



Welcome to our governance newsletter.

Some Governor Services news first – Joanne Myers, Clerking Service Team Lead has been seconded to another team within the county council. Joanne has contributed enormously to the development of the clerking service. We are recruiting internally for a replacement. In the interim please continue to use the clerking.service@oxfordshire.gov.uk for all clerking related enquires.

DfE and national updates

RAAC

Updated guidance for responsible bodies and education settings with confirmed reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) in their buildings has been published.

[Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete: guidance for responsible bodies and education settings with confirmed RAAC - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/reinforced-autoclaved-aerated-concrete-guidance-for-responsible-bodies-and-education-settings-with-confirmed-raac)

Prevent guidance update

Support for those working in education settings with safeguarding responsibilities. Guidance has been updated. All those involved in governance should ensure they are up to date with the changes.

[The Prevent duty: safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/the-prevent-duty-safeguarding-learners-vulnerable-to-radicalisation)

[Prevent duty guidance: Guidance for specified authorities in England and Wales \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/guidance/prevent-duty-guidance-guidance-for-specified-authorities-in-england-and-wales)

Governors for Schools online conference

The third Governors for Schools Conference will take place online during National Inclusion Week 2023 and will run across Tuesday 26th September and Wednesday 27th September.

The two-day digital conference is a valuable resource for people involved in governance. Free and open to all, the event offers existing governors the opportunity to develop their skills, and features insights from a diverse range of experts on topics affecting the governance landscape.

[Governors for Schools Conference 2023 - Governors for Schools](https://www.gov.uk/government/conferences/governors-for-schools-conference-2023)

HOW TO CONTACT US



Tim Brock
Lead Officer for Governance



Helen Tate
Governor Support Officer

For **Governance** queries email: governorservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Phone: 0330 0249046

For **Clerking** queries email: Clerking.service@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Oxfordshire updates

Independent Education Commission Report

Action plan to be drawn up after wide-ranging study into quality of education in Oxfordshire

Oxfordshire County Council is set to act on a series of recommendations from a far-reaching deep-dive into the quality of education in the county, building on existing strengths to improve outcomes for all children.

The council's cabinet has endorsed the recommendations of an independent Education Commission, which was set up by the county council in late 2022 to look at how the council, alongside all state-funded schools, education settings and partners, can improve outcomes and equality for all children in Oxfordshire.

The commission found that young people in Oxfordshire tend to achieve good outcomes compared to the national average but has made a total of 17 proposals to help improve things further – including tackling the inequalities faced by some children and young people.

The county council and its partners are now set to develop an action plan with clear timescales, impact measures and an investment plan to deliver on the proposals made.

The full report and recommendations of the commission are available to read by [visiting Oxfordshire County Council's website](#).

Oxfordshire Local Area Partnership SEND Inspection Outcome

Anne Coyle, Interim Corporate Director of Children's Services, writes:

The report from July's Ofsted inspection of the local area partnership's (LAP's) provision for children and young people with SEND has been published. **The link to the published report is here: [50228201 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](#).** The grade awarded is a 3.

The Partnership accepts the findings of the Inspection Team. The process interrogated our work and did not reveal any challenges or shortcoming that we were unaware of. We must stress that this is a judgment of the local area partnership's SEND provision and not a judgement that sits against the Oxfordshire County Council's SEND service alone.

The full press release can be found [here](#)

Schools Energy Efficiency loan – maintained schools

Funding available for OCC maintained schools to save energy

OCC has launched an interest-free Schools Energy Efficiency Loan to enable maintained schools to finance the installation of energy efficiency measures that will help reduce energy use.

Maintained schools can now apply for a loan of up to £70,000 to install LED lighting and/or solar PV. Since each school has its own unique energy requirements, schools have the

flexibility to choose either LED lighting or solar PV, or both, based on your specific needs and priorities.

For more information and to receive the application pack, please [contact](#) Action on Carbon & Energy in Schools (ACES), an energy efficiency support service for schools funded by OCC. ACES will be available to provide advice and support to schools in applying for the loan.

Applications close on 31st October or sooner if oversubscribed.

Annual Schedule of Governing Board Business

A reminder of where to find the [Annual schedule of governing board business 2023-24](#) to help you plan the work of the governing board and meeting agendas for the year.

Governor Services training programme

Our [Autumn term training programme](#) is now available with booking open on GovernorHub for all courses. See below for details of how to book.

If you have any suggestions regarding training that you would like us to deliver, please do let us know by writing to governorservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

How to book training

Training can be booked by using the Oxfordshire Governor Services link on Governor Hub and then clicking on the [Training heading](#).

For Governors without access to these pages bookings can be made:

- By email to GovernorServices@Oxfordshire.gov.uk
- By phone on 03300 249046



...for everything you do for children in Oxfordshire

Our next news update will be published on Friday 6th October 2023.

With very best wishes from

The Oxfordshire Governor Services Team – Tim and Helen