National Updates - Weekly Briefing

9 January 2024

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Introduction

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- We are providing regular weekly briefings which round up and summarise the advice and guidance issued by DfE and more broadly.
- The aim is to make communication manageable and clear, helping school leaders and governors to filter relevant information efficiently and effectively. In this briefing you will find a round-up of all the latest advice and guidance so you can feel confident you have all the updates since the previous briefing.
- There are typically five sections to this briefing:
  - National guidance
  - BDSIP updates
  - Horizons (as relevant)
  - Additional resources

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National guidance

Guidance – Parent fist approach – gender questioning children

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Department for Education

Gender Questioning Children

Non-statutory guidance for schools and colleges in England

Draft for consultation

December 2023

Open consultation

Gender questioning children: draft schools and colleges guidance

Guidance for Schools and Colleges: Gender Questioning Children

Overview

The consultation is seeking views on the content of the guidance and whether it will help to support schools and colleges, teachers and leaders to make considered and lawful decisions in relation to children who are questioning their gender and the wider school and college community.

Give us your views

Online Survey >

Closes 12 Mar 2024

Opened 19 Dec 2023

Contact

ggcguidance.consultation@education.gov.uk

Press release

Parent first approach at the core of new guidance on gender questioning children

Schools and colleges told that parents should be involved in decisions affecting their children.

DfE – Early years foundation stage (EYFS) statutory framework – Guidance – updated 4 January 2024

- Removed ‘Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage (applies until 3 January 2024)’ and amended the text to reflect this.

Read the full guidance here:

EYFS statutory framework for group and school-based providers

Summary of changes for 2024:

This is a summary of changes for group and school-based providers, since the previous issued framework (for childminders, click here).

Group and school-based settings must:

- ensure setting managers appointed on or after 4 January 2024 hold a level 2 maths qualification, or they achieve one within 2 years of starting in the position (Section 3, Staff:child ratios)
- ensure your setting’s safeguarding policies and procedures include all electronic devices with imaging and sharing capabilities, not just mobile phones and cameras (Section 3, Safeguarding policies and procedures)
- ensure all level 2 and level 3 staff members hold a valid paediatric first aid (PFA) certificate, otherwise they cannot be included in ratio (Section 3, Paediatric first aid)

Group and school-based settings may wish to consider applying the following flexibilities, if appropriate:

- level 3 practitioners in group and school-based settings will no longer be required to hold a level 2 maths qualification to count within staff:child ratios (Section 3, Staff:child ratios)
- a manager in group and school-based settings can now allow students and apprentices to count in staff:child ratios at the level below their level of study, if the manager is satisfied that they are competent and responsible (Section 3, Staff:child ratios)
- settings may provide opportunities for children to develop and use their home language in play and learning, previously this requirement stated this ‘must’ be done (Section 1, English as an Additional Language)

Group and school-based settings should also be aware that the following updates have been made to the EYFS:

- there is a new statutory document on early years qualification requirements and standards
- the language has been changed to clarify that physical evidence does not need to be collected for assessments (Section 2, Assessment)
- a clarification made that while qualifications must be verified, employees do not have to provide physical copies of their qualifications (Section 3, Suitable people)
- a clarification made on the wording on the validity of paediatric first aid (PFA) certificates (Section 3, Paediatric first aid)

DfE – Turing Scheme: international study and work placements – Guidance – published 4 January 2024

- Information on applying for funding for international study and work placements for schools, further education providers and higher education providers.

Details:
The Turing Scheme is funded by the UK government to help education providers support their students to take up study and work placements around the world.

