



Guidance on the requirements of what academies must publish on their websites with associated guidance

January 2026

Guidance on What Should Be Published on An Academy's Website

Introduction

- Applies to all academy's and is in force even if the school doesn't have its own website — they must use an alternative and provide paper copies upon request, free of charge.
 - Ensures compliance with:
 - School Information (England) Regulations 2008 (amended 2012, 2016)
 - Equality Act 2010
 - Children and Families Act 2014
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Statutory Requirements

1. Admission Arrangements

- **September entry (mainstream academies):** By 15 March each year, publish arrangements including:
 - How applications are considered, published admission numbers (PAN), and application processes for both Reception and Year 7 (incl. in-year and selective entry)
 - **In-year admissions:** By 31 August, publish procedures (or link to local authority coordination)
 - **Appeals timetable:** By 28 February, publish deadlines and hearing schedules per the Admissions Code
 - **16–19 academies/FE colleges:** Publish admission arrangements by the September prior to entry, including open days, application steps, and prioritisation
 - The most recent DfE guidance can be found: [School admissions code 2021](#)
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2. Annual Reports & Accounts

- **Academy Trusts:** Publish audited annual report and accounts by 31 January each year
 - **FE Colleges:** Publish annual report and audited financial statements by 31 January, retain for 2 years
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3. Policies & Programmes

- **Behaviour & anti-bullying:** Academies and FE colleges should publish their behaviour policy and anti-bullying strategy
 - The most recent DfE guidance can be found: [Behaviour in schools - GOV.UK](#)

- **Charging & remissions:** Academies must publish charging and remissions policies for activities
 - The most recent guidance can be found: [Charging for school activities - GOV.UK](#)
 - **Complaints:**
 - All academies (excluding 16–19) must publish a complaints procedure meeting Independent School Standards
 - SEN complaints arrangements must be included in the SEN information report
 - The most recent guidance can be found: [Best practice guidance for school complaints procedures 2020 - GOV.UK](#)
 - **Whistleblowing:** Academy trusts and FE colleges must publish their whistleblowing policy/procedure
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4. Curriculum & Career Guidance

- **Curriculum content:** Academies should publish curriculum details by subject and year, plus rights to withdraw from RE and music development plans
 - **Relationships/Education/RSHE policy:** Must be published by all academies
 - **Accessibility plan:** To promote disabled pupils' curriculum participation
 - **16–19 study programme alignment:** Academies with post-16 provision should explain how the curriculum meets statutory study-programme requirements
 - **Careers guidance (secondary & 16–19):**
 - Must publish a provider-access policy under section 42B for technical and apprenticeship guidance
 - Should include careers programme summary, contact details, impact measures, and review date
 - The most recent DfE guidance can be found: [Careers guidance and access for education and training providers - GOV.UK](#)
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5. Contact & Accountability Details

- Publish: postal address, phone, main contact, headteacher/principal, chair of governing body, and links to academy trust websites
 - SENCO details must appear in the SEN report for mainstream academies
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6. Vision, Values & Governance

- **Ethos & values statement:** Required for all academies and FE colleges
- **Governance transparency:**
 - Academy trusts: publish memorandum/articles of association, trustee names, interests, funding agreements, plus governance arrangements

- FE colleges/16–19: publish accountability statements, local-needs reviews, governance reviews, committee structures, governor recruitment details, and instrument/articles of government

7. Financial Transparency

- **Executive pay:** Academy trusts must publish number of staff earning over £100k, in £10k bands
- **Gender pay gap:** All institutions with ≥250 employees must report via gov.uk and publish on their website; smaller ones are encouraged to do so
 - The most recent guidance can be found: [Gender pay gap reporting: guidance for employers - GOV.UK](#)
- **FE colleges in intervention:** Must publish the FE Commissioner's intervention summary report within 14 days and retain it until improvement notice is lifted

8. Additional Transparency Requirements

- **Ofsted reports:** Must publish latest report or link to it
- **PE & sport premium (primary academies):** By 31 July each year, publish funding received, spending breakdown, impact, sustainability, and Year 6 swimming stats
 - The most recent guidance can be found: [PE and sport premium guidance for primary schools - GOV.UK](#)
- **Public sector equality duty:**
 - Must publish annual compliance statement and equalities objectives (every 4 years)
 - FE colleges also recommended to publish an annual equality, diversity & inclusion review covering board, staff, leadership, and student demographics
 - The most recent guidance can be found: [Public Sector Equality Duty: guidance for public authorities - GOV.UK](#)
- **Pupil premium (funded institutions):** By 31 December annually, publish strategy statement explaining spend and outcomes, using DfE template
 - The most recent guidance can be found: [Pupil premium: overview - GOV.UK](#)
- **Remote education provision:** Academies should publish details of remote learning arrangements
- **School opening hours:** Must publish official start/end times and weekly hours (excluding after-school clubs)
- **Uniform policy:** Where applicable, publish cost-compliant and accessible school uniform policy

SEND Information

- Publish an up-to-date SEN information report (annually and promptly after updates) including:

- Statutory SEN details
 - Admission arrangements for disabled pupils
 - Steps to prevent less favourable treatment
 - Accessibility plan (Equality Act 2010).
- The most recent guidance can be found: [Special educational needs \(SEN\) and disabilities: guidance for school governing boards - GOV.UK](#) and [SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years - GOV.UK](#)

Performance Data & Assessments

- Must link to the DfE performance tables service: [Compare the performance of schools and colleges in England - GOV.UK](#)