**DFE Information Api – Usage Guideline**

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| --- | --- |
| **Lifecycle stage** | Alpha |

1. [Overview](https://c106t01-eapim-external-portal-app.azurewebsites.net/apis/DFEInformationApi_V1#overview)
2. [Versioning](https://c106t01-eapim-external-portal-app.azurewebsites.net/apis/DFEInformationApi_V1#versioning)
3. [API browser and swagger file](https://c106t01-eapim-external-portal-app.azurewebsites.net/apis/DFEInformationApi_V1#api-browser-and-swagger-file)
4. [HTTP status codes](https://c106t01-eapim-external-portal-app.azurewebsites.net/apis/DFEInformationApi_V1#http-status-codes)
5. [API error codes](https://c106t01-eapim-external-portal-app.azurewebsites.net/apis/DFEInformationApi_V1#api-error-codes)
6. [Rate Limiting](https://c106t01-eapim-external-portal-app.azurewebsites.net/apis/DFEInformationApi_V1#rait-limiting)
7. [Endpoints](https://c106t01-eapim-external-portal-app.azurewebsites.net/apis/DFEInformationApi_V1#endpoints)

**1. Overview**

The DfE Information API has been created as an example to demonstrate the capabilities of Find and Use an API. It allows software developers to connect with Find and Use an API and access some basic information about the Department to prove access to:

* Low restricted endpoint APIs
  + Open-info endpoint is an example of least restricted endpoint
* Application restricted endpoint APIs
  + Application-info endpoint is an example of application restricted endpoint
* User restricted endpoint APIs
  + User-info is an example of a user-restricted endpoin

Further details of the different access levels are given on the [Authorisation](https://c106t01-eapim-external-portal-app.azurewebsites.net/documentation/authorisation) page.

For more information about how to develop your own client applications, including example clients for this API, see [Tutorials](https://c106t01-eapim-external-portal-app.azurewebsites.net/documentation/tutorials).

**2. Versioning**

When an API changes, we will strive to make backwards compatible changes were possible. When this is not possible, we will provide a notice on deprecated endpoints and make a new endpoint available. The current live version of the DfE Information API is 1.0.

**3. API browser and swagger file**

For more detailed schema information on each DfE Information API, you can:

* open the API browser like Swagger Editor
* look at the DfE Information API Swagger file: [download](https://c106t01-eapim-external-portal-app.azurewebsites.net/static/dfe-information-api.openapi+json.json)
* You can also generate a client library from the Swagger file using the Swagger editor.

**4. HTTP status codes**

The DfE Information API uses standard HTTP response code conventions:

* 100 codes are informational
* 200 codes indicate success
* 300 codes indicate a redirection
* 400 codes indicate a client-side error
* 500 codes indicate a server-side error

Common status codes are:

| **HTTP Status code** | **Message** | **Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 200 | OK | This status code indicates that the request has been processed successfully |
| 400 | Bad Request | This status code indicates that the incoming request body or parameters do not conform with the OpenAPI/Swagger document which describes the API |
| 403 | Service Unavailable | This status code indicates that the service is currently unavailable |
| 429 | Too Many Requests | This status code indicates that the throttling limit of a client has be exceeded |
| 504 | Gateway Timeout | This status code indicates that there is a network connection problem within the layers of the API fulfilment stack |

**5. API error codes**

There are no specific API error codes for the DfE Information API.

**6. Rate Limiting**

We have introduced limits on API usage rates in terms of requests per minute.

If you exceed this limit, you will receive a 429 Too Many Requests HTTP status code for each request made within the remainder of the time.

Per minute, you can make:

* Up to 10 GET requests per endpoint

**7. Endpoints**

/dfe/**open-info**

**GET**

**Description**

A simple example for integrating with a low restriction DfE APIs.

Any request to this endpoint returns a text paragraph providing high level information about the department.

**Authorisation**

This endpoint is least restricted and requires no Authorisation header. You would however need to send DfE Information API Subscription key in a header. This key can be retrieved by Subscribing to the API.

**Request headers**

| **Name** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| Ocp-Apim-Subscription-Key | DfE Information API subscription key |

**Response**

HTTP status: 200 (OK)

{ "Open Information: The Department for Education is responsible for children’s services and education, including early years, schools, higher and further education policy, apprenticeships and wider skills in England." }

/dfe/**application-info**

**GET**

**Description**

A simple example for integrating with an application restricted endpoint.

Any request to this endpoint returns a text paragraph providing high level information about the department.

**Authorisation**

This endpoint is application restricted and requires an access token to be sent in the Authorisation header. You also need to send a DfE Information API Subscription key in a header. This key can be retrieved by Subscribing to the API.

**Request headers**

| **Name** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| Ocp-Apim-Subscription-Key | DfE Information API subscription key |
| Authorisation | An OAuth 2.0 Bearer token. For example: Bearer d3931854e4f440138f8e2e9dc007635a |

**Response**

HTTP status: 200 (OK)

{ "Open Information: The Department for Education is responsible for children’s services and education, including early years, schools, higher and further education policy, apprenticeships and wider skills in England." }

/dfe/**user-info**

**GET**

**Description**

A simple example for integrating with a user restricted endpoint.

Any request to this endpoint returns a text paragraph providing high level information about the department.

**Authorisation**

This endpoint is user restricted and requires an access token to be sent in the Authorisation header. Read about user-restricted endpoints in the tutorial section to understand more about these type of endpoints. You also need to send a DfE Information API Subscription key in a header. This key can be retrieved by Subscribing to the API.

**Request headers**

| **Name** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| Ocp-Apim-Subscription-Key | DfE Information API subscription key |
| Authorisation | An OAuth 2.0 Bearer token. For example: Bearer d3931854e4f440138f8e2e9dc007635a |

**Response**

HTTP status: 200 (OK)

{ "User Information: The Department for Education is responsible for children’s services and education, including early years, schools, higher and further education policy, apprenticeships and wider skills in England." }