



# the Maximilian

Monthly Newsletter for Governors from the Education Commission

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**W**elcome... *The Maximilian* is a monthly newsletter from the Education Commission to all categories of governors in our schools, highlighting changes in legislation and other news which will be of help to governing bodies.

The future of humanity lies in the hands of those who are strong enough to provide coming generations with reasons for living and hoping.

Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, 31

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## European Union Updates - Relevant to Schools

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**DfE guidance states the following:**

### **School places after Brexit**

You cannot ask for or use nationality or immigration status when deciding which pupils to admit. You should continue to offer school places to citizens of the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland who are in the UK after Brexit. UK citizens living abroad returning to the UK and Irish citizens are still entitled to [apply for school places](#).

### **Help staff, parents and carers with the EU Settlement Scheme**

Let staff who are citizens of the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland know that they'll need to [apply to the EU Settlement Scheme](#) to continue living in the UK after 2020. Deal or no deal, they will have until at least 31 December 2020 to apply.

You may wish to refer any staff, parents or carers making an application to the [support and resources available](#).

Anyone who has applied to the [EU Settlement Scheme](#) can [view and prove their settled or pre-settled status online](#), although they will not be required to do so until at least January 2021. Irish citizens' right to live in the UK will not change after Brexit. This means they do not need to apply for the EU Settlement Scheme, but they can if they want to.

### **Temporary leave to remain**

If there's a no-deal Brexit, let staff know that they can [apply for European temporary leave to remain](#) if they:

- are from the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland, and
- arrive in the UK after a no-deal Brexit and before 1 January 2021

They'll need to apply by 31 December 2020.

## Employing staff from the EU

### Checking for sanctions or restrictions on teachers from the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway

If there's a deal, schools should continue to use the existing system to check for sanctions on teachers imposed by the EEA (EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway). This procedure will not change until 31 December 2020.

If there's a no-deal Brexit, professional regulators in the EEA (EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) will no longer share with the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) information about sanctions imposed on teachers.

Schools must continue to carry out the same safer recruitment checks on all applicants, including those who have lived or worked outside of the UK.

For applicants that have lived or worked outside of the UK, schools must also make any further checks they think appropriate so they can consider any relevant events that occurred outside the UK.

For applicants to teaching positions, additional checks may include information about their past conduct, for example, documents issued by the relevant teaching regulator abroad.

If there's a no-deal Brexit, we'll update [Keeping children safe in education](#).

### Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) after Brexit

Teachers currently in England from the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland who already have QTS, will still hold [QTS after Brexit](#).

If the UK leaves with a deal there will be no change to arrangements for teachers from the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland that apply for QTS during the implementation period.

If there's a no-deal Brexit:

Teachers who already hold QTS before Brexit will not be affected.

Teachers who've applied for QTS before Brexit can continue with their application under the previous system.

Teachers can still apply for QTS after Brexit but will need a letter of professional standing from the EU country, or Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland where they are recognised.

Read [qualified teacher status \(QTS\)](#) for further information.

## Planning trips to the EU

You'll need to check:

- the [travel advice](#) for the country you're going to
- [access to healthcare](#)
- [what equipment you're allowed to take with you](#)
- whether you can still use the [List of Travellers visa scheme](#)
- [what bus and coach drivers need to do](#)

You can still use collective passports.

## Review how you collect, use and share personal data

Check and update your [data protection procedures](#) so you can still receive and share personal data

## Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps (ESC)

Continue delivering any Erasmus+ or ESC projects that are already contracted. You might not get EU funding if there's a no-deal Brexit. [Register for the government guarantee](#) if you've already had an Erasmus+ bid accepted. Erasmus + placements will continue to 2020 if there's a deal.

## Employing staff from the EU

You must continue to [check job applicants' right to work](#). This will not change after Brexit.

You can also [check whether someone has settled or pre-settled status](#) but you are not required to do this until 1 January 2021.

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# Funding

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## Implementing mandatory minimum per pupil funding levels

September 2019 saw the DfE launch a consultation on how to implement the minimum per pupil funding levels in the National Funding Formula (NFF) on a mandatory basis in 5 to 16 school funding.

Following a review of these consultation responses, the DfE has decided to:

- continue to allocate school funding through the NFF, ensuring a fair distribution based on all schools' and pupils' needs and characteristics. Under the NFF in 2020/21, every school will benefit from the additional funding, with per pupil funding rising at least in line with inflation and faster than inflation for most. The greatest increases will continue to go to areas which have been historically underfunded, and we have removed the previous cap on gains so that those funding gains can flow through in full. Based on the NFF, Local Authority allocations for 2020/21 have now been allocated through the Dedicated Schools Grant and show an average increase of 4.2% per pupil compared to 2019/20.