This guidance is for providers. It outlines:
- what the Turing Scheme is
- who it is for
- what funding is available for the 2024 to 2025 academic year
- what education providers need to know before applying for funding

Documents:
Overview of the Turing Scheme
Turing Scheme: guidance for schools
Turing Scheme: guidance for further education providers
Turing Scheme: guidance for higher education providers
List of destinations and grant rates

Also read this article from SchoolsWeek:

- The Turing Scheme, a post-Brexit replacement for the EU's Erasmus initiative, missed its target for school participation by over 40% in its first year.
- Approximately 2,800 schoolchildren participated, against an expectation of 5,000, with a total of 20,822 participants from various education sectors.
- The shortfall is attributed to Covid-19 impacts, including travel restrictions and safety concerns.
- Challenges were noted in the application process, especially for universities, with improvements suggested for subsequent years.
- Funding issues were highlighted, particularly affecting disadvantaged students.
- Recommendations include increased funding for disadvantaged participants and earlier confirmation of funding to aid in planning.

Guidance

Pupil premium: overview

Updated 19 December 2023

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2. Eligible schools
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6. Payment schedule for financial year 2023-24
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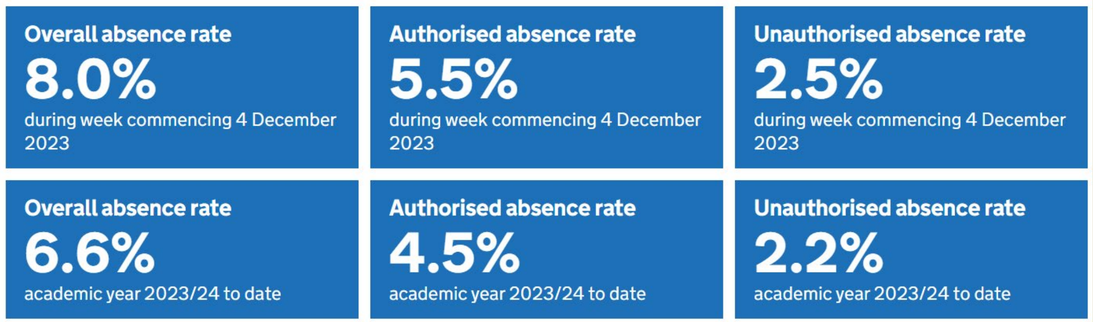
8. Service pupil premium
9. Funding paid to schools
10. Funding for looked-after children
11. Accountability
12. Further information

Funding rates for financial year 2024-25

This table shows how the pupil premium grant is allocated to schools and local authorities in financial year 2024-25, based on per pupil rates.

Pupil eligibility criteria	Amount of funding for each primary-aged pupil per year	Amount of funding for each secondary-aged pupil per year	Funding is paid to
Pupils who are eligible for free school meals, or have been eligible in the past 6 years	£1,480	£1,050	School
Pupils previously looked after by a local authority or other state care	£2,570	£2,570	School
Children who are looked after by the local authority	£2,570	£2,570	Local authority

Attendance



If you are a school that has not yet signed up to share your data, please visit 'Share your daily school attendance data' for more information. This will also give you, your local authority and your multi-academy trust (if applicable) access to daily attendance reports to help identify pupils needing attendance support earlier. Schools can now use the 'Compare your attendance' dashboard to compare with other schools in the local authority. This has been updated to show data for this current academic year. Use it to compare absence and unauthorised absence for your school, as well as special educational needs and free school meals pupils.

This release covers the 2023/24 academic year up to 8 December 2023.
The attendance rate (proportion of possible sessions attended) was 92.0% across all schools in the **week commencing 4 December 2023**. The absence rate was, therefore, 8.0% across all schools.

By school type, the absence rates across the week commencing 4 December 2023 were:

- 6.3% in primary schools (4.8% authorised and 1.5% unauthorised)
- 9.8% in secondary schools (6.2% authorised and 3.6% unauthorised)
- 14.3% in special schools (10.9% authorised and 3.3% unauthorised)

The data shows that the attendance rate across the **academic year to date** was 93.4%. The absence rate was, therefore, 6.6% across all schools.
By school type, the absence rates across the academic year 2023/24 to date were:

- 5.1% in primary schools (3.7% authorised and 1.4% unauthorised)
- 8.3% in secondary schools (5.2% authorised and 3.1% unauthorised)
- 12.6% in special schools (9.5% authorised and 3.0% unauthorised)

High-level national figures for the week commencing 4 September 2023 (first week back) are available in the data catalogue below. For the full 2022/23 academic year and termly pupil absence data, including by characteristics please see this historical publication.

