

The Maximilian

A monthly newsletter for governors within the Archdiocese of Southwark

Edition 95
February 2022

Keeping children safe in education: proposed revisions 2022

Summary

The DfE is seeking views on proposed changes to the statutory guidance Keeping children safe in education 2021 with a view to making changes for September 2022.

[Click here](#) for the consultation.

This consultation closes at
11:59pm on 11 March 2022

Consultation description

This consultation is seeking views on revisions to [Keeping children safe in education](#), the statutory guidance that sets out what schools and colleges should do, and the legal duties with which they must comply, to keep children safe.

School admission appeals.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-school-admission-appeals-code>

Consultation description

The DfE is seeking views on a revised version of the statutory school admission appeals code. This allows appeals to be held remotely (by telephone or video conference) as well as in person. It also allows appeal hearings to continue with just 2 panel members if the third panel member needs to withdraw.

The changes make permanent some of the arrangements that were temporarily put in place as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.



Covid Updates

The Schools Covid-19 Operational Guidance has been updated in light of the changes to the national measures and this can be accessed [here](#). Secondary school pupils are no longer required to participate in the twice weekly testing programme and face coverings are no longer required to be worn in either classrooms or communal areas by staff and pupils.

Governing Boards will want to be confident that their setting's risk assessment has been updated accordingly and shared with relevant stakeholders.

Inspection Handbook

Ofsted's School Inspection Handbook was updated again in February to clarify:

- How frequently Ofsted will be inspecting schools (paragraphs 41 to 45). Ofsted are likely to inspect good schools last inspected in the 2016/17 academic year in the 2021/22 academic year, which is an extension of about 5 terms. From the 2022/23 academic year, Ofsted will work to gradually reduce this extension. In time, this will mean that Ofsted are likely to inspect good schools only 3 to 4 terms later than usual (so around 5 years after their last inspection). For subsequent inspections, Ofsted will return to inspecting good schools around every 4 years.
- That Ofsted acknowledges that not all schools have had the opportunity to complete the process of adopting or constructing their curriculum fully due to Covid. Paragraphs 229-231 outline the transitional arrangements that have been temporarily put in place, which have been extended and will be reassessed in time for September 2022. Ofsted highlights that in schools with primary-age pupils, transition arrangements do not apply to reading, writing and maths; therefore, in infant, junior and primary schools, including middle schools deemed primary, transition arrangements can only apply to the science and the foundation curriculum.
- Ofsted's approach to harmful sexual behaviour (paragraphs 315-317); inspectors will not investigate allegations of sexual harassment, abuse or violence, but will consider how schools handle such allegations and ensure that allegations are reported to the appropriate authority. Ofsted have clarified that if schools do not have adequate processes in place, it is likely that safeguarding will be considered ineffective.

The updated Ofsted Inspection Handbook can be accessed [here](#).

Repeated from January 2022 edition of the Maximilian.



Decree from Archbishop John Wilson

Please use the link below to view a Decree from Archbishop John stating that the appointment of a Chair of Governors in any voluntary-aided, academy or Independent school in the Archdiocese of Southwark must be a Foundation Governor.

[Decree](#)

Courses & Events

Collective Worship in the Catholic Schools Inspection Framework

2nd March 2022 6pm-7.30pm

£25 Zoom

For: Governors

[Book](#)

Religious Education in the Catholic Schools Inspection Framework

8th March 2022 3.30pm-5pm

£25 Zoom

For: Senior Leadership Team and Religious Education Link Governor

[Book](#)

Religious Education in the Catholic Schools Inspection Framework

16th March 2022 6pm-7.30pm

£25 Zoom

For: Governors

[Book](#)

