

SESLIP Education Network

Update: 21st April 2022



From SESLIP:

We trust you are refreshed having had some recuperation time. The agenda and papers for our next meeting, at 10am on 6th May will be circulated next week.

In Today's Update:

- DfE: Guidance about early career teachers, update to school-led tutoring guidance, KS1 assessments data collection, form for school land transactions, DfE publishes its climate change strategy.
- National reports: IntegratEd annual review of inclusion and AP for 2021.
- Research: Factors influencing teachers use of evidence and research, how maths policy has changed over 50 years but performance not.
- News: Schools seeks guidance on trans students, NEU heckle Labour's Ofsted policy, positive stories of black lives in the classroom, MAT reserves up by a third, teacher retention payments make a difference, SofS commits to children not in school register, DfE appoints SEND advisers to work with WSOA LAs, changes afoot to asylum-seeker arrangements.

1. DfE:

- Suite of guidance about early career teachers (ECTs) induction and professional development. It includes guidance for schools, training providers and ECTs about the process, content and funding. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/induction-training-and-support-for-early-career-teachers-ects>
- Revised school-led tutoring guidance for schools and for LAC / virtual schools for the remainder of academic year 2021-22. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-led-tutoring-grant>
- Guide for LAs about the KS 1 assessment results: collection and submission of data to the DfE. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-assessments-data-collection-2022-guide>
- Online form about school land transactions that either require SofS approval or the DfE should be notified of the planned sale. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/submit-a-school-land-transaction-proposal-acquisitions>
- The Department publishes its sustainability and climate change strategy. The ambition is to have an education system by 2030 where all buildings are resilient to climate change and clear strategy towards net zero, with a climate change lead in every school. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainability-and-climate-change-strategy>

2. National Reports

- IntegratEd publishes its annual report for 2021. It offers an excellent overview of exclusions, AP and off-rolling across the English education system. The report also provides a helpful summary of policy initiatives during 2021 as well. https://www.integrated.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/CSJ_IntegratED_Annual-Report-2021_1.1-3-compressed.pdf.

3. Research

- Exploration of the motivations and influences behind teachers' use of research to inform and develop their practice. Although small scale, factors such as research's perceived relevance to teaching and learning and the culture in a school, as set by senior leaders, were influential, alongside access to research and personal confidence. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/feduc.2022.890832/full>

- An informative analysis of mathematics education policy in England over the past 50 years, in the context of continued concerns about poor performance in maths compared to others in the OECD and the close correlation between poverty and low attainment. <https://bera-journals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/curj.128>

4. News:

- More students are identifying as non-binary or trans and schools are requesting more and better guidance on supporting these students, for examples around admissions to single sex schools. It is notable that the Equalities and Human Rights Commission has yet to publish advice despite this being discussed in 2019. <https://www.tes.com/magazine/analysis/general/teachers-want-more-guidance-trans-support-survey-finds>:
- Shadow Education Secretary sets out policy ideas including the reform of Ofsted. This is met with heckling at the NEU conference. <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/neu-conference-shadow-education-secretary-heckled-over-ofsted/>
- Ways that teachers are bringing positive stories about Black communities and other minority communities into lessons. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-61024474>
- MATs reserves continue to increase, to a total of £3.9 billion by the end of 2020-21, up by one third on the previous year. Only 2.6% of MATs are carrying a financial deficit. <https://www.tes.com/magazine/news/general/academy-trust-financial-reserves-rise-almost-third>
- Research into teacher retention payments for science and maths teachers indicate the additional payments do reduce the number leaving teaching within two years: to 22% rather than 27% in the control group. However, retention rates reduce to the average once bonuses stop. The DfE approach to retaining shortage subject teachers continues to change from year to year. <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/salary-top-ups-for-new-teachers-boost-retention-rates-by-23/>
- During his appearance before the Education Select Committee, Nadhim Zahawi said he hopes the register of children not in school and academy reforms will be included in the Queen's speech and that the DfE is working with EHRC on guidance on gender and sex for schools. <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/schools-should-be-more-patriotic-and-8-more-things-we-learned-from-zahawi/>
- DfE appoints a team of SEND Advisers to work with LAs that have a written statement of action following Ofsted / CQC SEND inspections. The Advisers should provide a clear and sustained focus on improvement with individual LAs. <https://www.tes.com/magazine/news/specialist-sector/dfe-hires-ps90k-send-advisers-bid-improve-standards>
- The Home Office is looking to make changes to its support for asylum seekers programme, including more use of private rental accommodation and how children are cared for. A consultation is scheduled for after the May elections. <https://www.lgcplus.com/politics/governance-and-structure/asylum-private-rental-plan-sparks-fears-over-housing-for-homeless-21-04-2022/>