NB: we understand data sharing on attendance is very likely to become mandatory this year

Press release **Government funding for schools in England at a record high** – 19 December 2023

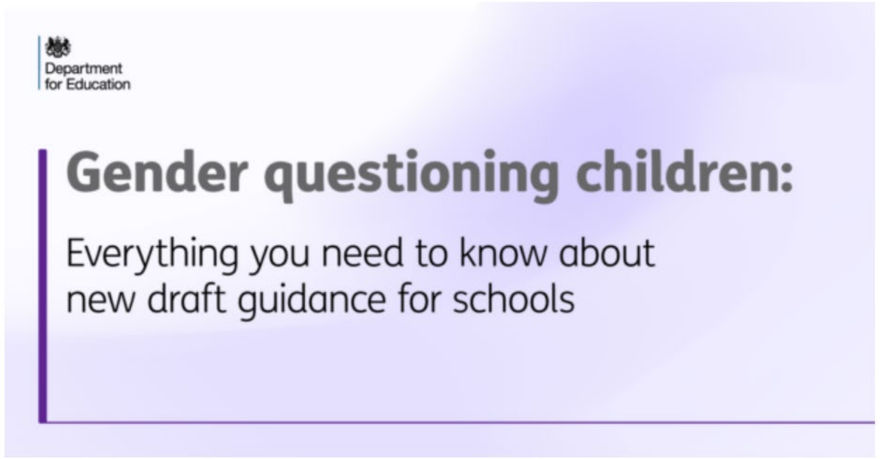
Schools in England are set to benefit from a cash injection as education funding reaches almost £60 billion in 2024/25 - its highest ever level in real terms.

British Sign Language GCSE: Everything you need to know

mediaofficer, 21 December 2023 - GCSE, Schools

Gender questioning children: Everything you need to know about new draft guidance for schools

mediaofficer, 19 December 2023 - Colleges, Schools



Press release:
Sir Martyn Oliver begins term at Ofsted with mental health awareness training for inspectors.
The new HMCI begins with an immediate package of training for inspectors, a response to the Ruth Perry inquest and a Big Listen.

The Big Listen
The Big Listen will provide an opportunity for parents and professionals to reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of Ofsted's current approach to inspection and regulation. This exercise marks a determination to work more openly and transparently with parents and the sectors Ofsted inspects and regulates, while always maintaining Ofsted's focus on ensuring the highest standards of education and care. Further details of the Big Listen will follow later this term, including opportunities for parents and professionals to be directly involved.

A statement on the conclusion of the coroner's inquest from Amanda Spielman

Press release **School and further education inspections to begin from 22 January**

Inspections of schools and further education providers in England will begin from 22 January, following mental health awareness training for all lead inspectors.

Ofsted's new Chief Inspector, Sir Martyn Oliver, has announced the start date after a series of constructive meetings in his first week in the job – with headteacher unions and representatives, as well as with Professor Julia Waters, the sister of Ruth Perry. Sir Martyn has also announced that Ofsted will respond in full to the coroner's recommendations on 19 January, setting out clearly how Ofsted will conduct inspections with professionalism, courtesy, respect and empathy.

Interview: How Sir Martyn Oliver plans to turnaround Ofsted

The new chief inspector talks to Schools Week rebuilding Ofsted's shattered reputation – here's the interview in full

British sign language GCSE: What schools need to know

Pupils to learn at least 750 core words, how to tell a story and have political discussions in new...

