



ALL Briefing No. 33

Date: April 2022

Theme: Schools White Paper 2022

Background: The Government published its White Paper ‘Opportunity for all Strong schools with great teachers for your child’ in late March 2022.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/opportunity-for-all-strong-schools-with-great-teachers-for-your-child>

This makes little mention of Languages (see 68 below) but does put forward the latest rhetoric from the new Secretary of State.

Key messages: The chapter heading sets the tone for the document which seems to be written with families as its readership:

- ✓ An excellent teacher for every child
- ✓ Delivering high standards of curriculum, behaviour and attendance
- ✓ Targeted support for every child who needs it
- ✓ A stronger and fairer school system

Graphics are used to illustrate each chapter, and the document identifies for each chapter: **Progress so far** and **Challenges remaining** in some detail.

Sample salient quotations:

(Chapter 2 Summary)

From early years onwards, all children will be taught a broad, ambitious, knowledge rich curriculum and have access to high-quality extra-curricular provision.

- All children will be taught in calm, orderly, safe and supportive schools with high levels of attendance.

We will deliver:

- A new arms-length curriculum body that works with teachers across the country to co-create free, optional, adaptable digital curriculum resources, supporting schools to deliver rigorous, high-quality curricula.
- A richer, longer average school week which makes the most effective use of time in school and ensures children enjoy a rounded education.
- Better behaviour and higher attendance through more effective use of data, including an annual behaviour survey and a national data system, to drive up

attendance and make it easier for agencies to protect vulnerable children.

We will ... introduce a minimum expectation on the length of the school week of 32.5 hours (the current average) for all mainstream state-funded schools

66 ... we will make no changes to the National Curriculum for the remainder of the Parliament.

68 ... We remain committed to improving uptake of the Ebacc subjects, especially amongst the most disadvantaged children, and will continue to drive improvements in access to high-quality language teaching to realise this. From 2023, we will establish a network of modern foreign language hubs and introduce more effective continuous professional development courses for language teachers in both primary and secondary schools.

103... From 2024, we will have cultivated a vibrant tutoring market ...

(Chapter 4 Summary)

By 2030, all children will benefit from being taught in a family of schools, with their school in a strong multi academy trust or with plans to join or form one

- All schools will provide a high quality and inclusive education within the resilient structure of a strong trust, sharing expertise, resources and support to help teachers and leaders deliver better outcomes for children.

References:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/opportunity-for-all-strong-schools-with-great-teachers-for-your-child>

Points for reflection / action:

This Briefing is largely for updating of members.

Some teachers may wish to consider the quotations from para 68 or 103, or the nature of an 'arms-length curriculum body'.

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