

Having just seen the DfE publish yet ANOTHER series of social media posts 'congratulating' themselves on successfully rolling out laptops and devices, I'm beginning to lose track of all of the other failings they've made. From what I can remember:

The meal voucher system was an absolute fiasco - heads queuing for hours for the site to then crash

Reopening schools when they were advised not to by numerous specialist groups, unions and headteachers

Promising laptops and devices where they either weren't delivered or allocations were slashed to the point of being useless

Threatening schools with legal action for closing a week early before telling schools they needed to then close for a week because it was so dangerous - notice of this was given late Thursday when they had given schools the Friday 'off' which meant contacting staff and pupils, plus organising for after Christmas is much more difficult

Calling for a training day a week before which gave staff and parents no time to organise something meaningful or alternative childcare

Declaring that the above training day was to give teachers a break, but then casually throwing in that taking it would mean you had to recoup it later on in the year, so not really an extra

Expecting schools to find volunteers and staff to implement the new testing scheme that they will introduce in 2 weeks time when they've slashed school budgets for years so staff are already stretched to the limit

Asking schools to implement a system similar to track and trace which has taken 8 months, cost billions and still isn't working effectively, yet expect schools to put it together in 2 weeks, over Christmas, when everyone is off..

The whole exams fiasco which saw children all over the country feeling that everything they had worked for was for nothing when they received grades much lower than expected and then couldn't get into universities, for this then to be u-turned when universities had already made admissions

Not funding school meal vouchers until they were shamed into it by a professional footballer

Changing important guidance dozens of times in 2 weeks and expecting schools to keep on top of it

Releasing guidance, advice and directives late on Friday evenings or Sundays when schools had little chance of arranging something before staff went home for the weekend, leaving senior leaders to coordinate on their 'time off'

Allowing schools to be informed of changes and initiatives with no advanced warning and finding out at exactly the same time as everyone else

Have I missed anything?

Glenn Carter 20th December

https://www.facebook.com/groups/primaryteachers.net/permalink/10159097715212834/?comment_id=10159099809037834&reply_comment_id=10159100262847834