



# Pearson

## Policy Watch

Your guide to what's happening in the world of education



### The week in a nutshell

In a week which has seen significant industrial action across the rail network, the **NEU** issued a ballot threat for a strike later in the year. Education Secretary **Nadhim Zahawi** says such a strike in the wake of the disruption to schooling caused by the coronavirus pandemic would be “unforgivable”. Research published this week by **National Foundation for Education Research** investigates the impact of pay and conditions, as well as other government initiatives, on attracting new talent into the profession. It concludes that an adequate supply of teacher to 2025 is “unlikely”.

This week also saw two reports looking at net zero and the skills needs it is placing on our economy. **The Resolution Foundation** highlights how it is a case of adaptation rather than survival for sectors (in contrast to the deindustrialisation of the '80s). **World Skills** published research showing employers understanding of the need to adapt but that they are struggling to obtain the correct skills mix. World Skills also outlines the work it is doing with government to support this important agenda.

The **Schools Bill** continued to be debated by Peers in the House of Lords, with the government inserting further powers relating to those individuals found guilty of operating illegal schools.

### Top stories

#### **NFER research: Teacher pay proposals unlikely to solve STEM supply problem**

- The National Foundation for Education Research (NFER) has [published new research](#), commissioned by the Gatsby Foundation, which reveals that DfE proposals on teacher pay, combined with other financial incentives such as the ‘levelling up premium’, are unlikely to result in an adequate supply of teachers in England in 2022-2025, particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).
- The study suggests the Initial Teacher Training (ITT) recruitment target for maths may be met over the next four years – but is unlikely to be met in physics, chemistry, computing and across all three science subjects combined.

The report recommends the STRB consider making the case for a teacher pay increase of more than 3.9 per cent overall in 2022/23, to maintain teacher pay competitiveness and support teacher supply.

#### **SMC: State of the Nation 2022 - A fresh approach to social mobility**

- The Social Mobility Commission has [published its annual report and new index](#), which will monitor actual mobility by comparing someone’s circumstances at birth, with their outcomes in their thirties and fifties.
- The Commission say this new approach will provide a “richer, systematic and more consistent view of how people are progressing at school, at work and financially compared with their parents and their peers.” In the new index, data will be compared annually – and at longer intervals of 5 or 10 years – to show trends in social mobility, including by place and protected characteristics such as sex, ethnicity and disability.

- In its annual [State of the Nation report](#), they show the findings from the first phase and show a mixed picture with both cause for celebration and areas of concern. Importantly, it highlights that the picture for social mobility is not as negative as thought, especially when mobility is reviewed over the long term. Almost every gap in intermediate outcomes between young people from higher and lower socio-economic backgrounds has narrowed in the past decade, for example. There are still disparities, but there has been progress across the board.

### WorldSkills UK: Skills for a net-zero economy report

- WorldSkills UK has [published a new report](#) on green skills for a net-zero economy, in collaboration with the Learning & Work Institute, providing insights from employers and young people.
- Research found that most employers surveyed currently require green skills or expect to in the future, but struggle to hire suitable candidates. Green skills gaps are having a negative impact on employers' ability to meet their net zero targets and their ability to manage rising energy costs.
- Young people and employers agree that the skills for net-zero will be important for future careers, but employers are unsure if the education system is equipping young people with them. Corporate sustainability and social responsibility strategies are vital in attracting young people into employment.

### Resolution Foundation: Jobs and Net Zero transition

- The Resolution Foundation has [published a new briefing note](#) on the impact of the transition to Net Zero on the UK labour market, exploring the types of 'green' and 'brown' jobs that are most likely to experience change, as well as analysing core differences in the workers that are employed in these jobs, and in the type of tasks that they typically perform.
- Unlike the 1980s process of deindustrialisation, net zero does not generally imply closing down whole sectors in the UK (other than phasing out fossil fuel extraction entirely). Instead, it means adopting new technologies and processes within sectors and across systems, creating some new roles and changing the way that certain jobs are done.

### Pearson news

**Nurses can now take PTE to work in the United States** The Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the U.S Department of Health and Human Services, has recently added PTE to its list of approved English Language testing services for foreign health care workers. [Find out more here](#)



### Pearson tweets of the week



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## Other news

### Parliamentary

- Westminster Hall: SEND: Carshalton and Wallington
- Westminster Hall: Homes for Ukraine: Child Refugees
- Lords: Special Educational Needs
- Lords: Schools Bill [HL] – committee stage (4<sup>th</sup> day)
- Lords: Schools Bill [HL] – committee stage (4<sup>th</sup> day) (part 2)
- Lords: British Baccalaureate
- Lords: Social Care: Children
- Lords: Schools Bill [HL] – committee stage (5<sup>th</sup> day)
- Lords: Disabled Children: Support Services

