

Education lookahead next six months

Higher education looks set to continue dominating headlines over the next 6 months as the Department for Education (DfE) led [review of post-18 education and funding](#) announced by the Prime Minister in February publishes findings in the new year. Leading to this the independent panel, chaired by Philip Augar, supporting the review is expected to report in the autumn. The numerous Parliamentary inquiries into higher education provision and funding are continuing to report, with the highly critical Education Committees', Value for money in higher education inquiry, expected before Summer Recess.

Brexit still looms large over the education and research sector and whilst the UK Government have been supportive of ensuring continued access to EU research and mobility programmes after the UK formally leaves the EU, "[nothing is agreed until everything is agreed.](#)" No other area is this more apparent than immigration policy, a polarising issue during the referendum campaign on UK membership of the European Union and, saving the most divisive issue for the final hour, looks set to be amongst the defining issues determining the withdrawal agreement. The highly anticipated Immigration White Paper has been significantly delayed, justified by Home Office officials as necessary to take into account findings of the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) reports on EU/EEA workers in the UK labour market and the impact of international and EU students in the UK. This has reportedly been brought forward to before the summer recess, giving space for consultation prior to the European Council leaders' summit on the 18 and 19 October, the target date to agree a withdrawal treaty. Thereafter the Immigration Bill is expected to be posted before the new year.

With political and sector bandwidth occupied by the final furlong of Brexit negotiations, and DfE policy focus still trained on higher education, it is unlikely schools policy will feature heavily in the second half the of year. The introduction of the national funding formula since April has caused difficult lines of questioning from opposition benches, and [intervention by Chair of the UK Statistics Authority](#) Sir David Norgrove, despite this Education Secretary Damian Hinds has towed the party line and stuck to the script on schools funding. The run up to local elections in May provided Labour an opportunity to raise the salience of school funding in public discourse with an [Opposition Day Debate](#) and an appearance at Prime Ministers Questions, used to criticise the Government's handling of public services. The better than expected results in local elections potentially emboldened the Government to launch the [Selective Schools Expansion Fund](#), up to £50m in funding for fully or partially selective schools. This has drawn significant criticism from opposition parties and sector organisations, including schools' leaders union NAHT.



Please find below a timeline of key dates in final half of the year

2018

TBC: Education Committee report on the Quality of apprenticeships and skills training inquiry

TBC: Review of Post-18 Education and Funding Independent Report

TBC: Report stage of Home Education (Duty of Local Authorities) Bill [HL] 2017-19

TBC: Education Committee report on the Value for money in higher education inquiry

TBC: Government response to Transforming children and young people's mental health provision inquiry

June 2018

TBC: QS World University Rankings 2019

TBC: European Union (Withdrawal) Bill returns to the Commons for consideration of Lords amendments

TBC: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Cornell University and INSEAD Global Innovation Index 2018 launch



TBC: Department for Education release accommodation in secure children's homes - annual statistics

TBC: Department for Education release participation in education, employment or training, 16-18 year olds statistics

TBC: Department for Education release school applications and offers in England (March-April) statistics

TBC: Department for Education release School Workforce in England statistics

TBC: HESA destinations of Leavers from Higher Education 2016/17 statistics

TBC: TES Schools Awards ceremony - winners announced

13th-14th: Festival of Higher Education, The University of Buckingham

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19th: NAHT School Business Leaders' Conference

21st: Education Committee Fourth Industrial Revolution inquiry written evidence deadline

21st-22nd: The Telegraph Festival of Education

25th-29th: National schools sports week

28th: deadline to submit primary school teacher assessments to Department for Education

July 2018

TBC: Office for Students (OfS) begin to publish Register information

- TBC:** School Teachers' Review Body publish report
- TBC:** Immigration White Paper
- TBC:** HESA Performance indicators statistics
- TBC:** HESA destinations of undergraduate leavers from HE alternative providers in England statistics
- TBC:** British Chamber of Commerce Business and education Summit
- 1st:** DfE Children in need of help and protection consultation closes
- 2nd:** DfE Home Education – Call for Evidence and revised DfE guidance consultation closes
- 2nd:** Jisc and CNI leaders conference 2018, University of Oxford
- 3rd – 5th:** AdvanceHE Teaching and Learning Conference, Birmingham
- 3rd:** Wonkhe event– Proceed with caution: Fees funding and the future of higher education, Royal College of Physicians
- 9th:** Amanda Spielman speech at Policy Exchange, British values and the role of education
- 12th:** UCAS release statistical analysis of June applicants
- 24th:** Parliamentary rises for summer recess
- 27th:** Summer school terms ends

August 2018

- TBC:** Education Policy Institute annual report on education in England
- 16th:** A Level exam results
- 16th:** Universities begin to publish intake numbers 2018/19
- 22nd:** RCN School Nurses Conference, London
- 23rd:** GCSE exams results
- 23rd:** Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) - ONS statistics
- 27th:** CASE Europe Annual Conference, Edinburgh

September 2018

- TBC:** Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) reports on EU/EEA workers in the UK labour market and the impact of international and EU students in the UK
- TBC:** Universities UK Annual Conference

TBC: British Educational Research Association (BERA) Conference

4th-6th: NET2018 Conference, networking in healthcare education, Cambridge

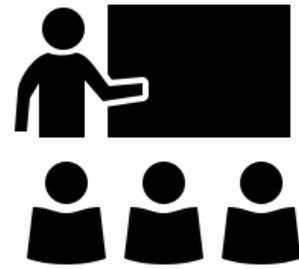
5th: Parliament returns from Recess

14th: Parliament rises for Conference Recess

15th - 18th: Lib Dem Conference

23rd – 26th: Labour Party Conference

30th – 3rd Oct: Conservative Conference



October 2018

TBC: SNP Conference

TBC: UCAS release Interim applications received for 2019 entry

30th Sept – 3rd Oct: Conservative Conference

9th: Parliament returns from Conference recess

13th – 14th: Welsh Lib Dem Conference

18th – 19th: European Council leaders' summit – target date to agree a withdrawal treaty. Accompanied by transition deal a separate "political declaration"

26th: Second reading Representation of the People (Young People's Enfranchisement and Education) Bill 2017-19

Winter 2018

1st Nov: Education Policy Institute 2018 Annual Lecture