



**GOVERNORS
FOR SCHOOLS**

Exploring the Schools Bill 2022 - what does it mean for governance?

16th June 2022



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www.bettermgovernor.co.uk

Aims of this session:



to explore the 2022 Schools Bill and its passage through parliament;

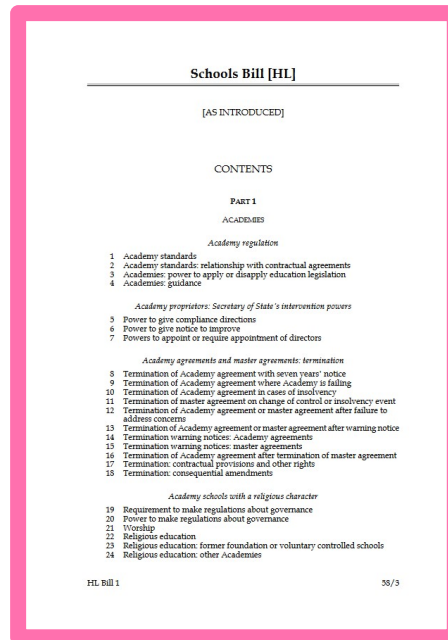


to reflect on the five *parts* of the bill, their implications for schools and school governance;



to focus on some of the attention that the bill has so far attracted and clarify next steps.

The Schools Bill:



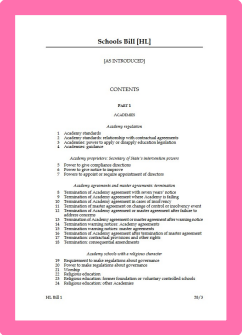
The Schools Bill in parliament:



White Paper

28th March

Draft Bill first reading House of Lords



11th May

House of Lords Committee Stage. Next meeting 20th June

16th June



The Schools Bill

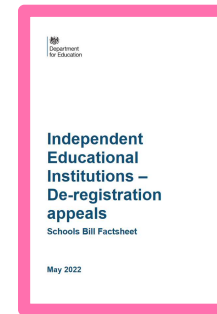
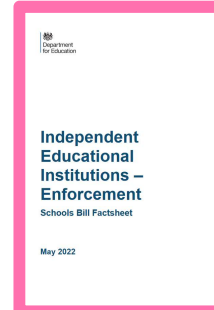
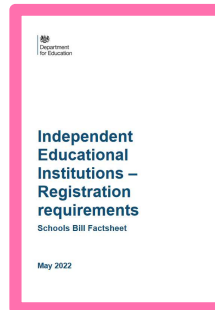
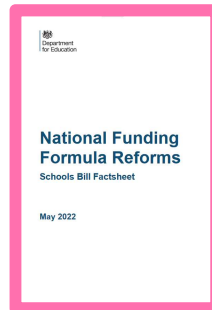
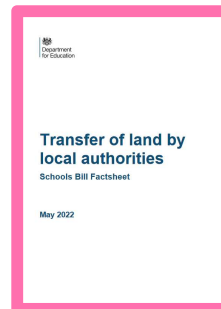
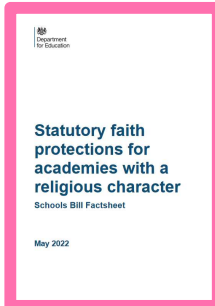
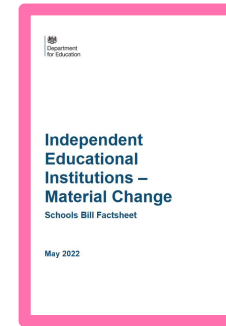
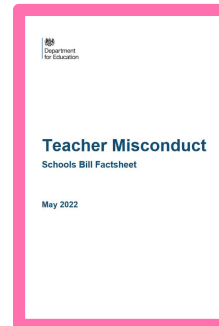
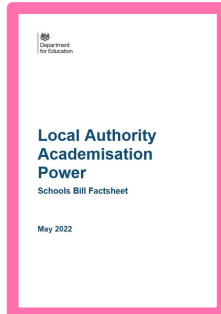
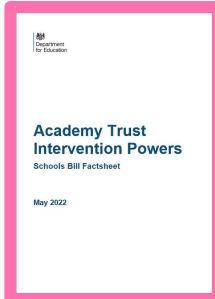
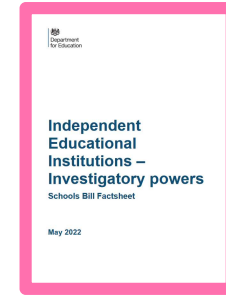
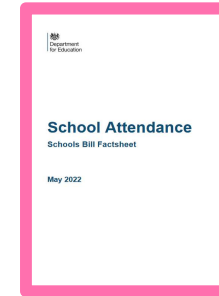
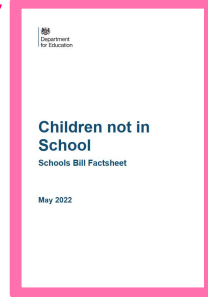
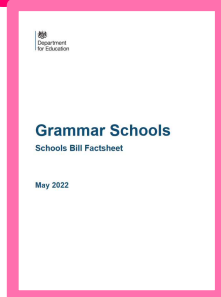
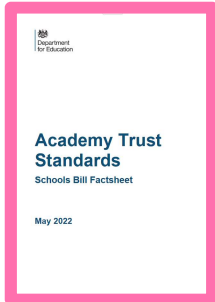


