



Welcome to our governance newsletter

You will see that we've had a makeover. We hope you like our new look, which will be rolled out to all our training and resources over the next few months.

A few important messages and reminders this week for you.



Tim Brock
Lead Officer for
Governance



Helen Tate
Governor Support
Officer



Ruth Pangu
Clerk to Governors
Team Lead

Contact us

For **governance** queries
email: governorservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Phone: 0330 0249 046
For **clerking** queries email:
clerking.service@oxfordshire.gov.uk

DfE and national updates

Improving School Attendance Ofsted Blog

A new post, “Improving school attendance” has just been published on the Ofsted: schools and further education & skills (FES) blog.

[Improving school attendance - Ofsted: schools and further education & skills \(FES\) \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)



Schools financial value standard (SFVS) and assurance statement

This ‘Schools financial value standard checklist’, ‘Template for recording related party transactions’ and the ‘Checklist guidance’ for 2023 to 2024 have been updated.

[Find out more](#)

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Oxfordshire updates

Improvement notice issued to Oxfordshire County Council: November 2023

An improvement notice issued to Oxfordshire County Council following an Ofsted inspection in July 2023.

[Improvement Notice](#)

A letter from Anne Coyle, Interim Corporate Director for Childrens Services was sent to all headteachers yesterday.

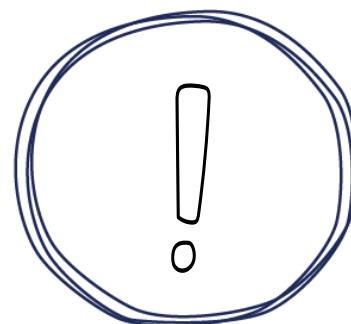
[SEND statement to Headteachers](#)



Safeguarding audit S157/175 deadline

A reminder that the annual safeguarding report needs to be submitted by 20th December 2023

The report and actions should be reviewed and monitored by the full governing board



Inspiring Governance

Are you looking for skilled volunteers to join your governing board? Would you like to diversify how you find skilled volunteers to become governors at your school or multi academy trust?

**Thursday
9 November 2023
12.00-13.00
Register**

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Join Inspiring Governance for a lunchtime learning session hosted on Zoom with Richard Ellam, Head of School and Trust Support, suitable for anyone who is signed up to the Inspiring Governance recruitment tool, regardless of your experience of using it.

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OBDE Service

Annual Service

Thu, 7 Dec 2023 11:00 - 13:30 GMT

Christ Church Cathedral

Saint Aldate's Oxford OX1 1DP

All governors are welcome to attend

[Reserve your place](#)

Data Confirmation for maintained schools 2023

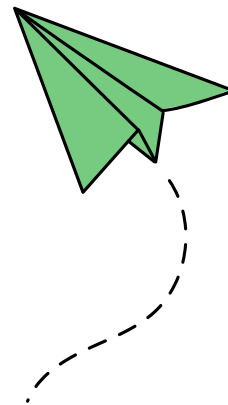
You will remember that we ask you to keep certain information up to date and accurate on GovernorHub. There are also statutory requirements to include this information on certain public websites.

This year we have decided to gather the information as a survey. It should not take long to complete.

[Maintained Schools Data Confirmation 2023](#)

We would be grateful for your response to the survey by the end of term 22nd December 2023.

We will be emailing the survey to all maintained school chairs of governors by close of business on Monday.



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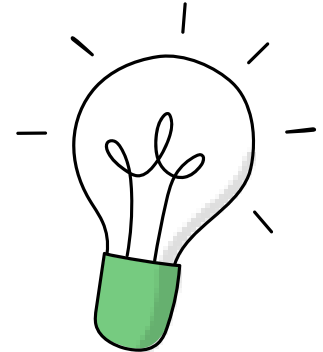
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HT appraisal process and pay review

A reminder that the deadline for headteacher appraisals and pay decisions is due by the end of the academic year.

[Find out more](#)



Heads & Chairs briefing slides

It was fantastic to see so many of you at the Heads and Chairs briefing yesterday. The slides for the briefing can be found [here](#)

Governor Services Training

Spring Term training programme

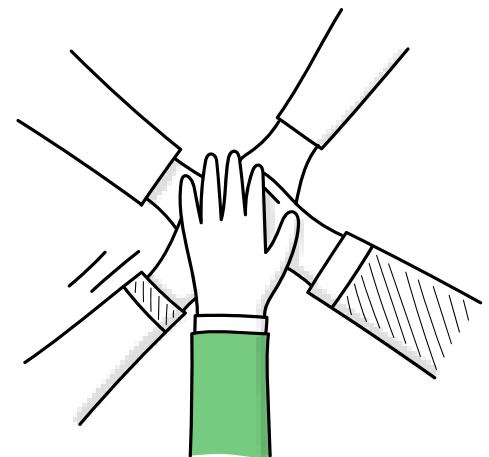
We are now heading into our last week of the autumn term of training. It has been lovely to meet so many of you on our courses. We hope you have found them useful and been able to put what you've learned into practice at your schools.

The new Spring term training programme is now available to book through the usual GovernorHub channels, or by emailing Governor Services. The full programme is available to view [here](#)

How to book

Training can be booked directly through [GovernorHub](#) for all maintained schools in Oxfordshire. Log into your account and click on the 'Oxfordshire Governor Services Training' tab.

If your school subscribes to training, there will be no additional charge for this training. All other bookings will be charged on a 'pay as you use' basis.



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For schools with no access to GovernorHub, bookings can be made by email to governorservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

You must provide a **name** and **email address** so we can add your booking to our system and send you the joining link.

Charging for training

Please do check whether your board has subscribed to the training package before booking. Those who govern at schools that subscribe can register for as much training as they like at no additional cost.

For those who govern at schools that do not currently subscribe, there is a charge to attend and schools will be invoiced after the event. Here are our current [Pay as You Go rates](#)

Any briefings or events that are free for anyone to attend are clearly marked as such.



...for everything you do for children in Oxfordshire

Hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

Our next news update will be published on Friday 8th December 2023.

With very best wishes from

The Oxfordshire Governor Services Team - Tim, Ruth and Helen

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