

Guidance

Timeline for free schools, UTCs and studio schools: mandatory

Updated 9 September 2015

Contents

Autumn term 2015

Autumn term 2015

NEW

September 2015: staffing

[Keeping children safe in education](#) is statutory guidance for all

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schools and colleges. Statutory guidance sets out what schools and local authorities must do to comply with the law. You should follow the guidance unless you have a very good reason not to. We updated the guidance to reflect the new 'prevent duty' and mandatory reporting of female genital mutilation in July 2015. We also provided more information on the admission register and children that go missing from education.

We are considering policy changes to the guidance, and, subject to the government's priorities, will run a public consultation that will start in September 2015.

NEW

September 2015: curriculum and qualifications

National curriculum levels will no longer apply to statutory assessment. The Commission on Assessment Without Levels will publish advice and support for schools in developing new approaches to assessment.

UPDATED

September 2015: curriculum and qualifications

[Reformed accountability measures](#) will apply to the results of pupils starting key stage 4 in September 2014, and finishing year 11 in summer term 2016. A new progress measure based on results in 8 qualifications will be the main accountability measure for secondary schools (replacing 5 A* to C grades). These reforms will apply to schools that have opted in a year early for results in summer 2015.

NEW

September 2015: curriculum and qualifications

Sixth-form students taking 1-year GCSE English or maths courses in September 2015 must enrol on one of the existing GCSE courses. Those starting 2-year courses in September 2015 or any course in September 2016 must enrol on the new GCSE course. From September 2015, full-time students holding a grade D GCSE in English and/or maths must enrol on GCSE English and/or maths for that student's place to be funded.

The Education Funding Agency (EFA) [published guidance on maths and English conditions of funding post 16](#).

NEW

September 2015: finance

Local authorities will receive their first instalments of the primary PE and sport premium for distribution to local-authority-maintained schools on 29 October 2015. Academies and free schools will receive their payments directly from the Education Funding Agency (EFA) on 2 November. Schools should read the [revised grant conditions and guidance](#).

UPDATED

October 2015: governance

A new timetable for admission authorities to change and determine their admission arrangements will apply from October. We introduced these changes in the 2014 [School admissions code](#). The important dates for the autumn term are: 1 October to 31 January: any consultation on admission arrangements must take place for a minimum of 6 weeks between these dates.

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