Long Title

A Bill To Make provision for the regulation of Academies; about school and local education funding; about the attendance of children at school; about the regulation of independent educational institutions; about teacher misconduct; and for connected purposes



Schools Bill supporting documents:



A Five-Part Bill

- Academies
- School and Local Education Funding England
- School Attendance
- Independent Educational Institutions
- Miscellaneous (Teacher Misconduct)

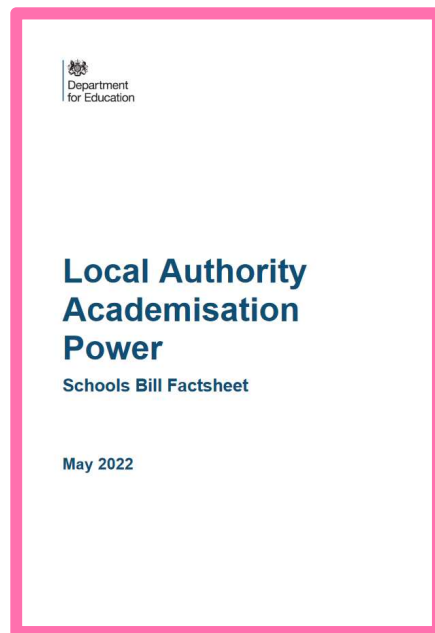
Part 1: Academies – the Bill provisions:

- Introduction academy standards;
- Reduction in precedence of existing funding agreements;
- New Powers to Secretary of State (inc. Governance)
- Trust Boards *must* have regard to legislation
- Compliance Directions (Secretary of State)
- Notice to Improve (replacing Financial Notice to Improve)
- Termination provisions/interventions
- R.E & Collective Worship

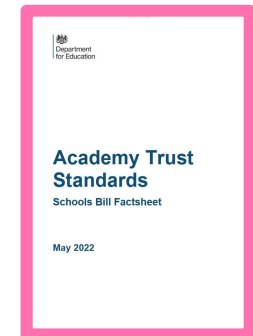
Part 1: Academies – the Bill provisions:

and:

- Local Authority power to apply for an academy order (via new Section 3A of 2010 Academies Act)



Academy Trust Standards:



Supersede Funding Agreement provision

- Precise standards are not included in the bill;
- Secretary of state will have power to create;
- Indicative areas are:
 - Quality of Education & Curriculum provision;
 - Welfare, Health & Safety and attendance;
 - Spiritual, moral, social & cultural development;
 - Careers guidance
 - Length of school day, term etc
 - Assessment
 - Complaints

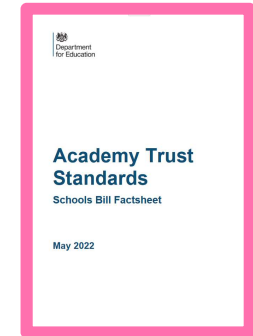
and.....

Academy Trust Standards

(2):

More indicative areas are:

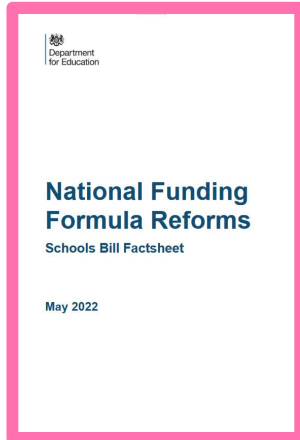
- whistleblowing;
- Premises, land, accommodation;
- Quality of leadership & management;
- Governance;
- Suitability of proprietors and staff
- Staff appointments
- Staff remuneration
- Admissions
- Publication of info.
- Finance
- Collaboration



Implications of Academy Trust Standards:

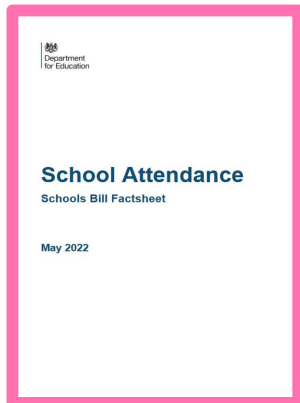
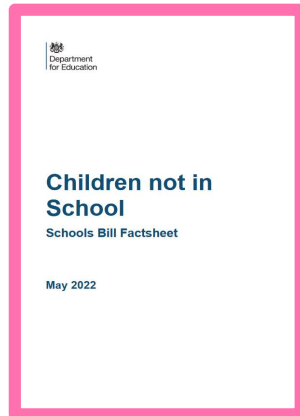
- *tightening* of academy autonomy;
- extensive additional powers to the Secretary of State;
- academies and maintained schools regulatory frameworks closer than ever;
- *Alignment* appears to be a key driver;

