

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



---

## Expert Panel Invites GBA to Give Evidence

---

The GBA has received an invitation from the Expert Panel on educational underachievement to provide evidence. The panel was announced by the Education Minister during summer 2020 (find out more [here](#)). The GBA will be providing written evidence to the panel in advance of our meeting on the **18th November 2020**.

Our educational underachievement subgroup, Chaired by Executive member Dermot Mullan, is currently analysing literature and feedback from a sample of member schools and other stakeholders.



If you would like to submit any feedback regarding educational underachievement and associated socio-economic factors, please [get in touch](#). We are particularly interested about your experience of any programmes/initiatives or strategies that have helped to improve underachievement.

In addition to their face-to-face sessions, the Expert Panel has also launched an NI wide survey. This opened on Monday the 14th September and will close at midnight on **Friday 16th October**. Schools, families, parents, children and young people and anyone with an interest in educational underachievement and social disadvantage can contribute to the Panel's work

You can access the survey using this [link](#).

---

## Northern Ireland Assembly Updates

---

The Education Committee recently met on 16th of September, receiving a briefing from CCEA officials on curriculum and assessment for 2021. Tomorrow, the Committee will meet in private session to review the final findings from an online survey regarding post-primary transfer. The Department of Education and Education Authority will also be providing a briefing on post-primary transfer arrangements. You can access previous Committee sessions

using this [link](#). The open sessions are also broadcast live on the [NI Assembly website](#).

Also at the Assembly, MLAs posed questions to the Education Minister regarding matters such as academic selection, COVID-19 funding and AS levels . You access the session and questions [here](#).

---

## Education Restart

---

Please [contact us](#) with any COVID-19 related issues or feedback. We are in regular contact with various stakeholders and will voice any concerns regarding the return to school on your behalf.



## Area Planning Update

---

The majority of Area Planning activity was put on hold on 23rd March 2020. The Area Planning Working Group have now met to discuss plans going forward. We have also received notification from the Department of Education that an Area Planning Steering Group meeting is proposed for October 2020. The first item of business will be to provide feedback on the SIB review.

For Development Proposals, published prior to the 26th March, the date for

submission of consultation responses has been extended. This is to ensure a full 2 month period is available to anyone wishing to make a response to a published proposal. Details can be found [here](#).

---

## Teaching & Non-Teaching Vacancies

---

GBA provides a free advertising service for our Member Schools. Job vacancies are posted on our website and Twitter page. There is also a link to our job listings on the Education Authority website in the job opportunities section.

If you would like us to host a vacancy for your school, please [contact us](#), you can use this [template](#) to provide us with the necessary information about the post(s). Please allow **one working day** for posts to be uploaded.



---

## Email Subscription - Please Share

---

If any of your Governors would like to receive our newsletter, please [send us their email address](#). We would also be grateful if you could circulate the monthly updates to your Governors.

If you wish to unsubscribe to these emails, please [let us know](#).

*Copyright © Governing Bodies Association (NI) All rights reserved.*