The next government must learn from Sir Tim Brighouse's legacy

Former education secretary Baroness Morris pays tribute to a 'guiding light, wise counsel and a good friend'

Baroness Estelle Morris 6d

SCHOOLS WEEK

tes magazine since 1910

4 ways teachers can better manage their workload in 2024

As the year gets under way, Jo Facer offers small tweaks to help you get on top of your workload and claw back more free time

5th January 2024, 6:00am

Jo Facer

Sam Freedman

What's in store for education in 2024

Sam Freedman offers his view on how the next 12 months will play out for schools – and what will likely happen after the general election

5th January 2024, 6:00am

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BDSIP Updates

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January

Pupil Census Data Overview for Schools
10 Jan, 10.30am – 12pm
The school census is the department's primary source of administrative data about pupils attending schools in England. The Autumn school census will be used to fund the schools block of the dedicated schools grant, 16-19 funding allocations, universal infant free school meals and the pupil premium. During this session will highlight all key information and dates for the Spring Census.

Integris Admin – Spring Census Workshop
11 Jan, 10.30am – 12pm
A workshop to help schools prepare for the January Census using Integris.

Secondary Deputy Heads Network
18 January, 2pm – 4pm
Agenda: How schools monitor departments, school performance at GCSE 2023, and school attendance – strategies

SENCO Network
18 Jan, 3pm – 5pm
The SENCO network is a professional forum for sharing information between SEND leaders in schools, specialist settings, the local authority, external service providers and BDSIP.

Teacher Assessment in Writing at the end of KS2
23 Jan, 1.30pm – 4pm
This course is an opportunity for year 6 teachers to moderate their children's writing evidence using the teacher assessment frameworks at the end of KS2. It will support preparation for moderation and there will be an opportunity to unpick examples of standardised writing that are used to train moderators.

Nursery Meeting
23 Jan, 3.45pm – 5pm
This meeting will provide practitioners with an opportunity to update their knowledge on new EYFS developments in nursery, share good practice, and network with other nursery practitioners.

AET Schools Making Sense of Autism GAP Progression
24 Jan, 9am – 4pm
A full day session covering AET's training sessions: Making Sense of Autism, Good Autism Practice, and Progression Materials

Primary Deputy Heads Professional Learning Network
24 Jan, 2pm – 4pm
This will be an opportunity for deputy heads from primary schools to meet every half term to share practice and explore challenges. We aim to create a safe space to learn and grow collaboratively.

Primary Geography Professional Learning Network
25 Jan, 1.30pm – 3.30pm
Network meetings for Geography leads. Each meeting will contain updates (including Ofsted), content around a curriculum theme, an opportunity to discuss planning and experiences of subject leadership with colleagues.

Attendance Network: Safeguarding for Attendance Leads
25 Jan, 1.30pm – 3.30pm
This network will help to better your understand how safeguarding and attendance are linked, provide an opportunity to ask questions. This a chance to discuss and share ideas with attendance leads from other schools.

Understanding and Developing the Role of New and Nearly New Maths Subject Leaders
29 Jan, 9.30am – 4pm
These three sessions will support NEW and NEARLY NEW (and even existing) maths subject leaders in understanding and developing their role to implement, monitor and improve the teaching and learning of mathematics within their school.

Inclusion by Design: Maximising the functionality of technology for learners with SEND
29 Jan, 3.30pm – 4.30pm
As part of our Inclusion by Design CPD suite we have a series of training on how to maximise the functionality of technology in your classroom for learners with SEND. This three-part series of training supports the UDL framework and will upskill you on utilising technology in your classrooms to enable access for SEND and EAL learners.

Secondary Religious Education Network Meeting
30 Jan, 4pm – 6pm
This secondary religious education network meeting offers the opportunity to share updates, receive subject support, and share best practice.

Integris Admin – Basic Administration part 1
31 Jan, 4pm – 6pm
A workshop to support your use of Integris in school, covering the basic admin tools.

February

Assessment Briefing for Head Teachers and Senior Leaders
2 Feb, 10am – 11am
This course will update senior leaders on the assessment and reporting arrangements for 2024.

