

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) (/coronavirus)

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## Guidance

# Summary of changes

Updated 1 September 2021

## Contents

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## August 2021 (for September 2021 version)

Paragraphs 275 to 279: Following changes to legislation and statutory guidance, we will apply the same expectations regarding sexual harassment and online abuse set out in paragraphs 275 to 279 to independent learning providers, independent specialist colleges and 16 to 19 academies that have students under 18 as we do to further education and sixth form colleges.

This will apply to inspections with effect from 1 November 2021.

## June 2021 (for September 2021 version)

Paragraphs 10 to 24: clarification that the transitional arrangements we currently apply to take account of COVID-19's impact are extended, with necessary modifications, to cover the transitional period up to March 2022.

Paragraph 63: clarification of the themes used for new provider monitoring visits to new providers delivering 16 to 18 education programmes for young people.

Paragraph 119: clarification that as part of the inspection of safeguarding arrangements, inspectors will meet with learners and this will normally involve meeting with specific groups of learners, in particular single-sex groups, where the provider is a college with children and young people.

Paragraph 132: clarification that inspection activity will include reviewing records about safeguarding, including those relating to sexual harassment and violence and online sexual abuse.

Paragraph 244: clarification that transitional arrangements concerning curriculum review will be reviewed in March 2022.

Paragraph 247: recognition that COVID-19 may have affected the transition to further education of some groups of learners with particular needs.

Paragraphs 268 to 279: safeguarding section updated to take into account the findings of Ofsted's [‘Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges’](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-sexual-abuse-in-schools-and-colleges) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-sexual-abuse-in-schools-and-colleges>) in the context of further education and skills provision. We have added a new section entitled: ‘Sexual harassment and violence and online sexual abuse between learners who are children or young people’ (paragraphs 275 to 279).

## April 2021

Paragraph 10 to 25: a new section on ‘Inspection during the COVID-19 pandemic’ has been included. This covers:

- why changes have been made and how these changes will be reviewed
- short sections on Inspection preparation and planning, curriculum, personal development, remote education, external data, leadership, safeguarding and remote element of inspection (which are reflected as necessary elsewhere in part 1 and in part 2)

Paragraphs 29 to 34 have been updated to reflect the removal of the exemption from inspection of certain outstanding providers and set out the inspection implications.

Paragraphs 35 to 40 and 49 to 71 (various): 35 to 40, 49 to 71 (various): text and footnotes updated to reflect the temporarily extended inspection intervals on account of the suspension of routine inspections during the COVID-19 pandemic from March 2020.

Paragraphs 41 to 48 and 90: additional section to cover the extension of Ofsted apprenticeship inspection to include inspection of apprenticeship training at level 6 and above (degree and non-degree). This resulted in other consequential modifications/clarifications throughout the handbook.

Paragraphs 72 to 79: additional section to cover progress monitoring visits which occurred during the suspension of routine inspection activity.

Paragraphs 160 to 170: 'After the inspection' section updated to reflect new arrangements for publishing reports and handling concerns and complaints from September 2020.

Paragraphs 171 to 202 (various): 'Short inspection' section updated to reflect the fact that short inspections may be carried out to currently outstanding providers, as well as to currently good providers, where they were found to be outstanding from September 2015.

Paragraph 208 clarifies that a provider will be inadequate under a particular judgement if one or more of the inadequate criteria apply, unless the inadequate criteria apply solely due to the impact of COVID-19.



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