).



policy — your need to know guide

School Census dates

Every school in England has a statutory duty to complete the school census each term. The dates and deadlines to remember for this academic year are as follows:

2019 to 2020 census dates

Autumn Census

- Census date – 3rd October 2019
- Return date – 30th October 2019

Spring Census

- Census date – 16th January 2020
- Return date – 12th February 2020

Summer Census

- Census date - 21st May 2020
- Return date – 17th June 2020

To find out more, please [click here](#) and for any guidance, please [click here](#).

Check your eligibility to join DfE's longitudinal education outcomes (LEO) pilot

The LEO programme is designed to connect individuals' education data with their employment, benefits and earnings data to create a de-identified person level administrative dataset.

To check your eligibility, please [click here](#).

meet the team

As the evolving educational landscape continues to open up new opportunities and present challenges, you need to be confident that you are getting the right legal advice, at the right time and, of course, at the right price. Ward Hadaway's Education Team is recognised as a leading national player. Our friendly, commercial and pragmatic approach allows you to be reassured that you are in safe hands.

Whether you are a maintained school, academy, multi academy trust, free school, studio school or UTC, our team have an in-depth, up-to-date knowledge of the sector, making us ideally placed to offer the best possible advice to all those involved in the delivery of educational excellence for pupils, students and their communities. [Click here](#) to read about how we can work with you.



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