Integris Admin – Basic Administration part 2
7 Feb, 10.30am – 11.15am
A workshop to support your use of Integris in school, covering the basic admin tools.

Primary Computing Professional Learning Network
7 Feb, 1.30pm – 3.30pm
Professional forum for subject leader development, updates and sharing good practice.

AET Early Years Making Sense of Autism GAP Progression
8 Feb, 9am – 4pm
A full day session covering AET's training sessions: Making Sense of Autism, Good Autism Practice, and Progression Materials

KS5 Chemistry Network Meeting – Electrochemical Cells Required Practical Focus
8 Feb, 1.30pm – 3.30pm
This meeting is aimed at teachers who are new to teaching KS5 Chemistry and Lab Technicians. There will be time provided to network and meet colleagues from other LBBD schools; we will then review the technical preparation for the Electrochemical Cells practical (OCR PAG8, AQA RP8). Technicians and Teachers will then work together to carry out the practical. We will then review examples of exam questions related to the practical.

Professional Learning Community for SEND
8 Feb, 3.30pm – 5pm
This network is a professional learning community for SENCOs and Inclusion leads. The aim of this community is to provide a forum for learning and reflection that supports the development of inclusive practice within your school settings.

Primary Art Professional Learning Network
9 Feb, 1.30pm – 3.30pm
This course will support the development of subject leaders' professional knowledge and understanding of the art curriculum in primary school.

Primary Technicians Network
15 Feb, 10am – 12pm
Termly meeting for primary computing technicians.

KS5 Physics Network Meeting – Required Practicals, Examples and Standardisation
15 Feb, 2pm – 3.30pm
This meeting is aimed at new and experienced KS5 Physics teachers. There will be time provided to network and meet colleagues from other LBBD schools; we will then look at the practical set up of key Required Practicals. Will then work together to carry out the standardisation of key Physics Practical Skills.

EYFS Coordinator Network Meeting
27 Feb, 1.30pm – 3.30pm
This meeting will provide practitioners with an opportunity to update their knowledge on new EYFS developments, share good practice, and network with other EYFS coordinators.

Primary Religious Education Network Meeting
27 Feb, 1.30pm – 4pm
This primary religious education network meeting offers the opportunity to share updates, receive subject support, and share best practice.

Inclusion by Design: Maximising the functionality of technology for learners with SEND
27 Feb, 3.30pm – 4.30pm
As part of our Inclusion by Design CPD suite we have a series of training on how to maximise the functionality of technology in your classroom for learners with SEND. This three-part series of training supports the UDL framework and will upskill you on utilising technology in your classrooms to enable access for SEND and EAL learners.

Introduction to SCERTS
28 Feb, 9am – 3.30pm
SCERTS is a flexible framework that identifies the core differences in autistic learners.

Primary Maths Professional Learning Network
28 Feb, 1.30pm – 3.30pm
This course will not only be an opportunity to network with maths subject leaders from across the borough but it will also deliver high quality CPD based on the latest research.

Providing nonclinical supervision in an educational environment
29 Feb, 10am – 1pm
This course will provide you with an insight into why there is a growing need for non-clinical supervision nationally in the educational environment, the impact on school life without it, and how this can be undertaken safely so that staff are better supported to 'emotionally hold' your most complex cohorts.

Inclusion by Design: Universal Design for Learning
29 Feb, 2pm – 3.15pm
Universal Design for Learning is a framework that enables inclusive practice from inception. This four-part course will be delivered by LGfL and will provide you with the skills, knowledge and strategies to implement UDL in your schools. Through this course you will explore the core principles of UDL and how to implement them within your classroom so that all learners, regardless of needs, can access and engage with the learning.

March

Primary Science & D&T Subject Leader Network Meetings
1 March, 9.30am – 4pm
The Primary Science and D&T Subject Leader Network will support subject leaders to develop in their role through subject-specific training, regular updates, and opportunities to share best practice.

