



Home Office

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Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP
Chair, Home Affairs Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

22 October 2020

Dear Yvette,

In September, I wrote to you about taking the first major step towards introducing a single, global immigration system, when we laid Immigration Rules for the new points-based Student and Child Student routes.

Today we took the next step, when the Home Secretary laid Immigration Rules which incorporate further changes to continue implementation of the new points-based immigration system.

Subject to the enactment of the Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill, at the end of the Transition Period on 31 December we will end free movement and replace it with a new points-based immigration system for those of all nationalities (except Irish nationals) who want to come to work and study in the UK. The new system will be fairer, firmer and skills-led. It will align the treatment of EU and non-EU nationals and deliver for the whole of the United Kingdom. It will be open to applicants on most routes from 1 December 2020.

The Rules laid today provide the foundation for the new immigration system and build upon the measures already outlined in the Policy Statements published by the Government in February and July, available on GOV.uk here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-points-based-immigration-system-further-details>.

In addition, the Rules create a settlement route for [British Nationals \(Overseas\)](#) from Hong Kong. The route is for people in Hong Kong who registered for this status prior to the handover to China in July 1997, and their dependents.

The Rules also extend the Afghan Interpreter ex-gratia scheme.

These Rules represent a further step in our commitment to simplify the Immigration Rules and implement the recommendations of the Law Commission to ensure we provide greater clarity to migrants, employers and all other users.

More information can be found in the Written Ministerial Statement and in the full version of the Immigration Rules at the following links:

- <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/#written-statements>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-rules-statement-of-changes#statement-of-changes-to-the-immigration-rules:-2020>

I look forward to discussing this further with you in the upcoming evidence session on 4 November.

With my very best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Foster', followed by a period.

Kevin Foster MP
Minister for Future Borders and Immigration