- In 2020/21, the DfE will be delivering on the Government's commitment to ensure that every secondary school receives at least £5,000 per pupil, and every primary school at least £3,750 per pupil. This means that the NFF will 'level up' the lowest funded schools in the country.

- It will be mandatory for local authorities to use the minimum per pupil levels in their local funding formulae, which distribute the NFF funding that they receive for schools in their local area.

As well as supporting the lowest funded schools, these changes represent an important first step in the Government's plans to implement a 'hard' NFF, whereby all schools will receive a budget based on what they attract through the national formula, rather than through different local authority funding formulae. The Government will be consulting on the further steps needed to deliver these plans in due course. Watch this space!

[The Government's full response can be found here.](#)

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# Funding Academies

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## Financial Support for struggling Academy Trusts

Whilst 94% of trusts reported cumulative surpluses in 2017/18, for the minority of trusts in financial difficulty, the ESFA has highlighted the financial support that it provides to Academy Trusts. This information provides greater clarity about the:

- different categories the ESFA has for the use of financial support;
- circumstances in which the ESFA may provide financial support and its repayment terms;
- criteria against which the ESFA assesses academy trusts requesting financial support; and
- conditions the ESFA may make on academy trusts to ensure financial support is managed effectively.

[Information about the financial support on offer can be found here.](#)

## **Investment in the Arts**

The Government has recently announced an additional £80M investment in music hubs. Alongside this investment, charities that help young people learn about different styles of music are also set to receive a further £1M next year.

Pupils will also have more opportunities to put their film making skills to the test, explore museums or take to the stage, as a series of other cultural education programmes receive an additional £4M funding boost next year.

This investment has been announced alongside a manifesto commitment to offer an 'arts premium' to secondary schools to allow young people to learn creative skills and widen their horizons. A number of curriculum schemes will receive a total of £85M in 2020/21. These include: Music Education Hubs; National Youth Music Organisations (NYMOs) and Music for Youth; and Cultural education (Heritage Schools, BFI Film Academy, Museums and Schools, ACE Bridge Network, National Youth Dance Company, Saturday Art and Design Clubs).

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## **Ofsted Updates**

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### **New Inspection Reports**

Since the implementation of the new Education Inspection Framework in September 2019, there have been some amendments, on both the Section 5 and Section 8 Inspection Handbooks, with two of the amendments directly related to governance.

Paragraph 110 of the Section 5 Handbook originally stated:

'The role that governors and trustees play in the school's performance is evaluated as part of the judgement on the effectiveness of leadership and management, and each report will contain a separate paragraph that addresses the governance of the school.'

This paragraph has now been amended to state:

'The role that governors and trustees play in the school's performance is evaluated as part of the judgement on the effectiveness of leadership and management, and each report will contain, if appropriate, a separate paragraph that addresses the governance of the school.'

The amendment, reflected in the number of inspection reports that have not referenced the work of the Governing Board, has led to concern that the importance of effective governance, and its impact on school improvement and strategic school leadership, is being downplayed by Ofsted. As a result, a number of organisations are communicating with Ofsted to share this rising concern. Watch this space for further developments!

Paragraph 118 of the original Handbook also stated that:

'The on-site inspection ends with a final feedback meeting with the school. Those connected with the school who may attend include: ..... for maintained schools, the chair of the school's governing body and as many governors as possible .....

The amended paragraph in the updated Handbook now states:

'The on-site inspection ends with a final feedback meeting with the school. Those connected with the school who may attend include: .....for maintained schools, the chair of the school's governing body and as many governors as possible; the clerk of governors, or their delegate, may also attend to take notes .....

Feedback, both from schools that have been inspected under the new Framework and fellow governance colleagues, reflects that inspectors are increasingly addressing governance, both strengths and areas for development, in the final onsite feedback meetings rather than in the final published reports; hence the need for notes to be taken to ensure all actions required are captured and for as many Governors to directly hear the messages from Ofsted.

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## DfE Guidance and Updates

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### Character Education

The DfE has issued new non-statutory guidance on character education and personal development and the practicalities of its provision and delivery within schools.

Schools have a statutory duty, as part of the delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum, to promote the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils and prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life. Character education contributes to this duty to promote SMSC. The duty also applies to academies and free schools through the Independent School Standards.

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## School Security Guidance

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2019 saw the DfE consult on proposed new school security guidance for educational establishments in England. After analysing the responses received, the DfE has updated its school security guidance as well as providing a number of templates and checklists for the school to use such as risk assessment and business continuity plan templates.

[The updated guidance and templates can be found by clicking here.](#)

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## Food allergies

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The DfE has issued new guidance which outlines the legal requirements for schools regarding allergies and schools' food provision, including practical measures and advice. The guidance also details sources for dealing with severe reactions.

Governing Boards are responsible for the provision of school food and ensuring that a child with an allergy is able to eat a school lunch.

