THE ROADMAP TO RESTART

FULL PROPOSAL

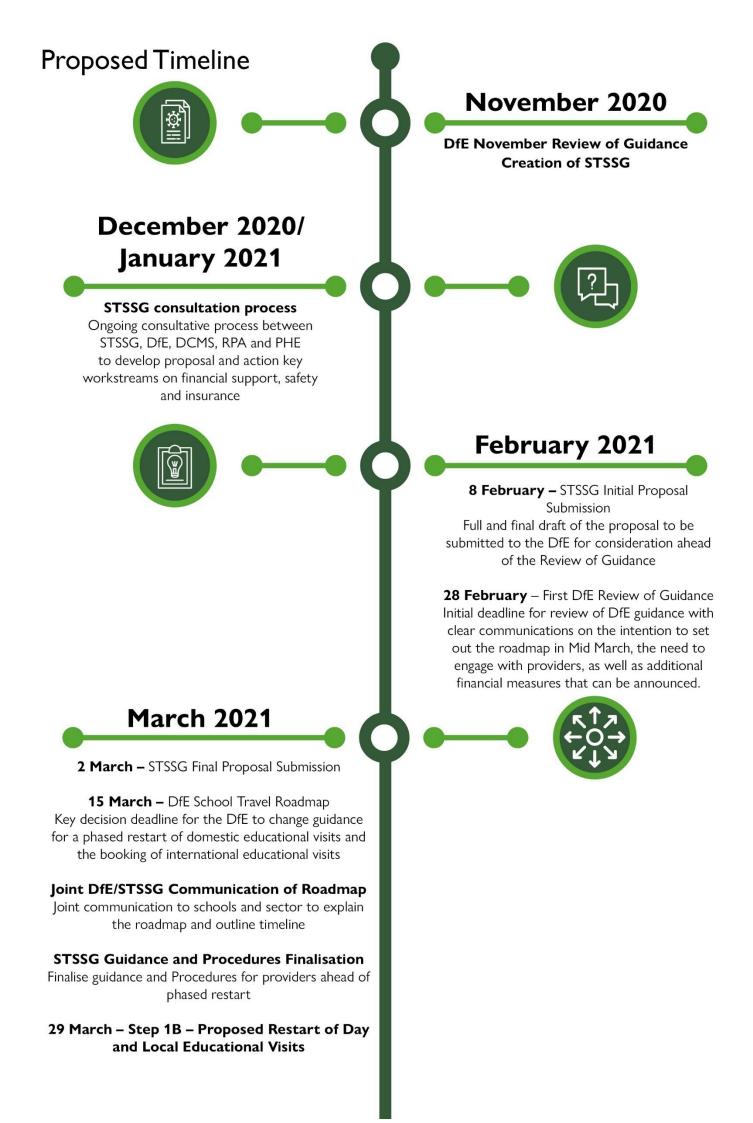
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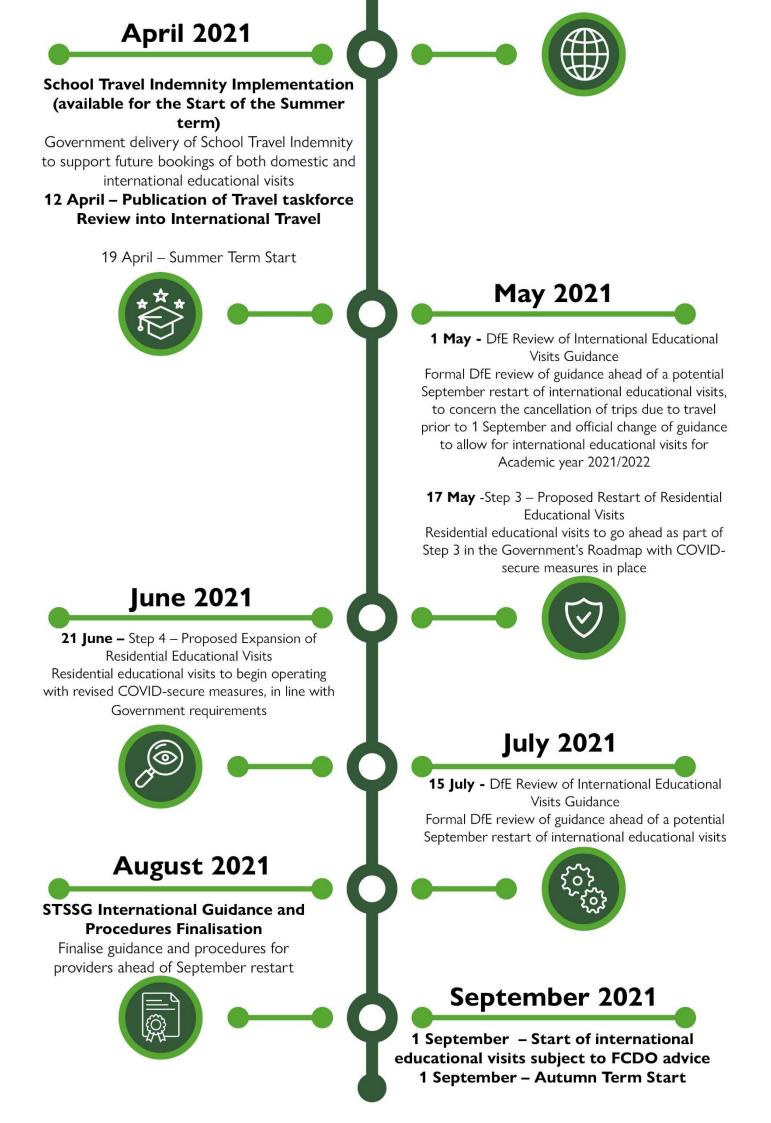
Getting the School Travel Sector safely restarted in 2021

