

# Q&A Document

# Title: Research to understand progress during the 2020/21 academic year

**Project reference: DFERPPU 20-21/016**

**Deadline for Questions: 23:59 Monday 27th July 2020**

**Deadline for Expressions of Interest: 23:59 Wednesday 29th July 2020 - \*extended, please see below**

**Questions and Answers:**

***Is there any way you can indicate whether you are wanting information on every year group or will it be specific year groups?***

DfE (the Department) is interested in understanding the effects on educational development across a range of school years and cohorts as we anticipate impacts will not have been uniform. The Department is particularly interested in the impacts at secondary phase, but would welcome EOIs from assessment providers with assessment data from either primary, secondary or both phases, in order to understand what is feasible. Ideally, the Department would like to understand the impact of lost education across as many cohorts as possible, but recognises that this may be less feasible or burdensome, and so consequently believes using a selection of year groups may be a favourable approach. At any ITT stage, the department would welcome views on which year groups would be most appropriate to focus on, given the particularities of, and possible limitations of, the data

***Do you have a contract value in mind, or do we provide an estimated value?***

DfE (the Department) has not included a contract value for this research within the Expression of Interest. The Department anticipates that there may be several ways to answer the key research questions but does not expect Expressions of Interest to contain a specification or methodology for research. As a result, the Department does not expect Expressions of Interest to include an estimated contract value. The inclusion of any estimates of contract value does not fall under any of the assessment criteria stated, and therefore will not influence the outcomes of this exercise. Further details of a final budget for this research will be shared with organisations invited to tender.

***Would you please let me know the updated timelines for the submission of the ITT?\****

Please see the below updated timelines associated with this Expression of Interest. Please note that these updated timelines supersede those given within the EOI document and Q&A log.

* Deadline for EOIs – 23.59 Monday 3rd August 2020
* Review EOIs – Tuesday 4th August 2020
* Invitations to Tender (ITT) issued – Tuesday 4th August 2020
* Deadline for ITT – 12:00 Monday 17th August 2020

***Could you confirm that there haven’t been any fundamental changes to your needs which necessitate the extended deadline?***

DfE (the Department) can confirm that the only changes in effect are those to the section titled “Timing”. Please see the above question and answer to see the full changes which have been in effect since Friday 31st July 2020.  The Department can confirm that there have been no other changes to this Expression of Interest and that there are no fundamental changes to the Department’s needs at this time.