



Welcome to our governance news update

Welcome back for the second half of the autumn term.

Lots of updates to statutory and non-statutory guidance have been published over the past month. Summaries and links to further information are included.

We also have some Oxfordshire specific updates for you.

Please do get in touch if you have any questions. We love to hear from you.

Zaheer Ahmed
Head of Learning
and School



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

National Updates

What maintained schools must or should publish online

Information that schools maintained by a local authority must or should publish on their website has been updated:

- The 'test, exam and assessment results' section has been changed.
- Detail on what schools should publish about governors in the 'governance information' section has been added.
- Changes have also been made to to the 'pupil premium', 'PE and sport premium' and 'complaints policy' sections.



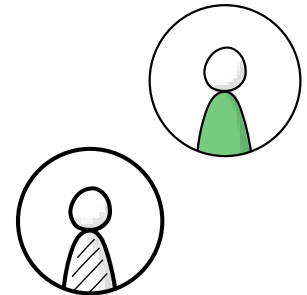
[What maintained schools must or should publish online - GOV.UK](#)

Our website checklist for maintained schools is being updated to reflect the changes.

School teachers' pay and conditions

Statutory guidance on pay and conditions for teachers in England has been updated to include the 'School teachers' pay and conditions document 2024 and guidance on school teachers' pay and conditions'.

[School teachers' pay and conditions - GOV.UK](#)



Primary assessments: future dates

A downloadable KS1 assessments calendar with key dates for the academic year 2024 to 2025 has been added.

[Primary assessments: future dates - GOV.UK](#)

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PE and sport premium for primary schools

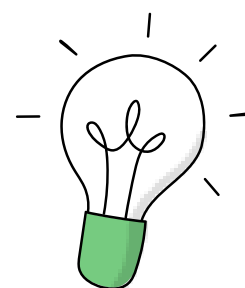
Guidance has been updated the 2024 to 2025 academic year and added 'Examples of effective PE and sport premium spending' to the 'Effective ways to spend the premium' section.

[PE and sport premium for primary schools - GOV.UK](#)

Establishing school-based nursery provision

New non-statutory guidance for schools, responsible bodies and childcare providers looking to open or expand school-based nursery provision has been published.

[Establishing school-based nursery provision - GOV.UK](#)



School capital funding

An overview of school capital funding, who it's for, current and past allocations, how it's calculated and spending guidance, which has been updated with the school condition allocations (SCA) eligibility for the 2025 to 2026 financial year.

[School capital funding - GOV.UK](#)

Free school meals: guidance for schools and local authorities

Guidance for schools and local authorities about providing school meals including information on free school meal eligibility. Updated 'Providing free school meals to families with no recourse to public funds (NRPF)' to include eVisas. [Free school meals: guidance for schools and local authorities - GOV.UK](#)

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Managing asbestos in your school or college

New non-statutory guidance for school leaders, governors, local authorities and academy trusts about managing asbestos in schools and colleges has been published.

[Managing asbestos in your school or college - GOV.UK](#)

This guidance aims to help schools and colleges understand their duties in relation to asbestos management.

It should be used alongside more detailed advice from the from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), such as:

[The duty to manage asbestos in buildings](#)

[Asbestos management checklist for schools](#)

Duties around asbestos management remain unchanged and are set out in law by HSE in their [introduction to asbestos safety](#).

Cyber security

A number of changes have been made to [Filtering and monitoring standards for schools and colleges](#)

Updates include:

- emphasis on the responsibility of governing bodies and proprietors to make sure appropriate systems are in place
- outlining Keeping children safe in education (KCSIE) requirements in relation to online safety and how the standards can help you meet those requirements
- a more comprehensive assessment of student risk profiles, including the use of generative artificial intelligence.
- clarification on the role of in-person monitoring
- new information added to 'The technical requirements to meet the standard'

Full details of all the changes can be found here:

[Updates - Meeting digital and technology standards in schools and colleges - Guidance - GOV.UK](#)



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Oxfordshire updates

Parent governors wanted for Council's Education and Young People Committee

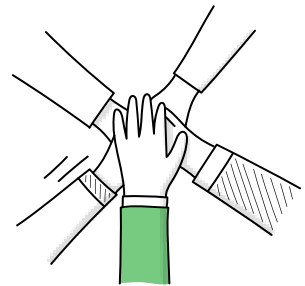
Oxfordshire County Council's Education and Young People (EYP) Overview & Scrutiny Committee is looking for two parent governors at maintained schools in Oxfordshire to sit as members of the Committee to bring their own particular insight and expertise.

