



Welcome to our governance news update

Hello

The autumn term is nearly over and the holidays are rapidly approaching.

It's been a very busy term but we have really enjoyed seeing so many of you in our training sessions and briefings.

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

Contact us

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

Zaheer Ahmed
Head of Learning
and School
Improvement



Helen Tate
Governor Support
Officer



Ruth Pangu
Clerk to Governors
Team Lead

National Updates

Ofsted Blog post regarding SEND review

A new post, "Our review of the area SEND inspection framework" has just been published on the Ofsted: schools and further education & skills (FES) blog.

[Our review of the area SEND inspection framework – Ofsted: schools and further education & skills \(FES\)](#)



Breakfast Club Early Adopters Scheme

Information for schools has been published on what the breakfast clubs early adopters scheme is and how to apply including who is eligible, expectations for participants and how schools can apply.

[Breakfast clubs early adopters scheme - GOV.UK](#)



Oxfordshire updates

Interest-free loan scheme for energy saving measures

Oxfordshire County Council has funding for county-maintained schools to apply for an interest-free loan to finance the installation of energy saving measures. The funds can be used to install:



Action on
Carbon &
Energy in
Schools

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- Rooftop solar PV
- LED lighting
- Battery storage

Applications for the loan scheme will be reviewed as they are received so interested schools are encouraged to request a loan pack early. To do this, or find out more about the scheme, please email info@aceschools.org or [visit the website](#).

Join other schools

Whitchurch Primary School, Sonning Common Primary School and Nettlebed Community School are amongst the schools that have already benefited from the interest-free loan scheme and installed Solar PV and LED lighting.

About the funding

The funding is provided by Oxfordshire County Council working with Action on Carbon and Energy in Schools (ACES). Find out more about the [project here](#).

Keeping governor data up to date

A reminder to maintained schools that your governor data on GovernorHub needs to be kept up to date.

A reminder of details which need to be maintained on GovernorHub:

- Name, email address, and contact number for all governors
- Role and term dates for each governor on the Constitution page
- Assignment of role of Chair/Vice Chair/Clerk on the Roles page
- Committee Chairs and committee membership
- Link governor roles (at minimum, safeguarding and finance)



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The removal of governors' accounts from GovernorHub whose terms of office have expired is also vitally important from a confidentiality and GDPR point of view.

Please also ensure that the **school's website** and **Get Information About Schools** is also up to date. Whilst these are usually updated by the school, responsibility for the accuracy of the data remains with governors.

Headteacher pay recommendations

Pay recommendations for the headteacher of maintained schools should be confirmed by the pay committee by 31st December 2024

The model pay policy is now available on the link below.

[HR policies - P | Oxfordshire Schools](#)



Filling Governor Vacancies

If you have governor vacancies, please register them with Governors for Schools who will help you to fill those vacancies. The main service is free of charge. We have been working closely with them to boost the number of volunteers registering so we would encourage you to take a look.

[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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Governor Services Training

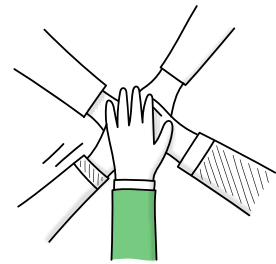
Governor Services training programmes

We have now come to the end of our training programme for the autumn term. It has been great to see so many governors at our training and briefing sessions.

Spring term training now open for booking

The Spring term training programme for both governors and governance professionals has been published and sessions are available to book on [GovernorHub](#) now.

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



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.



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...for everything you do for children in Oxfordshire

This is our last newsletter of the term. We hope you are able to rest and relax during the Christmas holiday, and we wish you a very Happy New Year!

With very best wishes from

The Oxfordshire Governor Services Team – Zaheer, Helen and Ruth

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