Leadership Update – September 2024

Leadership Update and Schools Bulletin: <https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/>

**Education**

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| **Item** | **Committee/individual** |
| [**Teacher Assessment Moderation Dates 2024 to 2025**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/teacher-assessment-moderation-dates-2024-to-2025/)  In preparation for the new academic year, please find on this page some important dates for 2024 to 2025. The page also contains a link to the Standards and Testing Agency’s updated **teacher assessment moderation: standardisation and training process**. |  |
| [**Attendance updates**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/attendance-updates-2/)  The School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 have now come into force, meaning that it is now statutory that local authorities hold regular meetings with schools to discuss attendance concerns; absence fines and thresholds have become standardised, and schools must share attendance figures with government. This has also resulted in updates to a number of existing guidance documents, which are linked to from this page. |  |
| [**National Tutoring Programme (NTP)**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/national-tutoring-programme-2/)  All organisations that received a 2023 to 2024 allocation for the NTP should prepare to submit a year-end statement in September 2024. This page contains links to the Department for Education’s calculator tools and other useful links.  The NTP was a time limited four-year programme that was launched in 2020, with 2023 to 2024 being the final year of the programme. |  |
| [**Draft guidance on Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/draft-guidance-on-relationships-sex-and-health-edu/)  The DfE’s consultation on review of the RSHE statutory guidance closed on 11th July 2024. This page contains the relevant links, including to the draft guidance which was being consulted on. |  |
| [**Government launches Curriculum and Assessment Review**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/government-launches-curriculum-and-assessment-revi/)  The government has launched its wide-ranging Curriculum and Assessment review. Spanning from Key Stage 1 through to Key Stage 5, the independent review will be chaired by Professor Becky Francis CBE, an expert in education policy, including curriculum and social inequality.  The review will look closely at the key challenges to attainment for young people, and the barriers which hold children back from the opportunities and life chances they deserve – in particular those who are socioeconomically disadvantaged, or with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).  Following the review, all state schools – including academies who currently do not have to follow the national curriculum – will be required by law to teach the national curriculum up to age 16, giving parents certainty over their children’s education. This was confirmed in the King’s Speech 2024, as the government will introduce a children’s wellbeing bill in the next year to legislate for a variety of its education policies. |  |

**Development**

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| [**Education Secretary begins push to recruit 6,500 new teachers**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/education-secretary-begins-push-to-recruit-6500-ne/)  This page offers a precis and link to the press release (8th July 2024) from the Department for Education and the Education Secretary, Bridget Phillipson. |  |
| [**Elective Home Education Updates**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/elective-home-education-updates/)  This page provides a link to the DfE’s statistics-in-development data reported by local authorities on compulsory school age children in elective home education (EHE) in England. |  |
| [**New SENCo qualification**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/new-senco-qualification/)  **Information for all settings:** New information on the National Professional Qualification (NPQ) for Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (SENCOs)  As announced in the SEND and AP improvement plan on 30 October 2023, the NPQ for SENCOs will replace the national award for SEN coordination (NASENCO) as the mandatory SENCO qualification **from September 2024**.  Teaching of the NPQ will commence in autumn 2024. The DfE has published further information on the qualification SENCOs should take to meet the mandatory requirements for the role and will continue to update this page as more information on this transition becomes available. |  |

