

14-19 Learning & Skills Bulletin, No. 359

20 January 2021

- Editorial**
- 4 **Time to come clean**
Yesterday's school attendance figures show far more children in school than during the first wave last March to May, even though the threat is much greater now. The NEU has calculated that this brings with it a far higher danger for those working in schools. It is time for the Government to come clean and tell parents what Ministers and their advisers are saying privately, which is that schools will not reopen until after Easter.
- News**
- 1 **School attendance significantly higher than during the first lockdown**
- 6 **Ofsted publishes guide on what works well in remote education**
£135m to support T-Level students
- 7 **Consultation launched on 2021 exam replacement**
- 9 **Education Secretary launches review of children's social care**
- 10 **Government announces more laptops to support disadvantaged pupils**
Defence Secretary hails support for military families
- 11 **Call for cash payments for free school meals**
- 12 **Education sector calls for priority in phase two of COVID-19 vaccinations**
Government must stop treating BTEC as an afterthought
- 13 **COVID-19 testing in schools**
Schools in Greenwich
- 14 **Bolder approach needed to make university admissions fairer**
- 15 **Barnardo's Education Community launched**
- 16 **COVID-19 infographic for Scotland returns**
- Research**
- 18 **The impact of secondary schools on the second wave of COVID-19**
The DfE and SAGE have published *Impact of Secondary Schools on the Second Wave: Initial Findings and Sources of Uncertainty*.
- 22 **Recruitment and inclusion of underrepresented groups**
The National Governance Association has announced qualitative research into the experiences of people from Black, Asian and minority ethnicities and those under 40.
- 23 **COVID-19 round-up**
A round-up of news on COVID-19.
- Opinion**
- 24 **Copy-paste considered**
Jan Willem de Graaf, Professor of Brain and Technology, Saxion University of Applied Sciences, Deventer, Netherlands, notes that mass production and, more recently, communication technology, have led to both scaling up and an exact copy-paste reality. This has led to an increase in total material wealth, but unfortunately on credit.
- COVID-19 announcements**
- 25 **Government advice on COVID-19**
Details of all new documents on COVID-19 issued by governments across the UK.
- Policy papers**
- 28 **Policy papers published last week**
Details of policy papers from government, parliament and think tanks.
- Consultations**
- 29 **Consultations**
There were two new education consultations published last week.

Delegated legislation

30 Statutory instruments issued last week

There was one new relevant statutory instrument on education issued last week.

Parliament - Debates

32 School closures and support for pupils

Matt Western (Lab, Warwick and Leamington) introduced a debate in the House of Commons on support for pupils' education during school closures.

33 Free School Meals and food parcels

Labour's spokesman in the Lords on education, Lord Watson of Invergowrie (Lab) asked the Government what steps it was taking to monitor the quality of food parcels that were currently being supplied to families in lieu of free school meals.

Parliament - Questions

34 Answers to written questions

Answers to written parliamentary questions from the Department for Education, the Cabinet Office, the Ministry of Defence, the Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport, the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, the Government Equalities Office, the Department of Health and Social Care, the Department for Work and Pensions and the House of Lords.

Publisher information

47 Subscription rates

Writers and subscription details.