Inclusion by Design – Nurturing Minds: Building a Supportive School Culture
4 March, 3.30pm – 5pm
Free for schools subscribed to our CPD package. This course covers essential aspects to create a supportive educational environment. Participants will delve into defining nurturing approaches, looking 6 principles of Nurture and understanding their positive impact on academic and emotional well-being.

Integris Admin – CTF Files
6 March, 10.30am – 11.15am
A workshop to help schools understand the use of CTF files in Integris.

Inclusion by Design: Universal Design for Learning
6 March, 10.30am – 11.15am
Universal Design for Learning is a framework that enables inclusive practice from inception. This four part course will be delivered by LGfL and will provide you with the skills, knowledge and strategies to implement UDL in your schools. Through this course you will explore the core principles of UDL and how to implement them within your classroom so that all learners, regardless of needs, can access and engage with the learning.

RSJ facilitators' network
8 March, 9am – 12pm
The network meeting for RSJ facilitators to share practice and develop our work on race and social justice.

Integris Admin – Attendance Module
13 March, 10.30am – 11.15am
A workshop to support your use of Integris in school, covering the attendance module.

Primary English Professional Learning Network
13 March, 1.30pm – 3.30pm
This is an opportunity to meet termly with colleagues from across the borough to discuss different aspects of the primary English curriculum. It is a forum where we can share our successes and challenges, creating opportunities for school-to-school support and development. Through these sessions we will also explore current research findings and implications for classroom practice.

Integris Admin – Attendance Reports
14 March, 10.30am – 11.15am
A workshop to support your use of Integris in school, covering the attendance reports.

Inclusion by Design: Maximising the functionality of technology for learners with SEND
14 March, 10.30am – 11.15am
As part of our Inclusion by Design CPD suite we have a series of training on how to maximise the functionality of technology in your classroom for learners with SEND. This three part series of training supports the UDL framework and will upskill you on utilising technology in your classrooms to enable access for SEND and EAL learners.

Team Teach Training Positive Behaviour Management – Level 1
20 March, 9am – 3.30pm
Delivered by qualified, expert trainers, with current experience in Education, this course will equip individuals with an understanding of the values and philosophy of the Team Teach approach.

Primary Deputy Heads Professional Learning Network
20 March, 2pm – 4pm
This will be an opportunity for deputy heads from primary schools to meet every half term to share practice and explore challenges. We aim to create a safe space to learn and grow collaboratively.

Continuing Professional Development

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SENCO Network

21 March, 3pm – 5pm

Free to LBBD schools. The SENCO network is a professional forum for sharing information between SEND leaders in schools, specialist settings, the local authority, external service providers and BDSIP.

Inclusion by Design: Universal Design for Learning

26 March, 3pm – 4.15pm

Universal Design for Learning is a framework that enables inclusive practice from inception. This four part course will be delivered by LGfL and will provide you with the skills, knowledge and strategies to implement UDL in your schools. Through this course you will explore the core principles of UDL and how to implement them within your classroom so that all learners, regardless of needs, can access and engage with the learning.

Click here to register your interest

National Professional Qualifications

We are delighted to have to opportunity to deliver two fully funded National Professional Qualifications locally, for Barking and Dagenham colleagues. The NPQs provide a wonderful opportunity for professional learning for your teams.

The two programmes available are:

National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership (NPQSL)

- The course for school leaders who are, or are aspiring to be, a senior leader with cross-school responsibilities.
- The NPQSL is an 18-month programme, with 2 full day conferences. All other aspects of the programme are delivered outside of school hours (there are Clinics every 7 weeks or so from 3.45pm to 5.30pm and 50 minutes of weekly study to be done in the leaders own time).

National Professional Qualification for Leading Literacy (NPQLL)

- The course for teachers who have, or are aspiring to have, responsibilities for leading literacy across a school, year group, key stage or phase
- The NPQLL is a 12- month programme, with one full day conference. All other aspects of the programme are delivered outside of school hours (there are Clinics every 7 weeks or so from 3.45pm to 5.30pm and 50 minutes of weekly study to be done in the leaders own time).

