

**Issue 71:** 26 Nov - 3 Dec 21

# Weekly Education News and Insight

A round up of national education news and DfE insight.



# National Education News

A round up of national education news from various sources

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## School Covid absence up 60% in England in two weeks

The number of pupils absent from school in England because of Covid rose by about 60% in the two weeks to Thursday last week, official figures show.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-59478848>



## More catch-up cash 'needed for 3-month reading gap

Primary pupils still three months behind on reading at end of 2021 summer term despite recovery efforts, says report.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE

<https://www.tes.com/news/more-catch-cash-needed-close-3-month-reading-gap-school-funding>



## Staff absences having 'massive impact' on pupils in England say head teachers

More than half of 1,000 senior teachers surveyed say they have insufficient staff due to absences caused by Covid and illnesses.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2021/dec/03/staff-absences-having-massive-impact-on-pupils-in-england-say-head-teachers>



## Omicron: What schools need to know

We outline the major changes in the government's latest guidance for schools.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE

<https://www.tes.com/news/omicron-what-schools-need-know>



## Flexible working: resources for teachers and leaders

Resources, including guidance and case studies, to help to promote flexible working in schools.

VIEW FURTHER INFORMATION [HERE](#)



## Senior mental health lead training

Find out how to apply for a grant and access DfE quality assured training to help develop a whole school or college approach to mental health and wellbeing.

VIEW FURTHER INFORMATION [HERE](#)



## New levelling up plans to improve student outcomes

Universities to drive up standards in local schools and colleges through activities such as tutoring.

VIEW FURTHER INFORMATION [HERE](#)



## Employability programmes and work placements in higher education

A review of published evidence on employability programmes and work placements in UK higher education.

VIEW FURTHER INFORMATION [HERE](#)



## Experiences of relationships and sex education (RSE)

Evidence from the Longitudinal Study of Young People in England 2 (LSYPE2) on young people's views on RSE, and patterns of sexual risk-taking.

VIEW FURTHER INFORMATION [HERE](#)



## Early years funding benchmarking tool

Information on indicators of local authority (LA) early education services, and ways to compare an individual LA to other LAs.

VIEW FURTHER INFORMATION [HERE](#)





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