Prepared and presented by the School Travel Sector Stakeholder Group March 2021

STSSG Proposal

GUIDANCE	 Phased restart of educational visits in line with the new Government Roadmap Step 1B – 29 March: Day and Local Educational Visits are permitted Step 3 – 17 May: Overnight Educational Visits are permitted with specific COVID-secure measures in place Step 4 – 21 June: Educational Visits can take place with revised COVID-secure measures, in line with Government requirements 1st September: International Educational Visits are permitted Amended guidance to enable planning and booking of educational visits, including international, from 29 March 2021 for future travel
SAFETY	 All school travel providers to meet COVID-safe Charter Sector to adhere to new COVID-secure protocols that provide in-depth guidance for providers on reducing the risk of transmission All providers to ensure visits are carried out in accordance with Government's school bubbling policy, until Step 4 Compliance and oversight to be managed through the existing, unique health and safety infrastructure such as CLOtC Quality Badge, AALA and the OEAP
FINANCIAL SUPPORT	 Extension of Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme to 30 September 2021 Access to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's Culture Recovery Fund via a new Culture Recovery Fund for School Travel Providers of £50m Improved access to existing BEIS grant funding through Local Authorities, such as the Local Restrictions Support Grant Sector-wide agreement with HMRC on Time to Pay
INSURANCE	 Develop and launch a Government-backed School Travel 'Indemnity' to cover pre-trip cancellation due to COVID-19 for domestic educational visits travelling from 28 March 2021 and international educational visits travelling from 1 September 2021 The indemnity would be available to all schools making new bookings, both domestic and international, post-Easter with providers that meet new Government guidelines, to be agreed with STSSG Clear guidance issued confirming process in relation to bookings to be cancelled as a result of Government guidance against travel for educational settings, e.g. international visits over Summer Term
	 Clear, positive communications around changes to Government guidance on travel for educational settings, including timely and proactive publication of the DfE Roadmap for Educational Visits Collaborative and positive promotion of educational visits by the Department for Education and STSSG members encouraging residential educational visits STSSG to remain operational and engaged with the Department for Education to manage the restart of educational visits and tackle sectoral inconsistencies highlighted by COVID-19
INTERNATIONAL	 Target the start of international educational visits in the 2021/2022 academic year Amended guidance to enable planning and booking of international educational visits from 29 March 2021 for the 21/22 academic year Financial support for the sector open to international visits providers School Travel 'Indemnity' for new bookings to be undertaken in the 2021/2022 academic year





Side-by-Side Roadmap Comparison

Government Roadmap	'No earlier than…' Date	Relevant Permitted Business and Activities	Proposed STSSG Roadmap
Step 1 A	8 th March	School attendanceWraparound care, including sport for children	
Step 1 B	29 th March	 Organised Outdoor Sport (children and adults) Outdoor sport and leisure facilities All outdoor children's activities Outdoor parent & child groups (up to 15 parents) 	Day and local educational visits to be permitted
Step 2	12 th April	 All children's activities Outdoor hospitality Most outdoor attractions Indoor parent and child groups Self-contained accommodation Domestic overnight stays 	
Step 3	17 th May	 Indoor hospitality Indoor entertainment and attractions Organised Indoor Sport Remaining Accommodation Remaining outdoor entertainment International travel Indoor events up to 1,000 people Outdoor seated events up to 10,000 people 	Residential educational visits to be permitted with COVID-safe guidance
Step 4	21 st June	 Remaining businesses, including nightclubs 	Residential educational visits to be permitted
Beyond	1 st September		International educational visits permitted

Impact

- 1. The school travel sector is a £700m+ sector, with around 200 operators spanning private, charity and local authority provision. Together, they account for 16,000 jobs (pre-pandemic) and deliver over 2m educational visits undertaken by young people annually. Educational visits represent 89% of turnover for the sector.
- 2. The current guidance against educational visits, in its various forms, has therefore been a disaster for the sector, with over £600m of revenue lost due to cancelled bookings. Companies are now closing on a regular basis, with 30 residential centres now permanently closed.
- 3. Three surveys of over 168 providers accounting for £590m off the sector's annual turnover were undertaken by the school travel sector

Impact of Delayed Restart

- 4. Summer Term 2021 represents the start of the majority of the sector's high season where considerable revenue is made. It also represents the Government's own target for mass vaccinations, school reopening and the end of furlough.
- 5. If the sector is unable to operate from this point, the sector will be one of the only in the UK to have been effectively closed and without revenue for 12 months. This would be catastrophic and result in further closures and significant job losses, permanently scarring the sector. The sector estimates any recovery from such an impact may take over 5 years.
- 6. As the STSSG has regularly conveyed, the sector's long lead in times have meant that Summer, though valuable, contains a significantly lower level of bookings to previous years. This Summer's bookings also mainly comprise of existing bookings that have been rolled as a result of ongoing guidance.
- 7. Even with a restart in the Summer Term, revenue levels will not return to close to previous run rates until Spring 2022, corresponding to the average lead

Jobs have already been lost



30% UK residential bookings are at 30% of historic levels

1/2 of providers have monies owing to HMRC

children with planned educational visits

> **£60m** of monies of providers have monies owing to HMRC

^t**1.3m** activity days to be lost

of revenue lost due to cancellations

30 CLOSED centres already permanently closed

> 40% of bookings for Summer Term are 'rolled'

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School Travel Sector Stakeholder Group March 2021