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Education & Skills
Funding Agency

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1. Information: ESFA e-bulletin subscriptions

As a result of a recent review of how we send out information, we have decided to change the way in which people subscribe to the ESFA bulletin, which will take effect from 24 May 2018.

If you are an accounting officer, chief financial officer or chair of trustees at an academy trust or headteacher at an academy school, you will not need to do anything and you will continue to receive the email if we hold your contact information. To make sure we have up-to-date contact information for your academy, please follow the guidance on our [providing and updating academy trust governance contacts](#) page on GOV.UK.

If you are not one of the roles listed above and you want to continue receiving an email when we have published our newsletter, then you will need to [subscribe to GOV.UK alerts](#). This way you will find out when we have published it online for you to read.

2. Information: academies budget forecast return outturn (BFRO)

Thank you to the trusts that have already submitted their BFRO. For those still working on it, we've published a [BFRO video guide](#).

If you have any questions after the watching the BFRO video guide and reading our published guidance, please dial into our weekly Skype calls every Wednesday between 1pm and 2pm throughout April and May.

If you use Skype, you can access the meeting via this link: [Join Skype Meeting](#).

If you don't have Skype, you can dial 0203 321 5238 and when prompted enter this code 7596 8164.

The deadline for the BFRO is 21 May 2018.

3. Information: GDPR

In preparation for the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and associated changes to data protection legislation, ESFA will be issuing any necessary changes to its privacy notices and agreements with third parties for the processing of personal data, where the Department for Education is the data controller, prior to 25 May.

This includes processing of personal data relating to learners, including apprentices, citizens under the Learning Records Service and National Careers Service, and processed under agreements with colleges and training providers, employers and awarding organisations.

4. Information: opportunity to save money on agency supply teachers

The Department for Education and Crown Commercial Service (CCS) have launched the procurement of a [new national deal](#) to support schools get value for money when hiring agency supply teachers and other temporary staff.

This new deal will give schools access to a list of preferred suppliers and managed service providers that agree:

- to be transparent about the margins they charge
- not charge temp-to-perm fees for workers in post for 12wks (with 4wks notice)
- to consistent, rigorous background screening checks in line with statutory guidance such as Keeping Children Safe in Education
- to be audited by an accredited industry body

We expect this list to be available for schools to use from September 2018.

By [expressing your interest now, we will keep you informed](#) so you can start reducing costs for your school as soon as possible.

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