

SESLIP Education Network

Update: 8th July 2022



In Today's Update:

1. DfE: Summary of KS2 SATs data, overview of capital funding for post-16.
2. National reports: Online safety toolkit for those working with young people with SEND, TES latest insights report about education across UK, ombudsman report on provision of education for children with medical needs is critical of LAs.
3. Research: Questioning the impact on learning of psychologically researched programmes, relationship between reading and maths learning.
4. News: LAs capacity & move to academies all schools, difficult financial prospects for LAs, rising costs of making school meals, DfE trying to shut parents out of the SEND system? National SATs down to 59% meeting expectations, school problems accessing their SATs results, KS1 data suggestions reduced attainment due to covid, CSTs views on review of MATs' regulation, some background about the new (latest?!) SofS.

1. DfE:

- Headline summary of national; KS2 attainment data.
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1088032/KS2_attainment_National_headlines_2022_FINAL.pdf
- Overview of capital funding available to post-16 institutions to support developments such as new T-levels, extend capacity (linked to increases in numbers of 16 to 18 year olds), and transformation for improvements to FE college buildings. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/fe-capital-funding>

2. National reports:

- TES Insights report second edition for 2022 with a range of articles about the education system across the UK. It includes items about the Schools Bill, teacher recruitment and budget challenges schools are facing. https://www.tes.com/tg-gated-download/150/webform_download/Tes%20Magazine%20Education%20Insights%20Report%20Q2%202022.pdf
- Online safety toolkit for those working with young people with SEND. It is designed for educators can help young make the online world one where they can feel safe, know who to trust, take action where necessary and learn respect. <https://www.childnet.com/resources/star-send-toolkit/>
- Local Government Ombudsman's report about children unable to attend school, due to medical needs, exclusion or 'otherwise' and cases found against LAs provision of 'suitable education'. The report calls for LAs to work with schools and parents about these provisions and to keep the education offered under regular review. <https://www.lgo.org.uk/assets/attach/6271/FR-Out-of-School-F.pdf>

3. Research:

- Paper questioning the extent that cognitive abilities can be changed through interventions (e.g. growth mindset), especially some of the shorter programmes. There is a reminder that societal disadvantage and genetic attributes have a bigger effect on learning and ability.
<https://psyarxiv.com/sxwah/>
- Large study from the UK exploring the relationship between learning in maths and in reading for primary aged children. Study finds that they are related and that progress in reading one year is a predictor of progress in maths the following year. <https://osf.io/v8h29/>

4. News:

- LA leaders spotlight their own lack of capacity to be able to manage the work to achieve the academisation and movement into a strong MAT of all schools that are currently LA maintained.

<https://www.lgcplus.com/services/children/warning-that-lack-of-capacity-could-scupper-2030-academy-target-30-06-2022/>

- SofS for DLUHC warns of tight budgets ahead for local authorities. Although the LGA estimates that LAs are looking at additional £3.6 billion of cost pressures this year, there should be no false hope of Government bail-outs. The Soft is committed to the Fair Funding Review taking place this year and to greater business rate devolution. <https://www.lgcplus.com/finance/gove-dont-have-false-hope-of-extra-funding-28-06-2022/>
- The rising costs of foods is affecting school meals caterers including decision making about whether to source from local producers or not. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-61882652>
- Opinion piece about SEND Green Paper proposals, describing them, from a parents' perspective, as a cynical attempt by the DfE to grab power and limit parents' voices. <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/jul/03/government-children-special-needs-ministers-parents>
- Overview of primary SATs results from England with reductions from 2019 across all aspects except reading, with 74% meeting expected standards. The piece highlights the challenge for the DfE to reach its targets by 2030. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-61980677>
- Many heads report problems with trying to access SATs results via the website that has been outsourced to be run by Capita. This is on top of earlier problems with the marking process and cuts to payments to markers. <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/shambles-heads-wait-hours-for-sats-results-as-capita-portal-crashes/>
- A look at KS1 attainment from data shared by 1,100 school. Analysis shows a drop compared to pre-covid-19 and that those from disadvantaged backgrounds have fallen behind by between 3 and 4 points in maths and reading. These data suggest absences from tests are higher this year. <https://ffteducationdatalab.org.uk/2022/07/attainment-at-key-stage-1-following-the-pandemic/>
- Views from the Confederation of School Trusts about key themes the DfE's review of the regulation of MATs should ensure are addressed. <https://www.tes.com/magazine/analysis/general/5-issues-dfe-needs-get-right-multi-academy-trust-regulation>
- Some background about the new SofS for education, James Cleverly. Let's hope he lasts longer than 35 hours! <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/james-cleverly-12-facts-about-the-latest-education-secretary/>