This is a great opportunity for Secondary and Primary colleagues to take advantage of a local offer for professional development.

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Additional resources

Free Reading Resources from Bookmark

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Bookmark
Change a child's story

Bookmark is a children's literacy charity with a simple mission, they want every child to read. They are currently working on a project to help primary schools in Barking & Dagenham to develop a Whole School Reading Culture and encourage reading for pleasure through the distribution of their "Your Story Corner" packs.

The packs include £2,000 worth of new books and resources and are **completely free and without commitment**. To find out more about what's in the pack and how to apply, please visit Bookmark's website: https://www.bookmarkreading.org/your-story-corner .

Find out more: Your Story Corner

Applications open on January 4, 2024, and the deadline to apply is the February 4, 2024.

Safer Internet Day 2024

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Safer Internet Day 2024 will take place on **February 6th 2024**, with celebrations and learning based around the theme ‘Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online’.

- Resources for all ages can be downloaded from the Safer Internet Day website: https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024 (with further resources to come).

- BBC are hosting a live lesson on February 6th at 11:00am, exploring the world of AI and learning how to stay safe online: https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/live-lessons/safer-internet-day-2024-live-lesson/zqgy46f

- Tech We Can are hosting live lessons on February 6th for KS2 (9:30am) and KS3 (2:00pm). Further information and to register for the live lessons (plus the other forthcoming events) here: https://techshecan.org/live-assemblies

Safeguarding support and resources from LGfL

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Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 – webinar for schools

The DfE published the revised statutory safeguarding guidance in December 2023; the first significant refresh since 2018.

LGfL are holding a free webinar on **Wednesday 7th February 15:30 – 16:30**, so schools can find out about the key changes and implications.

Register for Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 here: https://lgfl.bookinglive.com/book/add/p/150
Further safeguarding training courses from LGfL via their training portal: https://lgfl.net/training?field_training_category=451

Spotlight on safeguarding videos
LGfL have a series of short videos available for schools to use for staff training on various aspects of safeguarding. The videos are available here: https://lgfl.net/safeguarding/spotlight-on-safeguarding

Filtering checks pro forma
LGfL have produced a pro forma for schools to use when undertaking regular filtering checks; suitable for both LGfL and non-LGfL schools. The pro forma, and lots of other support, can be found on their dedicated web filtering for DSL teams page: https://lgfl.net/safeguarding/kcsie/web-filtering
Additional safeguarding resources: https://lgfl.net/safeguarding/resources

SEND DSL Forum
LGfL are holding half termly meetings for DSLs working in SEND schools or schools with a high proportion of pupils with SEND. The meetings will provide an opportunity for DSLs to network and explore safeguarding themes that are prevalent when working with pupils with SEND. Dates and registration: https://lgfl.bookinglive.com/book/add/p/145

Anti-Racist Teacher Education Network (ARTEN)

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City University of London
UniFocus Day Programme

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City University of London are pleased to share their upcoming UniFocus Day programme taking place at their campus near Angel.

Year 12 Uni-Focus Days are taking place over the course of academic year and the programme has been expanded this year to include new subjects.

Uni-Focus Days are series of subject specific days that will raise attainment, awareness, and confidence of year 12 students who are thinking about or plan to study that subject at university. The events will help students make informed choices about going into higher education and provide a focused understanding of what it is like to study a specific subject. They are specifically targeting and prioritising young people with backgrounds which are underrepresented in university (young people who are eligible for free school meals, who have a disability, who are care experienced, refugees or who have asylum seeker status, young carers, or would be the first generation in their family to go to university), but welcome applications from all.

Attendees will meet current City, University students and find out more about life as a university student in their subject of interest as well as meeting industry professionals. There will be workshops and mini lectures provided by academics from the subject department, a campus tour and a subject focused talk provided by their careers adviser.

