

SESLIP Education Network

Update: 6th May 2022



In Today's Update:

- **DfE:** 2021 level 2 and 3 attainment data, FE college students' experiences during covid-19, survey-based research about early years, tips to encourage reading at home.
- **National reports:** Young people with SEND's accounts of lockdown experiences, TES insights report on SEND.
- **Research:** Panel survey data illustrating variations in access to schoolwork in 2020 lock-down.
- **News:** Are boys being let down by school system? Criticism of treatment of black pupils by schools, Skills and Post-16 Act passed into law, the cost-of-living crisis is likely to last some time, support staff recruitment crisis, SofS missing the point about NTP, virtual study buddy.

1. DfE:

- Level 2 and level 3 attainment of pupils in 2021, by different characteristics, qualification types, institution types, local authority figures and a comparable time series back to 2004. <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/level-2-and-3-attainment-by-young-people-aged-19/2020-21>
- Research based on telephone questioning and surveys about the experience of FE college students during the pandemic; taken from May to July 2021. Most were satisfied with their college and 90% had no problem accessing online learning. Less than a quarter of those who dropped out of courses attributed this to covid-19. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1071681/FE_COVID-19_learner_and_apprentices_experience_survey_report.pdf
- Latest survey (wave 4) of early years and childcare providers, taken during Nov - Dec 2021. Key findings include that about half have experienced notable increases in costs and most independent nurseries have increased charges. Whilst independent settings have experienced higher staff turnover during this time. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1071896/SCEYP_Covid_W4_Research_report.pdf. Further, more detailed workforce research from 2021 concludes that many providers are concerned about the lack of quality candidates for vacancies in the sector, as well as increasing demands to meet needs of children with SEND. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1072062/SCEYP_thematic_report- April 2022.pdf
- Ten tips for parents to encourage their children to read. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/10-top-tips-to-encourage-children-to-read/10-top-tips-to-encourage-children-to-read>

2. National Reports

- Consultation report, based on discussions and a survey with a good range of children and young people with SEND, about their experiences during the covid-19 pandemic lock-downs. The diversity of these young people comes through (eg some enjoyed less social contact, whilst most missed friends and socialising) as well as actions that helped with coping (eg keeping in touch via social media; importance of pets). Criticisms include lack of planning by services to meet their needs during the pandemic, including difficulties accessing online learning for too many. https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/attachments/Lessons%20Learnt%20From%20Lockdown_0.pdf

- TES insights report into education for children and young people with SEND across the UK. It includes a helpful summary of the SEND green paper and discussion of themes such as why the increasing number of EHCPs, will the green paper lead to major change and 'magnet schools'. https://www.tes.com/tg-gated-download/150/webform_download/TES_EIR_SEND22%20%281%29.pdf

3. Research

- Report analysing access by pupils to school work and support during the first lock-down in 2020, based on a representative sample across regions in England. The report illustrates some of the poorer access to set work, support from family and IT devices for children eligible for FSM and variation between regions. <https://www.llakes.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/RP-67-Francis-Green-Research-Paper-combined-file.pdf>

4. News:

- The issue is not so much girls studying physics or maths, as that formal education is working better for girls than boys, as reflected in significantly more going on to university. <https://www.ft.com/content/ced44221-391e-4218-b1d7-5bb02fa11427>
- The Commission for Young Lives is critical of the approach taken by too many schools to young black people; pupil Q's treatment was just an example of this. Too often schools 'over adult' black children leading to a 'policing' response rather than a supportive one. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-61263246>
- The Skills and Post-16 Act is passed into law, covering the statutory basis for T-levels and apprenticeships, and powers to intervene in colleges. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/skills-bill-becomes-law>
- Setting out the scale of the current cost of living crisis that is likely to last for some years. <https://www.resolutionfoundation.org/comment/the-cost-of-living-crisis-is-going-to-hurt/>
- Schools and MATs are facing a recruitment and retention crisis among their support and admin staff, many of whom can earn more in other sectors such as at supermarkets. <https://www.tes.com/magazine/news/general/support-staff-leave-supermarket-jobs-cost-living-crisis-bites>
- A headteacher sets out why he thinks the Secretary of State is trying to hide the mis-management of the national tutoring programme, and risks replacing this with bullying schools over low uptake. <https://www.tes.com/magazine/analysis/general/ntp-data-plan-shows-bullying-government-prioritises-pr-over-pupils>
- A social media 'study buddy': how working virtually, 'alongside' a fellow student, is helping some with homework / study. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-61305442>
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