

From: Sandie Leader - EYCC Funding Officer
Sent: 13 September 2021 11:32
Subject: Please Read - Covid-19 Update 13 September 2021

Dear all

Hope the first week of the new term has been good and children have settled back into the settings if they have been off during the summer holidays. Please find below updates for your information.

From Ofsted

Early education update

Earlier this month we held a live webinar hosted by our policy leads discussing the return to routine education inspection framework (EIF) inspections and what the changes to the EYFS means for inspection from September. The webinar covered assessment data and workload, curriculum thinking and the role of assessment in early years. While the webinar was primarily aimed at childminders, the topics covered are useful for all registered early years providers. It is available to view on Ofsted's [YouTube page](#).

Phone scam notification

We have been made aware of an automated scam call that has been received by providers. The call states that Ofsted will be inspecting the provider the next day and to call a number for more information. This is a scam call and not a genuine Ofsted message. Ofsted will not contact providers this way and we urge you not to contact the number if you receive such a message.

Suspicious calls can be raised with your telecom provider but also to the Police, via [Action Fraud](#), which we recommend you do for any scam communications you receive.

1. DfE Updates

- a.** The September 2021 version of the [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) guidance is now in force and replaces previous versions. (relevant for schools and colleges)
- b.** Webinar for all education settings on preparing for the autumn term - If you haven't already seen it, the DfE has recorded a webinar to explain the changes that came into effect from Step 4 of the roadmap. The webinar complements existing guidance and provides an update on the latest contingency planning and Covid-19 management advice. It can be found on the [document sharing platform](#) titled 'Ref RP158 preparing for autumn term'. I did watch it yesterday and it is a useful summary of all of the changes to settings and explains some of the rationale behind some of the decisions.

2. Removal of Children and Young People from the Shielded Patient List

Please find attached the latest NHS update regarding the removal of children and young people from the shielded patient list.

The key points are as follows:

- All children and young people will be removed from the shielded patient list prior to the start of the school term.

- All children and young people will be removed centrally and GP's and consultant paediatrician will not be asked to remove patients from the list.
- There is no longer a shielded patient list (details of patients previously on the list will be noted for easy recall).
- In a few cases children and young people may be required to continue to maintain caution and social distancing measures during short periods of treatment. This advice will be given directly to the children, young people and parents via their clinical specialist.
- No child or young person should be absent from school due to shielding (unless they fall into the above group).

3. Responding to False and Misleading Information about the Covid-19 Vaccination Programme

Over the past month, some schools and headteachers have received letters or emails which feature false or misleading information (misinformation) about the safety, efficacy and purpose of the COVID-19 vaccination program. There have also been reports of leafleting activity outside of school gates.

Please see attached some guidance / advice you may find useful from the NHS which has been sent to schools so thought this may be useful for early years settings and childminders.

Kind regards

Sandie

Please visit our website for the most up to date information from [Essex Early Years Website](#)

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