



Education Committee

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

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From Robert Halfon MP, Chair

Amanda Spielman
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector
Ofsted
Clive House
70 Petty France
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Learning during Covid and 2021

Dear Amanda,

Following the Government's announcement this morning on exams and Ofqual's decision on how qualifications will be graded next summer, my Committee is taking evidence on Tuesday 8 December from Ofqual's Chief Regulator and the Minister for School Standards on the arrangement for exams in summer 2021.

The Secretary of State's Statement indicated that Ofsted's return to inspection in 2021 would happen in phases, with no graded inspections for schools before the summer. You have acknowledged in your recent annual report that while you do not yet have reliable evidence on 'learning loss' from the pandemic, it was likely to have been significant and would lead to widening attainment gaps. We also know from many surveys that there has been significant variation in online provision and children's ability to participate in remote learning.

To inform our evidence session on Tuesday, it would be helpful if you could write to us ahead of our session to set out all the work and specific measures that Ofsted is taking to support and ensure children are learning at this time and what you are doing to shore up the standard of remote learning provision and safeguarding across schools, whilst many pupils must remain at home.

It would be appreciated if you could respond by close of play on Monday 7 December.

Yours,

Robert Halfon MP
Chair of the Education Committee