

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**SECTION : FEATURE**

**Jan 21 [BBC] : University degrees not the only route to success.** Ministers are setting out plans to improve vocational education, saying it is an "illusion" that degrees are the only route to success. They say that funding will be targeted at training relevant to the labour market. [LINK](#)



**Jan 20 [The Guardian] : Music A-level exam board to reinstate its only black composer.** The work of the British jazz artist Courtney Pine is to be swiftly reinstated to A-level music, after an examination board admitted it had been wrong to drop his album from its course and leave its syllabus without any black composers. [LINK](#)



**Jan 20 [New Straits Times] : School closures still 'last resort' despite Covid variants: WHO.** Schools should only close as a last resort while research is under way into whether the new coronavirus variants affect children differently, the World Health Organization said Wednesday. [LINK](#)



**Jan 18 [The Straits Times] : The Dad effect: Children gain when their fathers are involved in their education.** Mr Sanjeev Sibal, 45, wanted to be more involved in his children's school lives, but his demanding travel schedule as a ship manager - he was home for about 15 days a month on average - meant he could supervise homework only via video calls. [LINK](#)



**Jan 18 [The Straits Times] : Book Nook: Making free picture books for children.** Singapore authors and artists have come together to share their works for children for free. The House Of Mini Picture Books website hosts 20 original stories recommended for kids aged four to 12. [LINK](#)



**Jan 20 [PHYS] : Teachers having to work harder than any other professionals, says study.** Teachers are working harder than ever before and more than any other occupation, according to a study published in the peer-reviewed journal *Oxford Review of Education* authored by researchers from UCL. [LINK](#)

**SECTION : EXAMINATIONS**

**Jan 21 [New Straits Times] : Anxious SPM students want exams postponed.** Candidates sitting the 2020 Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) examinations are urging the Education Ministry to postpone them until the Covid-19 pandemic can be effectively reined in. [LINK](#)



**Jan 20 [BBC] : Covid: Wales' teachers to decide students end-of-year grades.** Education Minister Kirsty Williams said the pandemic had left her "no choice" in scrapping the classroom assessments. Grades determined by schools and colleges based on the work covered would be "simple and clear", she said. [LINK](#)

**SECTION : HIGHER EDUCATION**

**Jan 18 [The Straits Times] : Singapore universities offered 17,500 places last year, 1,000 more than planned.** The six local universities offered around 1,000 extra places last year as the disruption caused by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic forced students to readjust their plans. The universities will continue to offer additional places this year, if the situation does not change. [LINK](#)

## SECTION : **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES**

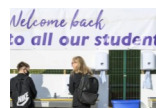


**Jan 19 [SCMP] : Smartisan founder's dream of beating Apple dies as ByteDance suspends smartphone business.** ByteDance, owner of short video-sharing apps TikTok and Douyin, has suspended development of smartphones under the Smartisan brand to refocus on its Dali line of hardware products for the education sector. [LINK](#)



**Jan 18 [The Guardian] : 'Digital poverty' could lead to lost generation of university students, vice-chancellors say.** Tens of thousands of university students in England need urgent help to stop "digital poverty" from hindering their studies during lockdown, according to a group of Vice-Chancellors and higher education bodies. [LINK](#)

## SECTION : **SCHOOLS**



**Jan 20 [The Guardian] : Daily COVID testing plans 'paused' in English schools.** The government has told schools to pause the daily coronavirus testing of students and staff in England, five weeks after it was announced as a "milestone moment" by the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson. [LINK](#)



**Jan 20 [BBC] : School attendance in England higher than first lockdown. School attendance in England is five times higher than during the first lockdown, official figures show.** One in five (21%) primary school pupils and one in 20 (5%) secondary school pupils went into school last week, the Department for Education reports. [LINK](#)



**Jan 21 [The New York Times] : 13,000 School districts, 13,000 approaches to teaching during Covid.** What does it mean to go to public school in the United States during the pandemic? The answer looks so different in different parts of the country, it is hard to tell that we are one nation. [LINK](#)

## SECTION : **SPECIAL EDUCATION**



**Jan 19 [RTE] : Govt abandons return of special education after unions reject plan.** The Department of Education has confirmed to RTÉ News that it has abandoned plans to reopen schools for children with special educational needs from Thursday. [LINK](#)



**Jan 19 [PHYS] : Online courses reinforce inequalities.** With the global student community taking online courses as a result of the anti-Covid-19 measures, a study led by the University of Geneva (UNIGE) reveals that online courses deepen inequalities between gifted and less gifted students by 5% . [LINK](#)



**Jan 18 [The STAR] : Educators raise safety concerns about special needs students being back in the classroom. But parents say their kids need the support.** While the rest of the province is hunkering down under new, stricter stay-at-home orders, Jim Rossiter is his usual place — with students in his classroom. [LINK](#)

## SECTION : **TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**



**Jan 21 [The Guardian] : Overhaul of skills and vocational education to focus on Employability.** The government is to publish its long-promised overhaul of skills and vocational education in England, which will give employers a direct role in designing new qualifications but without any commitments over long-term funding for the further education sector. [LINK](#)



**Jan 19 [The Guardian] : Tony Blair son plans big expansion for training firm valued at \$200m.** An education business started by Euan Blair has secured new funding from venture capitalists thought to value the business as high as \$200m (£147m) and crystallising a fortune for the son of the former prime minister Tony Blair. [LINK](#)