



Changes in education 2016/17

Safeguarding and pupil health and safety

Changes to statutory safeguarding guidance

The Department for Education (DfE) has published an updated version of its statutory safeguarding guidance for schools, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#), which took effect on 5 September 2016.

The main changes are related to:

- The guidance that all staff working in schools are required to follow
- The role of the designated safeguarding lead
- Required safeguarding training for staff
- Safer recruitment
- The reporting of concerns
- Online safety
- Teaching pupils about safeguarding
- Specific safeguarding issues

Delayed changes to first aid in the EYFS

In July 2016, the DfE proposed that from 1 September 2016 all newly-qualified EYFS staff [would be required to hold a paediatric first aid \(PFA\) or emergency PFA certificate](#) in order to be included in the staff:child ratios in an EYFS setting.

However, this requirement did not come into force as planned. A DfE spokesperson told us that this is due to unexpected ministerial changes that took place over the summer.

Accountability and performance data

Changes to primary accountability

Performance tables showing national pupil attainment and progress data in primary schools, as measured under the new accountability measures, will be released in the late autumn term 2016.

The [headline measures to be reported for the first time](#) in these performance tables are:

- The percentage of pupils achieving the 'expected standard' in English reading, English writing and maths at the end of Key Stage (KS) 2
- The average of all pupils' scaled scores in:
 - English reading at the end of KS2
 - Maths at the end of KS2
- The percentage of pupils who achieve at a high standard in English reading, English writing and maths

- Pupils' average progress in:
 - English reading
 - English writing
 - Maths

Coasting schools

Following the publication of the 2016 performance tables [schools will be at risk of being identified as 'coasting' for the first time](#). This is because three years' of data (2014, 2015 and 2016) must be available for the 'coasting' definition to apply.

The definition will be finalised in autumn term 2016, but under the proposals laid out in the DfE consultation a primary school will be coasting if, over the course of three consecutive years:

- Fewer than 85% of pupils achieve the new expected standard across reading, writing and mathematics, **and**
- Pupil progress is below the progress element of the definition

Staff pay

From 1 October 2016 to 31 March 2017, [the national minimum wage will increase](#) to:

- £6.95 per hour for 21-24 year olds
- £5.55 per hour for 18-20 year olds
- £4.00 per hour for 16-17 year olds
- £3.40 per hour for apprentices

In addition, the national living wage is due to change in April 2017.

Administration

New school website requirements

As of 1 September 2016 there will be [updated requirements for the information that schools must publish on their websites](#).

The regulations introduce new requirements to publish the following online:

- The school's complaints procedures

The regulations also make changes to what specific information must be published about Key Stage (KS) 2 and the pupil premium grant.

New requirements regarding the roll

From 1 September 2016, all schools in England [will also be required to inform their LA when a pupil is added to or removed from the admission register](#) (also known as the roll).

Schools will also be required to:

- Record details of the pupil's residence, the name of the person with whom he/she will reside, the date from which he/she will reside there, and the name of the destination school
- Inform their LA of the pupil's destination school and home address if the pupil is moving to a new school
- Inform their LA within five days of registering a new pupil of his/her address and previous school

Changes to information on the school census

The DfE's guide to the school census in 2016/17 sets out some changes to the data that schools will have to submit. Data items that are required in the 2016/17 academic year, but were not required in previous years, include:

- Proficiency in English
- Country of birth
- Pupil nationality
- Unique property reference number

Schools will no longer, however, have to record data for the school location module or the in-care indicator for exclusions.

There have also been changes made to other data items included in the census. For a full list and the details of each item see pages 10-12 in the DfE's census guide:

[School census 2016 to 2017: guide, GOV.UK – DfE \(Adobe pdf file\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/538773/2016_to_2017_School_Census_Guide_V1_1.pdf)

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Governance

New DBS check requirements

In early 2016, new regulations were brought in regarding [Disclosure and Barring Service \(DBS\) checks for governors](#). Under the new rules maintained schools must apply for enhanced DBS certificates:

- By 1 September 2016 for governors elected or appointed before 1 April 2016
- Within 21 days of appointment or election for governors appointed after 1 April 2016

Changes to arrangements in federations

On 1 September 2016 [changes related to governance in federations](#) also come into force. These are:

- Every federation must include two parent governors, to be elected by parents of any federated school or appointed by the governing body of the federation
 - The temporary governing body constituted for two or more maintained schools intending to federate must include two temporary parent governors
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New national database of governors

From 1 September 2016, information about maintained school governors and academy trust members, academy trustees and local governors [will be published on the DfE website Edubase](#). The proposals for this were first outlined in the 2016 education white paper.