**Leadership**

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| [**Managing Teachers’ and Leaders’ pay**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/managing-teachers-and-leaders-pay/)  This DfE guidance has been revised (July 24) following engagement with relevant stakeholders. **There is no obligation for schools to implement these changes from September 2024**. A formal process will now be followed to make necessary amendments to the School teachers’ pay and conditions document, the final version of which is likely to be published in October 2024, back-dated to 1 September 2024. Any further amendments that might be required to this guidance as a result of that process will also be made following consultation.  **RBWM HR will be updating all our standard policies and we will notify you once this has been completed.** |  |
| [**Publication of the Academy Trust Handbook 2024**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/publication-of-the-academy-trust-handbook-2024/)  The Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) has published the Academy trust handbook (ATH) 2024. This handbook will come into effect on Sunday 1 September 2024. A list of the main changes can be found on page 8 of the handbook. |  |
| [**School teachers’ pay award for 2024-25**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/update-on-the-school-teacher-pay-award-for-2425/)  The government has accepted the recommendation of the independent pay body for a school teacher pay award of 5.5% from September. This pay award applies equally to all pay points and allowances for teachers and leaders.  This page contains further information, including on additional grant funding for the 24-25 financial year. The department has published a calculator tool for mainstream schools to help them estimate their grant funding. |  |
| [**New Labour Government policy updates**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/new-labour-government-policy-updates/)  The Labour Party has outlined a series of policies aimed at transforming education in the UK, focusing on fairness, equity, and high standards. This page contains a list under these headings   * Teacher pay, recruitment and retention * Curriculum and assessment * SEND, inclusion and mental health * Ofsted inspection * Inequality and the cost of living |  |
| [**KCSIE – minor updates for September 2024**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/kcsie-minor-updates-for-september-2024/)  It's that time of year again when Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) has been updated for the new school year. The changes aren't massive – many are to bring KCSIE in line with the Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance (updated December 2023).  This page contains a link to Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2024) on .gov.uk. |  |
| [**Updated – what to publish online**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/updated-what-to-publish-online/)  The Department for Education has updated its guidance for maintained schools, and for academies and Further Education colleges, on what information must or should be published on their websites. This page contains the relevant links. |  |
| [**School music development plan**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/school-music-development-plan/)  All schools should have a music development plan, as set out in the DfE's national plan for music education. The DfE is asking schools to publish a summary of their music development plan on their website before the start of the 2024 to 2025 academic year. Schools should then update the summary before the start of each new academic year. Schools can contact their local music hubs for support with their music development plan. |  |
| [**‘Deep dives’ removed from ungraded inspections**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/deep-dives-removed-from-ungraded-inspections/)  From September 2024, inspectors will no longer conduct subject deep dives during **ungraded inspections**, which are designed to check on standards in schools that already carry a good or outstanding grade. Instead, school leaders will have the opportunity to discuss their school’s strengths and areas for development with inspectors. The lead inspector’s initial phone call will focus on getting to know the school, its context, priorities and progress since the previous inspection. There will then be more space for school leaders to help shape the inspection plan and ensure it is focused on the right things.  The inspection framework will remain unchanged, but in place of the deep dives, inspectors will typically use extended learning walks to consider the impact of the curriculum and pupils’ personal development. Safeguarding arrangements, behaviour and attendance will continue to be evaluated in the same way. |  |
| [**Ofsted responds to the Big Listen**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/ofsted-responds-to-the-big-listen/)  This page provides a link to Ofsted’s findings from the Big Listen consultation and a link to its response to the Big Listen, setting out the actions it will take to address what it heard. |  |

**Behaviour**

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| [**Strong Attendance**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/strong-attendance/)  **Action for schools: Back to school preparation to ensure strong attendance next year.**  The DfE has revised its attendance toolkit originally produced for the national attendance campaign it began earlier this year, with top tips for schools on preparing during summer term for 'back to school' September 2024. For families facing complex barriers, schools are reminded to refer to the guidance to put support in place for individual needs.  This page also contains information re the monitor your school attendance tool. |  |
| [**Mobile phones in school**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/mobile-phones/)  In February 2024 the DfE published guidance for schools on prohibiting the use of mobile phones throughout the school day. This page contains more information and a link to the guidance. |  |

**Safeguarding**

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| [**Guidance: Sharing of Nude and Semi-nude Images**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/guidance-sharing-of-nude-and-semi-nude-images/)  Non-statutory guidance for safeguarding leads in schools on how to respond to incidents involving the sharing of nude and semi-nude images. Advice covers conducting risk assessment and recording of incidents and liaison with partner agencies and with parents / carers. |  |
| [**Updates for Keeping Children Safe in Education**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/updates-for-keeping-children-safe-in-education/)  A summary of last year's (September 2023) updates and key actions for schools; this article has been retained for information. |  |
| [**Child sexual abuse report**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/child-sexual-abuse-report/)  In May 2023, the government published its response to the final report of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA). One of the recommendations made by the Inquiry was for introduction of a new mandatory reporting duty for child sexual abuse. This page contains information on the consultation on proposals for mandatory reporting duty. |  |
| [**Cyber Attack**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/cyber-attack/)  **Information: Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) members – if an incident were to happen, is your school cyber secure and are you covered?** In a Buying for Schools blog post, Katy O’Connor, RPA Future Projects Strategy and Delivery Lead, checks in on progress to complete the four conditions to make sure your school is covered. |  |
| [**Prevent review**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/prevent-review/)  Schools Week reports that the Shawcross review of the Prevent programme finds that it is well-embedded in schools. However, oversight falls to the DfE and Ofsted is too often reactive, resulting in some ambiguity about compliance and monitoring. This page contains a link to the Schools Week article. |  |
| [**Operation Encompass Teachers’ National Helpline number**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/encompass-1/)  This page contains more information about the dedicated Operation Encompass National Teachers’ Helpline, and the Helpline number. |  |
| [**Child on child abuse toolkit**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/child-on-child-abuse-toolkit-resources-for-schools/)  This page contains a link to the page on Leadership Update containing our child-on-child abuse toolkit and further resources and links for schools. |  |
| [**Prevent duty**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/new-prevent-duty-1/)  This page links to the DfE’s guidance and risk assessment templates, to support designated safeguarding leads (DSLs) working in education settings. |  |
| [**Single Central Record guidance**](https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/single-central-record-guidance/)  Which checks to record, plus a downloadable checklist. |  |

**Schools' Bulletin - updated for the Autumn Term 2024:** <https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/schools-bulletin/>

**Governance Training Link:** https://www.leadershipupdate-rbwm.co.uk/core-training-programme-for-governors-and-clerks/