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JBA/CA

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Dear Parent/Carer

EU Settlement Scheme

Brexit has been in the headlines for the last few years, and for much of this time it has been unclear how it will impact on the academy, its EU pupils studying in the UK and their parents and carers.

If you (and/or your child) are an EU Citizen(s), then you need to act now in relation to the above. To assist you with this, we have provided some basic information on the back of this letter.

The process is straightforward, but should you require any help in completing the application, please contact the government advice helpline on 0300 123 7379.

Yours faithfully

Dr J Bartlett Headteacher























What is the EU Settlement Scheme?

What does it mean for me?

If you are an EU citizen, you and your family members need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK after 31 December 2020.

The EU Settlement Scheme allows you and your family members to get the immigration status that you will need to continue to live, work and study in the UK. This status means that you continue to be eligible for:

- public services, such as healthcare and schools
- public funds and pensions
- British citizenship, if you want to apply and meet the requirements.

Who is eligible to apply?

You need to apply if you are an EU citizen or a non-EU family member of an EU citizen (including children), this includes those with a UK permanent residence document. You do not need to apply if you have indefinite leave to remain or enter but you can if you want to. Visit GOV.UK to find out more about your rights in relation to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Irish citizens do not need to apply to the Scheme to protect their rights in the UK, though they are able to do so if they want to. Non-Irish, non-British family members of Irish citizens will need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme if they want to remain in the UK after 31 December 2020.

You need to be a resident in the UK by 31 December 2020 (or the date the UK leaves the EU, in the event of a no deal). If you have been a resident in the UK for five continuous years or more you will be eligible for settled status. If you have been a resident for less than five continuous years you will be eligible for pre-settled status.

You must not be a serious or persistent criminal, a threat to national security, or have a deportation order, exclusion order or exclusion decision against you.

The EU Settlement Scheme applies to EEA and Swiss citizens:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden or Switzerland.

Family members

If you are an EU citizen living in the UK, you and your family members can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme. Family members do not need to be from the EU; they can come from anywhere in the world (known as non-EU family members).

Close family members include spouses, civil partners, unmarried partners, dependent children and grandchildren, and dependent parents and grandparents.

Close family members who are not living in the UK by 31 December 2020 (or the date the UK leaves the EU in the event of a no deal) can join you in the UK at any point in the future (or until 29 March 2022, in the event of a no deal). They will need to be able to show their relationship to you and it must still exist when they apply to come to the UK.

Children born or adopted after 31 December 2020 will also have their rights protected (or the date the UK leaves the EU, in the event of a no deal).

When can I apply?

The EU Settlement Scheme is open and you have until 30 June 2021 (or 31 December 2020, in the event of a no deal). <u>Application guidance can be found on GOV.UK.</u> Once you have read the guidance, start your application.

Approval and your status

Pre-settled status

If you receive pre-settled status (also known as limited leave to remain or enter) this means you can stay in the UK for a period of five years. This will allow you to remain in the UK until you are eligible for settled status, generally once you have lived continuously in the UK for five years.

Settled status

If you receive settled status (also known as indefinite leave to remain or enter) this means there is no time limit on how long you can stay in the UK.

You will usually be able to apply for British citizenship 12 months after you have received settled status.

Approval

Successful applicants will get digital proof of their status through an online service. Your family members who are from outside the EU will receive a biometric residence card if they do not already have

Your status will be stored electronically by the Home Office. Once you receive your status, details will be provided on how to access it on GOV LIK

You will be able to prove your rights to others, including employers, online. Help will be available if you have difficulties using online services.

There will be no changes to Right to Work checks on EU citizens until 30 June 2021 (or 1 January 2021 in the event of a no deal). If you are an EU citizen, you can continue to use your passport or national identity card as proof of your rights until 30 June 2021 (or 31 December 2020, in the event of a no deal).

Find out more and support available

The Home Office has set up various channels for you to access information about the EU Settlement Scheme. Visit gov.uk/eusettled-status to:

- access the application guidance
- start your application
- find out about next steps and citizenship

Support available

Support is available if you need help to complete your application, including:

EU Settlement Scheme Resolution Centre

For individual questions about your application call 0300 123 7379. You can also ask a question using the online submissions form