A free, hot lunch on campus will be provided for any students who attend!

The events will be taking place on the following days:
17th January 2024 - Law Uni-Focus Day
31st January 2024 - Computer Science Uni-Focus Day
28th February 2024 - Politics Uni-Focus Day
13th March 2024 - Psychology Uni-Focus Day
21st March 2024 - Engineering Uni-Focus Day
24th April 2024 - Journalism Uni-Focus Day
8th May 2024 - Music Uni-Focus Day
15th May 2024 - Business Uni-Focus Day
22nd May 2024 - Clinical Sciences & Healthcare Uni-Focus Day

Year 12 students can apply to attend the event by using the following link - https://tinyurl.com/UniFocus2023-4

If you have any questions about the events or would like to get in touch about any of the Widening Participation work done at City, University of London, please send me an email at joseph.jackson@city.ac.uk.

Missing Children, Missing Grades report

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This report finds that:

- School absence has become endemic in Key Stage 4. Over the last couple of years, over a third of all pupils in Key Stage 4 were either persistently or severely absent for at least one year.
- Poor attendance has a dramatic relationship with GCSE results. While 78% of all children who were rarely absent in both years passed at least 5 GCSEs including English and maths, only 36% of children who were persistently absent in both years and just 5% of children who were severely absent in both years reached this same standard.
- When pupils' attendance improves, the likelihood of achieving qualifications at the end of school massively increases. More than half (54%) of pupils who were persistently absent in Year 10 and then rarely absent in Year 11 passed at least 5 GCSEs including English and maths, compared to 36% of pupils who were persistently absent in both years.

Download and read the full report here.

SEGRO spark! KICK STARTING CAREERS

Unlocking your career potential with SEGRO and Spark!

Who are SEGRO?

SEGRO is a UK Real Estate Investment Trust and a key developer of cutting-edge warehousing and industrial properties. Their customers and partners include Amazon, DHL, Heathrow Airport, Netflix, and more. Find out more at www.segro.com

About our programme

Stage 1: 2hr in school careers workshop	Students meet SEGRO employees and attain an overview of careers in estate management and property investment. **30 Y12 students, Autumn/Spring Term**
Stage 2: A half-day industry Insight visit	An opportunity to spend time at one of SEGRO's real estate/customer sites and meet a range of volunteers. **10 Y12 students, Spring Term**
Stage 3: One-to-one career mentoring	Students will be matched with a SEGRO employee to mentor them in key employability areas, across 6 1:1 sessions, online and in person. **5 Y12 students, Spring Term**

"The experience was absolutely inspiring"
past SEGRO mentee

"I was lacking in confidence... now I know exactly what I want to do and how to get there"
past SEGRO mentee

For more information email
rochellelaurencin@sparkcharity.org.uk

AI tool of the week

Digital Escape Room Creator

I assist teachers in creating educational escape rooms with engaging puzzles and themes.

Hot | For Fun | Lesson Creator | Resource Creator | Free with a ChatGPT Subscription

Children's Story Book Generator

Create a unique story for your child with images. A fun way to co-create stories with your child.

Hot | Story Creator | Image Generator | Free with a ChatGPT Subscription

Adventure Architect

Adventure Architect crafts personalized, educational 'pick your own path' adventures, blending entertainment with learning through interactive storytelling and user-driven narrative choices.

For Fun | Gaming | Lesson Creator | Resource Creator | Free with a ChatGPT Subscription

Open AI's GPT-4 now has the ability to create custom GPTs that function as agents for specific purposes. In other words, you can now use the chatbot to create mini chatbots that follow personalised instructions, allowing for useful microtools such as the ones displayed in the list below. *Please note, these tools require a subscription to GPT-4.*

Check out this list of education-based GPTs

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Contact us

Contacts

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All feedback and questions are welcome. If you have any queries about any aspects of this briefing or any wider issues, please use the contacts below:

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Thank you

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