



Spring Term 2020 Planner

I attach the planner for spring term 2020

ESFA Update academies: 8 January 2020

Click [here](#) to read the latest updates for academies from the ESFA.

Reminder: teachers' pension employer contribution grant supplementary fund

A reminder that the window for mainstream schools and academies to submit their actual pensions costs if they wish to make claim for supplementary funding closes on Friday 17 January 2020. Claims from mainstream schools and academies will not be accepted after that date.

Supplementary funding is payable where the increase in those employer teachers' pension costs exceeds the amount of the pensions grant by more than 0.05% of total budget. [You can submit a claim online.](#)

Click [here](#) for guidance notes on completing the form and more details about the supplementary fund are available

Information: Quality in Careers Standard events

Is your school meeting its legal requirements on careers provision and supporting pupils to make informed choices about their futures? The Department for Education (DfE) is funding 3 free to attend events for schools and colleges to learn more about externally validating their careers programme through the national Quality in Careers Standard.

These events involve testimonies from schools and colleges already holding the Standard and are hosted by the Quality in Careers National Director. They are intended for staff in schools and colleges that have not yet engaged with the Standard.

The event details, including the speakers from schools and colleges, have now been confirmed:

Wednesday 4 March 2020, Newcastle upon Tyne

Thursday 12 March 2020, Birmingham

Tuesday 17 March 2020, Bristol

For more information and to book your free ticket, please visit the [Quality in Careers website](#).

Information: free training for school leaders in integrated curriculum and financial planning

Free training is available on integrated curriculum and financial planning (ICFP) for all school leaders (headteachers, school business professionals, governors and other relevant school staff) and local authority officials. ICFP is a process that helps schools plan the best curriculum for their pupils with the funding they have available.

This training will help to develop basic skills and knowledge of ICFP, and help you to feel comfortable with the key principles of ICFP so you can start using it in your school. You can book onto the training now and sessions will run until the end of March 2020. Training will be delivered through webinars and half-day workshops, available across a range of time and locations to support accessibility.

To find out more and book a place on this course visit the [Institute of School business Leaders \(ISBL\) website](#) or email training@isbl.org.uk.

Making curriculum decisions in the best interests of children

Sean Harford HMI, National Director for Education, discusses how we'll be judging the curriculum and whether length of key stage matters.

To read the blog please click [here](#).

Questions for Governors to ask: Governors should be seeking assurance through asking questions such as:

How can we be assured that our curriculum is ambitious for all pupils (including those with SEND and on alternative provision)?

What evidence do we have, as governors, that our curriculum has breadth and depth and enriched by additional learning opportunities?

Why we do research at Ofsted

Daniel Muijs, Ofsted's Deputy Director, Research and Evaluation, summarises our reasons for carrying out our own research at Ofsted.

To read more click [here](#).

Government announces plans for universal school inspections

Ofsted will visit all schools judged to be outstanding, helping to give parents a complete picture of school performance.

The change will mean schools rated as outstanding by Ofsted will no longer be exempt from routine inspection, as is currently the case, and underlines the government's position that school inspection serves a vital purpose in improving standards and behaviour. Under the proposals in the consultation

being launched today (10 January), all outstanding schools and colleges will be brought back into a regular inspection cycle – with Ofsted visiting every 4 to 5 years. This will affect around 3,700 schools and colleges rated outstanding when the exemption is lifted in September.

To read more click [here](#).

Ofsted inspection: removal of the outstanding exemption – Consultation

Overview - The DfE are seeking views on the removal of the exemption for outstanding schools, colleges and other organisations delivering publicly-funded education and training.

Some schools, colleges and other organisations delivering publicly-funded education and training, that were rated outstanding by Ofsted at their last inspection, are legally exempt from further routine Ofsted inspection.

This consultation seeks views on the removal of the exemption.

To read more and take part in the consultation click [here](#).