### Regulatory and funding bodies

- ESFA: Recovery premium funding: June allocations
- ESFA Update: 22 June 2022
- ESFA: Pupil premium: allocations and conditions of grant 2022 to 2023 (updated)
- QAA: Find out about Higher Education in Apprenticeships through our updated Characteristics Statement

### Schools

- High needs budgets: effective management in local authorities (Research)
- Helping Ukrainian students in schools and colleges (Guidance)
- Secondary and primary school applications and offers: 2022
- Primary accountability measures: measures for the 2021 to 2022 academic year (updated)
- Secondary accountability measures: update for 2021 to 2022 performance measures (updated)
- NFER: DfE teacher pay proposals unlikely to solve teacher supply problems in STEM subjects
- The Children's Commissioner publishes Voices of England's Missing Children report

### Further Education & Skills

- Higher-level learners in England: 2020 to 2021
- 16 to 18 accountability measures: update for 2021 to 2022 performance measures (updated)
- Education Sector Advisory Group minutes 26 April 2022
- Resolution Foundation: Net zero jobs
- SMC: State of the Nation 2022: A fresh approach to social mobility
- WorldSkills UK: Skills for a net-zero economy: Insights from employers and young people

### Higher Education

- Gaps in student mental health services to be tackled
- SLC: Advanced Learner Loans paid in England, AY 2021/22, Aug to Apr
- HEPI: You can't say that! What students really think of free speech on campus
- UCU: University & college staff do two days unpaid work every week

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## Wales

- [Universal Free School Meals Roll-out to Commence in September](#)
- [Progress report on strengthening teaching of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities' histories and experiences published](#)
- [Annual report on implementation of the recommendations from the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities, Contributions and Cynefin in the New Curriculum Working Group report](#)
- [Written Statement: Update on progress in taking forward the recommendations from the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities, Contributions and Cynefin in the New Curriculum Working Group Report](#)

## Northern Ireland

- [Ministers launch new approach to 14-19 education and training](#)
- [McIlveen announces Special Educational Needs provision in mainstream schools](#)
- [McIlveen outlines qualification arrangements for next academic year](#)
- [Landscape Review of the Education Authority published](#)

## Consultation Watch

### New consultations

- [School registers and national threshold for legal intervention](#) Closes: 29 July 2022
- [Access to schools for education and training providers](#) Closes: 25 July 2022

### Closing consultations

- [Office for Students: Consultation on the suitability of Jisc as the designated data body](#) Closes: 27 June 2022

### Ongoing consultations

- [Higher Education Statistics Agency: de-designation](#) Closes: 10 July 2022
- [Scotland: Home education guidance](#) Closes 13 July 2022
- [Scottish Government: Education - National Improvement Framework - A consultation on enhanced data collection for improvement](#) Closes: 18 July 2022
- [Appropriate body reform and induction assessment](#) Closes: 21 July 2022
- [Reviews of education, health and care \(EHC\) plans: proposed timescales](#) Closes: 12 August 2022
- [Implementing the direct national funding formula](#) Closes: 9 September 2022
- [Ofsted/CQC: A new approach to area SEND inspections](#) Closes: 11 September 2022
- [Northern Ireland: Consultation on functions currently delivered by the General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland \(GTCNI\)](#) Closes: 30 September 2022
- [Scottish Government: School uniforms in Scotland](#) Closes: 14 October 2022

## What's happening in Parliament next week

### Monday 20 June

#### *Westminster Hall*

- e-petition 597715, relating to the school week (Catherine McKinnell, Lab, Newcastle upon Tyne North)

#### *Lords Committees*

- Children and Families Act 2014 Committee

#### *All-Party Parliamentary Groups*

- APPG for Schools Exclusions and Alternative Provision

### Tuesday 21 June

#### *Public Bill Committees*

- Online Safety Bill

#### *Commons Committees*

- Education Committee: Children's Services and the murders of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson
- Women and Equalities: Attitudes towards women and girls in educational settings

#### *House of Lords*

- Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill – second reading

#### *All-Party Parliamentary Groups*

- APPG on Adult Education
- APPG on a Fit and Healthy Childhood

### Wednesday 22 June

#### *Westminster Hall*

- Non-disclosure agreements and alleged cases of sexual violence, bullying and harassment in universities (Layla Moran, Lib Dem, Oxford West and Abingdon)

#### *Commons Committees*

- Women and Equalities Committee: Pornography and its impact on violence against women and girls

#### *House of Lords*

- Lord Harries of Pentregarth (Crossbench) to ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the teaching of citizenship education in schools.

#### *All-Party Parliamentary Groups*

- APPG on Childcare and Early Education

### Thursday 23 June

#### *Public Bill Committees:*

- Online Safety Bill

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