

Editorial

- 4 A challenging decade ahead**
A whole series of reports over the last few days indicate just how challenging the decade ahead will be. Rising to these challenges will need some new thinking.

News

- 1 30% of COVID spend will come from existing budgets, according to the IFS**
- 6 £118m for disadvantaged could be lost**
- 7 Week 20 school attendance figures**
- £10m to increase MATs**
- 8 Skills and Post-16 Education Bill**
- NGA to deliver governor training**
- 9 CBI sets out new UK economic strategy**
- Funding for pupils leaving alternative provision**
- 10 Parents say schools handled COVID well**
- Fifth year of Opportunity Areas**
- 12 COVID-19 infographic for Scotland**
- 13 Work starts on first new FE college in a generation**

Conferences

- 14 Centre for Social Justice conference**
The Education Secretary spoke to the Centre for Social Justice conference about the importance of family in levelling up outcomes and opportunities for young people.

The Gender Equality Advisory Council

World-leading experts focussed on the importance of girls' education at the second meeting of the Gender Equality Advisory Council (GEAC) under the UK's G7 Presidency.

Support needed for school leaders facing burnout

At the NAHT's New and Aspiring Heads' Conference, the new NAHT president, Tim Bowen, talked about the need to support school leaders facing burnout.

Research

- 16 Ireland has a better school system**
Research by NFER suggests that the Republic of Ireland's "good links with the community, a stable policy environment and greater autonomy for schools", were some of the factors which had contributed to Republic of Ireland pupils having higher reading scores than UK countries in PISA.
- 17 IFS report on COVID-related spending**
The IFS examines the details of the Government's COVID-related spending in its report, *COVID-related Spending on Education in England*.
- 22 COVID-19 VOCs and VUIs latest**
PHE has just published *SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern and Variants Under Investigation in England. Technical Briefing 12*.
- 25 COVID-19 round-up**
A round-up of news on COVID-19 classrooms programme.

Opinion

- 26 **Any way the wind blows**
Professor Jan Willem de Graaf of Saxion University of Applied Sciences, Deventer, Netherlands, observes that as a result of “disruptive” technology, labour changes and we easily lose sight of the deep interweaving of work, career and self-development. Little or no consideration is given to the psychological consequences of job loss, attribution style reversal and its consequences for an individual or his family.

- 27 **100 years of women at Oxford?**
Oxford is celebrating what it claims is 100 years of female students at the university. Laura Coryton, who got her Masters in Women’s Studies from Oxford, shows how this claim is not entirely true.

International

- 28 **Global Britain and education**
Boris Johnson has appointed a Special Envoy for Girls’ Education and she has just returned from a visit to Commonwealth countries in West Africa.

Document reviews

- 29 **Supporting education during the pandemic**
COVID-19: Support for Children’s Education, from the House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts.

- 32 **Teacher supply and quality**
Local Pay and Teacher Retention in England, from EPI.

- 35 **Social mobility and education recovery**
Fairness First: Social Mobility, COVID and Education Recovery, from the Sutton Trust.

Policy papers

- 36 **Policy papers published last week**
Details of policy papers from government, parliament and think tanks.

Consultations

- 39 **Consultations**
There were no new education consultations or consultation outcomes published last week.

Delegated legislation

- 39 **Statutory instruments issued last week**
There was one relevant new statutory instrument on education issued last week.

Parliament - Committees

- 40 **Race and White disadvantaged pupils**
The Education Select Committee took evidence from the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities for its inquiry into left behind White pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Parliament - Debates

- 41 **The Skills and Post-16 Education Bill**
The Skills and Post-16 Education Bill starts its progress through Parliament, receiving its First Reading in the House of Lords.

Prison education and employment

Oral questions to the Department of Work and Pensions in the House of Commons covered prison education and the Kickstart programme.

Parliament - Questions

- 42 **Answers to written questions**
Answers to written questions to the Department for Education, the Ministry of Defence, the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, the Department of Health and Social Care, the Department for Work and Pensions and the House of Lords.

Publisher information

- 52 **Subscription rates**
Publisher, writers and subscription details.