

Covid-19 update from the Education and Skills Team

Professional Advocates for Children in Education, Governor Support, NQTs, Early Years, the Virtual School for Looked after Children and In Year Fair Access

It is really hard – we hear you

Although those outside of education may not fully understand, we know that these last couple of weeks have been especially challenging for school and academy leaders, teachers and support staff. On the one hand, you are delighted to see all the children back in school and see this as a sign that things will be normal again one day. But on the other hand, many of our returning children are unsettled. Some need reminders of how to talk to each other and to adults, how to sit still, how to concentrate and how to share. Friendships need to be rebuilt for some whilst old scores are settled for others. Some children loved their time away – their learning flourished under the loving one to one tuition of their parent or carer. These children have mixed feelings about being one in thirty again.

So, it is tough at the moment. We know you will succeed but we also know that it is taking its toll on your own feelings of well-being and resilience. We are still here – we can't do it for you but please let us know if you need help. Our shoulders are damp but remain available for confidential sobbing.

Let us look ahead to the Easter break. We can tell you that the Easter Holiday and Activities programme is now LIVE on the Derby City Council website. There is a link below. The offer is being updated regularly and this week, should soon include a digital offer to Derby Theatre's 'A Little Mermaid'.

[Easter family activities programme | Derby City Council](#)

Please encourage your families to take a look and to book on – there is lots for everyone even if some of the activities are aimed at children who are eligible for free school meals and their families. We need to show that we have involved lots of eligible families so that our summer and Christmas funding will be sustained. Like you, we are hoping for a safe and face to face summer so we need to maximise HAF funding for the warmer weather.

Thank you for your support and for all that you do.

Pauline, Jo and the E&S team

24 Mar 2021

In this issue

Ofqual Chief Regulator talks to Headteachers about GCSEs 2021 and next year | Page 2

GCSEs, A levels etc 2021-consultation closed | Page 2

Reminder for parents and young people when reporting LFT results | Page 2

Contacts:

Pauline Anderson

Service Director Learning, Inclusion & Skills

Tel: 01332 640358

pauline.anderson@derby.gov.uk

Jo Ward

Head of Service Education & Skills

Tel: 07812 301644

jo.ward2@derby.gov.uk

Jayne Hadfield

Governor Support Manager

Tel: 01332 640364

jayne.hadfield@derby.gov.uk

schoolsportal.derby.gov.uk

Ofqual Chief Regulator talks to Headteachers about GCSEs 2021 and next year

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/naht-school-leaders-summit-ofqual-chief-regulator-simon-lebus>

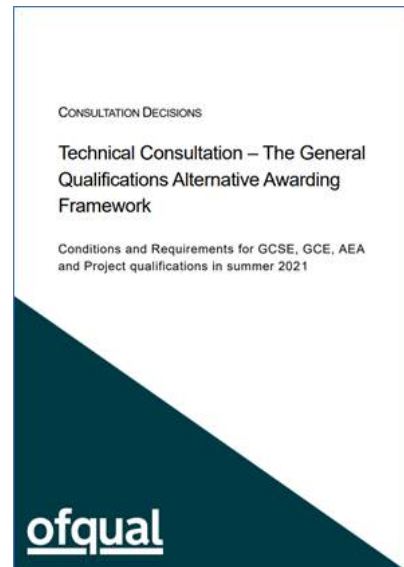
Speech

NAHT School Leaders' Summit, Ofqual Chief Regulator Simon Lebus

Simon Lebus delivered a speech, to the National Association of Head Teachers, on the topic of assessment in 2021.



GCSEs, A levels etc 2021 – consultation closed



“In summary, we have decided to set and publish the GQAA framework largely as set out in the consultation. The small amendments we have made are described in this decisions document, which also describes the changes we have made to the ‘centre guidance’ and ‘objectivity guidance’ following the technical consultation.”

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-the-general-qualifications-alternative-awarding-framework

Reminder for parents and young people when reporting LFT results

Many of our secondary school children have now been given their testing kits to take home. It has become apparent that there may be some confusion regarding how to register the test results so we would be really grateful if you could share this further information with children and parents.

- There is a booklet to provide you with further information on self-testing which should be in the box with your testing kit. If you do not receive this then the information can also be accessed online at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/instructions-for-covid-19-self-test>
- You will need to register your child’s result with both the National Test and Trace system and the school.
- To register with Test and Trace you can do either of the following:
 - Call 119
 - Go to: www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result This can also be accessed by scanning the QR code on your child’s lateral flow test registration card if they have one (not the testing kit)
- If you are registering on line then, once you have accessed the website, enter your child’s details and there is an option to scan either the QR code of the test cassette or enter the number found on it directly into the website. Do not scan the cassette if you are not within the website as it will not be recognised as a test kit.
- Please follow your school’s guidance on how to notify them