

Attendance – Student Policy – Coronavirus Addendum

This addendum was updated on Thursday 4 June 2020 and will be updated regularly in line with Local Authority and National guidance regarding the COVID-19 outbreak within the United Kingdom.

DfE has amended [guidance](#) on using pupil registers and attendance codes, as well as setting school hours and term dates. This guidance is applicable until Tuesday 30 June 2020 and will be reviewed before Monday 1 July 2020.

Schools should resume taking the attendance register when more groups of students begin to return to school and consider using the attendance and absence codes in the guidance when completing the attendance register until further notice. This guidance on resuming the attendance register will be reviewed regularly as the situations develops.

Statutory notices (second notices) and changes to the law

Under the Coronavirus Act 2020, the Secretary of State for Education can issue notices to temporarily remove or relax statutory requirements where this is an appropriate and proportionate action relating to the incidence or transmission of COVID-19. The following second statutory notices have been published which extend the original notices for the period Monday 1 June 2020 to Tuesday 30 June 2020:

- [Disapply](#) school inspections from Monday 1 June 2020 to Tuesday 30 June 2020.
- [Disapply](#) offences for non-attendance in schools.
- [Modify](#) the duty on local authorities to secure or arrange special educational provision and on health commissioning bodies to arrange health provision in accordance with EHC plans, so that they can discharge this by using their 'reasonable endeavours'.
- [Modify](#) school registration requirements.

Changes to the law on education, health and care needs assessments and plans due to coronavirus have also been made. Guidance on temporary changes to special educational needs and disability legislation during COVID-19 has been amended. Amendments include:

- cases in progress on Wednesday 1 May 2020
- annual reviews for those with EHC plans changing phase of education
- actions following a tribunal ruling
- unchanged duties in relation to social care provision in plans

[Annex A](#) is a helpful summary of the amendments to existing regulations.