

---

**Ed Humpherson, Director General for Regulation**

Neil McIvor  
Chief Data Officer and Chief Statistician  
Department for Education

June 2020

Dear Neil,

Following conversations with your team, I am happy to confirm the exemption from the Code of Practice for Statistics' standard publication time of 9.30am to permit a later release time of noon each Tuesday for attendance in education and early years settings during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic statistics.

We welcome your decision to start publishing these statistics as official statistics. This demonstrates a clear commitment to ensure that the statistics adhere to the principles and practices of the Code.

I am copying this to David Simpson, acting Deputy Head of Profession for Statistics.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson  
Director General for Regulation