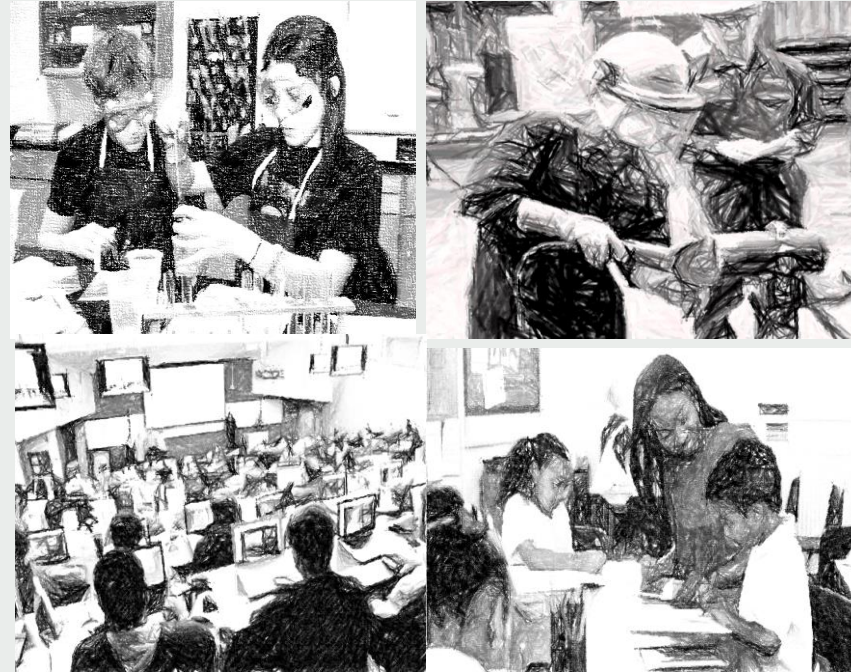# Supporting the futures of children's and young people's education and skills following COVID-19

The focus and purpose of the survey

This survey focused on:

- the educational experiences of leaders, teachers, support staff, pupils, and learners during the COVID-19 lockdown
- work going on in the six London boroughs
- the latest research about remote learning.

Its purpose was to:

- learn from these educational experiences during the COVID-19 lockdown for the future.

Looking to the future

The survey, in June 2020, comprised interviews and completed questionnaires from:

- 18 primary schools
- 32 providers comprising secondary schools; colleges; independent learning providers
- 112 learners from Years 12,13
- Six London boroughs.

The following conclusions are learning points for the future based on the findings from the full report.

What is an authentic online curriculum?

- Teachers and leaders use the right applications for their curriculum intent and implementation.

- Teachers are skilled instructional designers and broadcasters.

- A digital curriculum that links well with and complements face-to-face teaching.

- Online curriculum activities that are planned and timetabled appropriately to achieve gains in knowledge and skills.

- A robust way of checking that knowledge and skills are remembered and applied.

- A curriculum that recognises the enthusiasm that many learners had for some form of online learning.

Online Curriculum

What is an authentic online curriculum?

- A curriculum that breaks down the barriers that many pupils and learners have to learning online.

- Training that empowers teachers, parents, children and young people to feel confident in technology and to be part of a digital community.

- Teaching that uses the strengths and recognises the limitations of online technology.

- Online activities with interaction and independent working that enable children and young people to get the most out of tasks.

- A focus on the quality of content and not overkill in the length and quantity of online lessons.

Online Curriculum

A recovery curriculum

- For younger children there should be an emphasis on reading and mathematics.

- For young people there should be an emphasis on the building blocks for their higher-level courses.

- For all children and young people, assessing what they remember.

- Focus on checking learners' practical skills.

- The re-establishment of equality; inclusion; culture; routine and discipline; front and centre in each setting.

Emotional well-being and safety

- Evaluate the stresses and strains of online learning with teachers, learners and pupils.

- Share the challenges and methods for keeping young people and children safe online.

- Share practice on the online systems and methods that had a positive impact on children's and young people's well-being.

Next steps for pupils and learners

- Online or live transition programmes and days to help pupils and learners orientate themselves to their new settings.

- Online or live transition projects for Year 6 so they have an insight into what is ahead.

- Support for those in Year 13 whose circumstances may have changed or who are not sure of their next steps.

- Reassurance and direction for those Year 13 learners on their futures following their results.

- Check apprentices to find out whether they are affected by the economy in their sector.

Digital equality

- How can society reduce the growing digital divide?

- Is the digital divide exacerbating the attainment gaps between disadvantaged children and young people and their more affluent peers?

- How well did schemes to support disadvantaged communities work and what can be learned for the future?

Further work ahead

- Research that seeks to find out what can motivate more disadvantaged children, young people and families to learn online.

- Investigating what works and what does not for different groups of pupils and learners in live and recorded online lessons.

- Find out what concepts learners and pupils found difficult to grasp online and why.

- Family learning that teaches the functionality, usefulness and fun in online learning.

The full report

- The full report is available at the following site(s):