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## **DfE Changes – Update June 2017 to August 2017**

### **30 hours free childcare: LA and early years provider guide**

1. The DfE has published an updated operational guidance document on the implementation of the 30 hours free childcare initiative. Following feedback from the sector the text has been reordered and clarified throughout. The guidance is for LAs and those early years providers who are delivering the free entitlement and can be found [here](#)<sup>1</sup>.
2. An evaluation of the early implementation of 30 hours of free child care in eight local authority areas has also been published and can be accessed [here](#)<sup>2</sup>.

### **Future arrangements for school and high needs funding**

3. The Secretary of State for Education has set out the future arrangements for school and high needs funding. In an oral statement to Parliament, she confirmed the introduction of a national funding formula for schools and for pupils with high needs from the 2018-19 financial year. Further details of the funding formulae allocations will be published in September. These funds will be redirected from other areas of the Department for Education's overall budget. The full statement can be accessed [here](#)<sup>3</sup>.
4. The Government is also making available additional funding of £1.3 billion, on top of existing spending plans, in 2018-19 and 2019-20. As a result, core funding for schools and high needs will rise from almost £41 billion in 2017-18 to £42.4 billion in 2018-19, and to £43.5 billion in 2019-20. Additional details can be found [here](#)<sup>4</sup>.
5. The schools funding operational guide for 2018-19 and the baselines for local authorities' spending in the current year can be found [here](#)<sup>5</sup>. The operational guide on high needs funding will be published in September, as in previous years.

### **Preventing bullying in schools**

6. The DfE has merged the publication 'Supporting children and young people who are bullied: advice for schools' with 'Preventing and tackling bullying'. The updated 'Preventing and tackling bullying' guidance outlines the government's approach to bullying; legal obligations and the powers schools have to tackle bullying; and the principles which underpin the most effective

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/30-hours-free-childcare-la-and-early-years-provider-guide>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/30-hours-free-childcare-early-implementation-evaluation>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/justine-greening-statement-to-parliament-on-school-funding>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/13bn-for-core-schools-budget-delivers-rise-in-per-pupil-funding>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pre-16-schools-funding-guidance-for-2018-to-2019>

anti-bullying strategies in schools in England. The advice also lists further resources school staff can access for specialist information and advice.

7. Supplementary guidance documents which cover how schools can prevent and respond to cyber bullying aimed at headteachers and staff, and how parents and carers can prevent and respond to cyber bullying aimed at children and young people, are also available. Both can be accessed [here](#)<sup>6</sup>.

### Exclusions guidance

8. The DfE has published a revised version of the 2012 exclusion guidance. Changes have been made in a small number of areas to provide greater confidence and clarity for those involved in the exclusion process. The rights of, or requirements on, schools, children or parents with regards exclusion have not changed. The statutory guidance, which comes into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017, can be found [here](#)<sup>7</sup>.
9. As well as updating the guidance, the DfE is also issuing two non-statutory guides; one for head teachers and the other for parents and its response to the recent consultation on the proposed revisions. The government response to the consultation can be found [here](#)<sup>8</sup>.

### Publication of EBacc consultation response

10. The government's response to the consultation on implementing the EBacc has been published and can be accessed [here](#)<sup>9</sup>.
11. It is the government's ambition that 75% of year 10 pupils in state-funded mainstream schools should be starting to study EBacc GCSE courses nationally by 2022 (taking their exams in 2024), rising to 90% by 2025 (taking their exams in 2027). Schools should still be able to determine the small minority of pupils for whom taking all of the EBacc subjects is not appropriate.
12. Alongside the response to the consultation, the DfE has published an Equality Impact Assessment which can be accessed [here](#)<sup>10</sup> and analysis which investigates the relationship between EBacc and arts entry at school level [here](#)<sup>11</sup>.

### Academies Update

13. Number in Wiltshire at the end of August 2017:

Sponsored academies	19
Non-sponsored converter academies	68

14. New academies in this period:

St John's CofE School (Warminster)
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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-exclusion-guidance-proposed-revisions>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/implementing-the-english-baccalaureate>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-baccalaureate-equality-analysis>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/trends-in-arts-subjects-in-schools-with-increased-ebacc-entry>

Aloeric Primary School
Ivy Lane Primary School

## **SEND provision capital funding for pupils with EHC plans**

15. Further to the release of details of £215 million of capital funding allocated to local authorities to help create new school places and improve existing facilities for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, the DfE has published a 'special provision capital fund' guidance document, and templates to use to create a special provision plan. Local Authorities will be expected to consult with local parents, carers, schools, and others on how their funding should be used. Wiltshire has been allocated a total of £800,933 from 2018 to 2020. The guidance and templates can be found [here](#)<sup>12</sup>.

## **Further education area reviews**

16. The DfE has published a number of reports outlining findings and recommendations from the latest in a series of FE area reviews on its website. The review concerning Wiltshire College can be found [here](#)<sup>13</sup>.

## **The Children and Social Work Act 2017 – new local safeguarding and child death review arrangements**

17. The Children and Social Work Act (The Act) received Royal Assent on 27 April 2017. The Act amends the Children Act 2004 and puts into law the key recommendations of the Wood Review of the role and functions of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs).
18. The provisions of the Act will strengthen the statutory framework around multi-agency working by placing a duty on three safeguarding partners, namely the local authority, chief officer of police and clinical commissioning group (CCG) to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in their area and identify and respond to the needs of children. The provisions of the Act also allow greater flexibility for local areas to determine how they arrange their services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the area.
19. Child death reviews will become the responsibility of the child death review partners, namely local authorities and CCGs.
20. The Department for Education intends to consult in the next few months on the proposed content of the regulations and statutory guidance that will support the new arrangements set out in the Act. Expected timescales are:
- Working Together guidance to be revised – likely formal consultation around November 2017, and implementation in early 2018
  - LAs/CCG/Police to publish and consult on their plans for local safeguarding arrangements by December 2018, and implement new arrangements by April 2019
  - CDOP arrangements, which will become the responsibility of the DoH, to be implemented in April 2019 (or sooner)

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-provision-capital-funding-for-pupils-with-ehc-plans>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gloucestershire-swindon-and-wiltshire-fe-area-review>

21. LSCBs must continue to undertake their statutory functions, as they are legally required to do, until the new safeguarding partner and child death review arrangements are in place.

22. The Act can be accessed [here](#)<sup>14</sup>, and the Wood Review [here](#)<sup>15</sup>.

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<sup>14</sup> <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/16/contents/enacted>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wood-review-of-local-safeguarding-children-boards>