[The guidance can be accessed by clicking here.](#)

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## Training

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Free training on Integrated Curriculum and Financial Planning (ICFP)

The DfE is offering free training on ICFP for all school leaders (headteachers, school business professionals, governors and other relevant school staff).

ICFP is a process that helps schools plan the best curriculum for their pupils with the funding they have available. The DfE's training will help to develop leaders' basic skills and knowledge of ICFP and help them feel comfortable with the key principles of ICFP so that it can begin to be used in your school.

The free training sessions are running until the end of March 2020 and will be delivered through webinars and half-day workshops, available across a range of times and locations. To find out more and book a place on this course [visit the ISBL website](#) or email [training@isbl.org.uk](mailto:training@isbl.org.uk).

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## Writing the date in 2020

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Typically when writing the short date, we write dd/mm/yy, but this year could cause a problem. Only writing the year as '20' leaves a potential for fraud because there is space where other digits could be added on. For example, 12/01/20 could have '18' added on, so that it reads 12/01/2018.

Throughout this year, to minimise the risk of fraud, it will be best to use the full year date in any hand-written reports or when signing and dating documents.

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## Period products for schools (DfE)

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On the 20th January 2020 launched its long-awaited period product scheme for schools and colleges in England.

The DfE said, 'No-one should be held back from accessing education due to their period. The period product scheme will provide free period products to learners in all state-maintained schools and colleges who need to access period products in their place of learning in order to access education. Although the scheme is for all learners, it is not a universal offer of free period products to everyone under the age of 19. This would be prohibitively costly and would not represent good value for taxpayers' money.'

To make sure organisations have access to a wide range of period products in the most cost-effective and efficient way, the DfE has awarded a contract to Personnel Hygiene Services Limited (PHS). Schools will be able to order a range of period products and have these delivered free of charge. There will be a spend cap on the amount available to spend.

The government guidance contains information on:

- choosing and ordering period products
- distributing products within institutions
- tackling stigma

Guidance Webpage: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/period-products-in-schools-and-colleges/period-product-scheme-for-schools-and-colleges-in-england>

To save time a ready-to-print pdf of the web page is available here: <https://www.safeguardingin-schools.co.uk/period>

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## Jim Gamble's TEDx Talk - 'Online safety - It's not about the Internet'

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Jim Gamble QPM, is a retired senior police officer and the former chief executive of the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP). He is now the CEO of the Ineqe Group, the Independent Child Safeguarding Commissioner for the City & Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership and the Independent Chairperson for Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership.

Recently, Jim Gamble gave a thought-provoking TEDx talk on online safety 'It's not about the Internet'. The talk considers the nature of the online threat including the nature of the beast, the suggestion that blaming tech companies is too simplistic, the importance of individual leadership and simple ideas that can make us all safer.

The talk can be found on YouTube by [clicking here](#).

To accompany the talk there is a staff CPD workshop package which can be downloaded here: <https://ineqe.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/TedXResource.pdf>

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## The Sutton Trust-Year 12 Pupils

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UK Summer Schools

Are you interested in going to university? Not sure on what subject you want to study? Our UK Summer Schools offer you the chance to experience what university life is like.

From academic taster sessions to living in halls of residence, pupils will get the chance to meet like-minded young people from across the UK and explore a subject of your choice at a leading UK university.

[Click here to view more details](#)

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## Reference and DBS checks for Appointment and re-appointment of foundation governors

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Below is a copy of the letter and documents sent to all schools via email on the 18th December 2019

[Letter of Notification of New Appointment Process](#)  
[Appointment Process for foundation governors](#)  
[DBS Role of foundation governor](#)  
[DBS Reference for volunteer roles](#)

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## School trips to China

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Check Public Health England website for advice and updates on Wuhan novel coronavirus and avian flu.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

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## Safer Internet Day 2020

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This year's Safer Internet Day, which will take place on the 11th February 2020, explores the theme of identity online. To help schools and colleges, the UK Centre for Internet Safety has created [a range of free resources for educators](#). These resources look at the ways in which the internet shapes the way that young people think of themselves and others. Tailored for each age group, they include lesson plans, assemblies, posters, films, and quick activities.

There are also [resources for parents and carers](#) to use at home with their children, including conversation starters, quick activities and more. Further information about this year's events can be found by visiting the [Safer Internet day website](#).

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## Funding Energy Saving Projects

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Salix Finance (a government funded organisation) is available to help maintained schools, academies, free schools and sixth form colleges upgrade to more efficient technology such as LED lighting, new boilers or insulation, to improve the learning environment, reduce emissions and save money. There are no up-front costs and the interest free loan is repaid through savings made on the school's energy bills.

For further information [visit the Salix website](#) or contact [schoolsapplication@salixfinance.co.uk](mailto:schoolsapplication@salixfinance.co.uk).