Part 2 – Schools and Local Education Funding



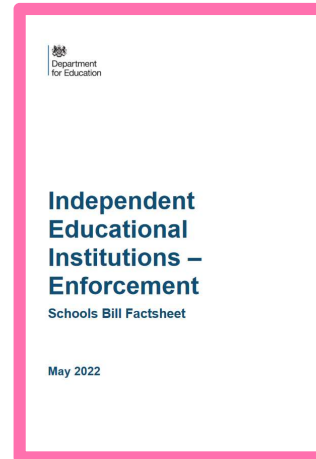
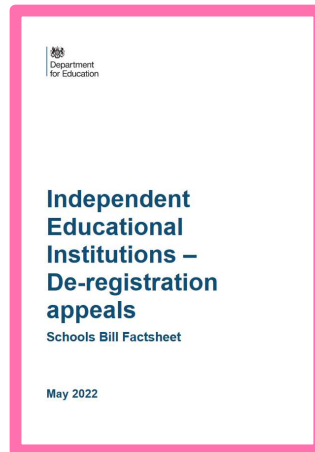
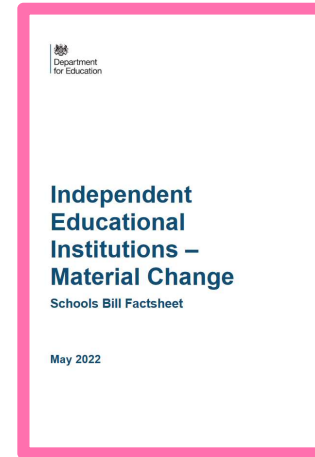
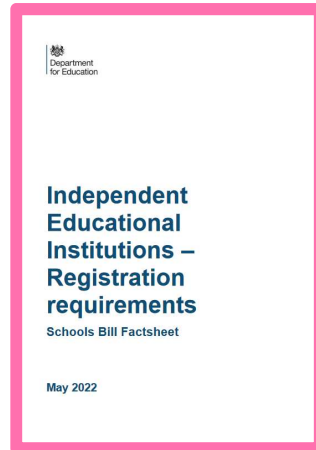
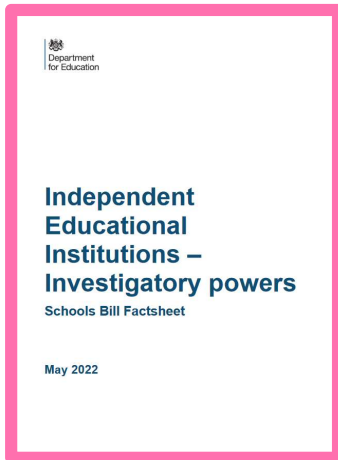
- National Funding Formula (England only)
- Maintained schools funding under the formula, via LA
- Local determination and Sec. of State powers unspecified in Bill.
- School Forum role continues!

Part 3 – School Attendance etc.

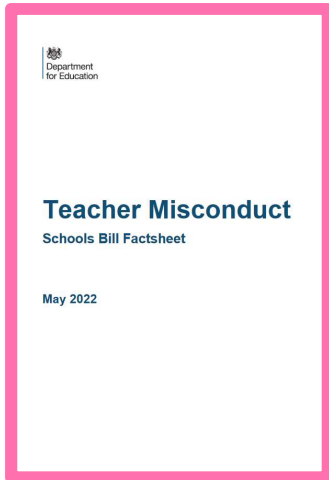


- Education Act 1996 amended with new duty to register children not in school;
- New *Preliminary notice for school attendance order*
- Notice to attend (EHCP)
- General reiteration and allowing future Sec of State regulations on attendance in school

Part 4 – Independent Education Institutions

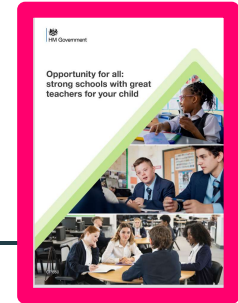


Part 5 – Teacher Regulation (and miscellany)



- Teacher misconduct is the only area *currently* in this section
- The Bill proposes to extend current regulation to include:
 - independent educational institution in England,
 - further education providers (England)
 - special post-16 institution in England
 - independent training provider
 - online education provider

A stronger, fairer school system:



By 2030, all children will benefit from being taught in a family of schools, with their school in a strong multi academy trust or with plans to join or form one

- Two x *Requires Improvement* judgements = academisation;
- Investment in 55 Education Investment Areas;
- 24 Priority Education Investment Areas

Not in Schools



Implications for Governance

- 2030 is still a long way off in education and politics!
- Has the board/will the board discuss a long term plan including structure?
- The debate continues.....Local Government Association research, NAHT opposition, House of Lords Opposition from former Secretary of State, Lord Baker.

Any Questions?



References:

- The White Paper
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/opportunity-for-all-strong-schools-with-great-teachers-for-your-child>
- The Schools Bill
<https://bills.parliament.uk/publications/46433/documents/1770>
- Policy Statements
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-bill-policy-statements>

Thank you