If you sit on your maintained school's governing board as a parent governor and would also like the chance to make a real impact county-wide, we would love to hear from you. We would particularly welcome governors with experience of the care and SEND system.

[Find out more](#)

The deadline for applications is **22 November 2024**.

If more than two parent governors apply, an election will be held. If you would like further information, please email email scrutiny@oxfordshire.gov.uk or telephone Richard Doney, Scrutiny Officer, on 07745 210056.



Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS) deadline

SFVS is a mandatory return for all schools maintained by the local authority, and all Oxfordshire-maintained schools are required to complete their SFVS by the specified submission date. Although it does not require any external assessment, a copy of each completed SFVS signed by the Chair of Governors must be sent to the local authority.



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The deadline for your school's 2024-25 submission is **Friday 14 February 2024**. The Chair of the Governing Board must submit all returns electronically to accounts@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

[Find out more here](#)

Cut your Carbon with Eco-Schools – free resource

This month-long, carbon-cutting challenge takes place throughout November. It encourages young people and their families to complete six simple actions to raise awareness and reduce their carbon footprint. The campaign offers **free resources, competitions, and online events** to make learning about carbon emissions accessible, fun, and engaging. Register now to join the challenge!

[Watch the video](#)

[Cut Your Carbon - Eco Schools](#)



Filling Governor Vacancies

We have been working closely on a campaign with [Governors for Schools - Effective Governors, Excellent Schools](#) to boost the number of people applying to become governors. This is starting to show some success with a large increase in volunteers wishing to become governors registering with Governors for Schools in Oxfordshire.

Now we need your help!



If you have a governor vacancy, please register it with Governors for Schools and they will help you to fill that vacancy. This service is free of charge.

[Find out more](#)

We all know that having a full board helps with sharing the workload, and we want to support you in filling any vacancies you may have.



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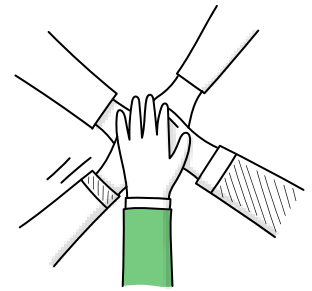
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Governor Services Training

Autumn term training programme

We are now into the second half of our autumn term Governor Services Training programme. The full training programme for Autumn Term 2024 is available to book on [GovernorHub](#). Training date for Spring Term 2025 will be published in the next couple of weeks.

More information on the training programme can be found [here](#).



Free training sessions

Armed Forces Covenant Duty – the governing board’s role

Free sessions on [26th November and 2nd December](#) Join Matt Blyton, OCC School Improvement Consultant, to find out how Boards can fulfil their responsibilities to their service children and young people.



Does this apply to our school?

- There are 2710 children from military families attending schools in Oxfordshire
- More than half (187) of Oxfordshire’s 318 schools have children from families serving in the military
- In 44 schools, children from military families make up at least 5% of the children on roll

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Charging for training

Please do check whether your board has subscribed to the Governor Services training package **before booking**. Governors at schools that subscribe can register for as much training as you like at no additional cost.

For governors at schools that do not currently subscribe, there is a charge to attend, and schools will be invoiced after the event. Please see the [Pay as You Go rates](#)

Any free briefings or events are clearly indicated.

There's still time to sign up for the training package for this academic year. If your board would like to subscribe, get in touch and we can arrange it for you.



...for everything you do for children in Oxfordshire

Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 22nd November 2024.

With very best wishes from

The Oxfordshire Governor Services Team – Zaheer, Helen and Ruth

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