

REVISED GUIDANCE – ACADEMIES AND FREE SCHOOL SHOULD PUBLISH ONLINE

REVISED GUIDANCE – MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

The revised guidance may also applies to 6th Forms and FE Colleges

Even if not stated as being statutory and not underpinned by legislation, adherence to the Guidance is considered as good practice and thus should be followed

The key changes within the new guidance include the following:-

* It is now recommended that all 16 to 19 academies, FE Colleges or 6th Forms publish details of their admissions arrangements a year before the beginning of the academic year to which they relate in order to help parents and students make informed choices
* Foundation and Voluntary Aided schools, where the Governing Body is its own admission authority, in addition to existing information required, must now explain how applications for admissions will be considered for each relevant age group at the school
* Community and Voluntary Controlled schools, where the Local Authority determines admissions arrangements, parents must be told to contact the LA to find out about admission arrangements
* In addition to the already published information relating to recent KS4 results, the following should also be published (THIS APPLIES TO ACADEMIES, FREE SCHOOLS AND MAINTAINED SCHOOLS):-
* The percentage of pupils who achieved a strong pass (grade 5 or above) in both English and Maths
* The percentage of pupils who achieved the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) in line with policy changes for 2018; the EBacc attainment measure is changing to an average point score (EBacc APS) showing pupils’ points score across the five pillars of EBacc
* It is strongly recommended that academies and free schools also publish their students’ destination data
* ACADEMIES, FREE SCHOOL AND MAINTAINED SCHOOLS are encouraged to publish a link to the individual school’s performance table page (including KS5 if that is applicable)
* ACADEMIES, FREE SCHOOLS AND MAINTAINED SCHOOLS should detail their Religious Education curriculum even if it is taught as part of another subject or subjects or if the subject has a different name
* As part of the agreement for the Primary PE and Sports Premium, primary schools which receive the funding must also publish the following (THIS APPLIES TO ACADEMIES, FREE SCHOOLS AND MAINTAINED SCHOOLS):-
* How many pupils, within the Yr6 cohort, can do the following:-
* Swim competently and proficiently over a distance of 25m
* Use a range of swimming strokes effectively
* Perform a safe self-rescue in different water-based situations
* ACADEMIES, FREE SCHOOLS AND MAINTAINED SCHOOLS must provide, and keep updated, a variety of information regarding pupils with SEND. This information now must include additional requirements relating to the accessibility plans. The revised requirements include publishing details of how these plans are:-
* Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school’s curriculum
* Improving the physical environment of the school for the purpose of increasing the extent to which disabled pupils are able to take advantage of education, facilities and service provided or offered
* Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is readily accessible to pupils who are not disabled
* Every secondary school and college should publish information about its careers programme. This requirement takes effect from September 2018. The specific requirements mean each school should declare the following information for each and every academic year (THIS APPLIES TO ACADEMIES, FREE SCHOOLS AND MAINTAINED SCHOOLS):-
* The name, school/college email address and telephone number of the Careers Leader
* A summary of the careers programme, including details of how pupils, parents, teachers and employers can access information about it
* How the school/college measures and assesses the impact of the careers programme on the pupils
* The date of the school/college’s next review of the information published
* The Academies Financial Handbook explains what must be published relating to trusts and their governance arrangements. This information must be accessible and contain the most recent details of governance arrangements. It is suggested that these requirements should also apply to 6th Form Colleges and FE Colleges
* The information required about each governor has been increased and now includes:
* Full name, date of appointment, term of office, date they stepped down (where applicable) and who appointed them (in accordance with the Governing Body’s Instrument of Government)
* Business and financial interests
* Governance roles in other institutions
* Any material interests arising from relationships between governors or relationships between governors and school staff (including spouses, partners and close relatives)
* Attendance record at governing body and committee meetings over the last academic year