



Welcome to our governance news update

April 2025 is the Month of the Military Child. We have many pupils in our schools from military families. Please to have a read of the new guidance which has been published to help schools and governors support them.

As the schools break up for the Easter holidays we would like to thank you for all the work you have done this term to improve the lives of children in Oxfordshire.

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
Interim Assistant
Director – Schools
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Helen Tate
Governor Support
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Ruth Pangu
Clerk to
Governors Team
Lead

News Update

National Updates

Service Pupils in Schools: New guidance

Guidance from the DfE and the Ministry of Defence has been produced to help state-funded schools and local authorities in England to understand and address the needs of Service pupils in schools^[1].

The guidance is non-statutory, but also includes statutory information on the Armed Forces Covenant and the School Admissions Code.



[Service Pupils in Schools: Non-statutory guidance - GOV.UK](#)

[Service pupil premium \(SPP\) - GOV.UK](#)

[Living in our shoes: understanding the needs of UK Armed Forces families - GOV.UK](#)

[Home - Armed Forces Covenant](#)

[Counting down to Month of the Military Child - Forces Children's Education : Forces Children's Education](#)

Regional improvement for standards and excellence (RISE)

Information about the eligibility criteria for targeted intervention, the national priorities for the universal service, funding, and RISE advisers has been updated to add information about how RISE will operate and be funded, which schools are eligible for targeted intervention, and the universal service's national priorities

[Regional improvement for standards and excellence \(RISE\) - GOV.UK](#)

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News Update

Data Protection

The policies and processes schools and multi-academy trusts need to protect personal data and respond effectively to a personal data breach Change made: Record keeping and management – Guidance has been added to help create a data retention schedule.

[Data protection in schools - Guidance - GOV.UK](#)

£740 million allocated for 10,000 new places for pupils with SEND

New SEND places to create more inclusive classrooms in mainstream schools, delivering on Plan for Change to break down barriers to opportunity.

[£740 million allocated for 10,000 new places for pupils with SEND - GOV.UK](#)



No child left behind in plans to narrow the digital divide in education

Consultation launched on plans to make digital standards a requirement for all schools, alongside £45 million investment to improve connectivity

[No child left behind in plans to narrow the digital divide in education - GOV.UK](#)

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News Update

Oxfordshire Updates

Oxfordshire Governors' Association meeting



HAVE OFSTED GOT IT WRONG?

Why are our Headteachers professional associations so concerned
about their proposals?

Governors have a specific responsibility for the well-being of their
Headteacher - we need to engage in the national debate.

OGA would welcome as many Governors (which of course includes
Headteachers) and Trustees as possible to join us to explore the
issues raised in the two important consultations
that close on 28th April 2025.

[School Accountability Reform \(DfE\)](#)

and

[Improving the way Ofsted inspects education](#)

at

Church House, Kidlington OX5 1GF

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/directions>

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 at 7.00 - 8.30pm

Light refreshments available from 6.30pm

While the free meeting is aimed primarily at school governors,
others in education or with an interest in these consultations,
will be most welcome.

To book your place please email
judith.bennetts@outlook.com

or via the OGA website – [contact us](#)

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News Update

Traded Services Buyback now open!

A reminder that our range of traded service subscriptions for the next academic year is now available to sign up to. This includes **GovernorHub**, the **Clerking Service**, **Governor and Clerks' training programmes**.



Governor Services
Training

We are also for the second year offering **National Governance Association (NGA) membership** at reduced cost. We value the resources and advice given by the NGA and highly recommend schools become members.



All subscriptions can be found in the store at [Education Services](#).

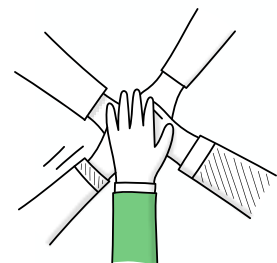
OCC Clerking
Service

Governor Services Training

Governor Services training programme

Thank you to all the governors and governance professionals who attended our training, events and briefings over the last term. We hope you found them useful and are able to apply the training to your work.

Our summer term training programmes are now available [here](#) and sessions can be booked on [GovernorHub](#) or by emailing governortraining@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Contact us

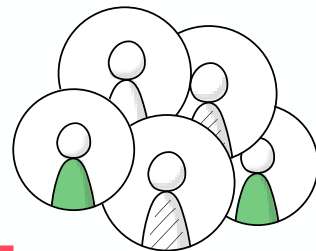
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News Update

Free Summer term briefings

Our summer term **FREE** governor briefings will be held on 24th April 2025 and 26th June 2025

Our summer term Governance Professionals' Briefing will take place on 8th May 2025. Please do sign up [here](#)

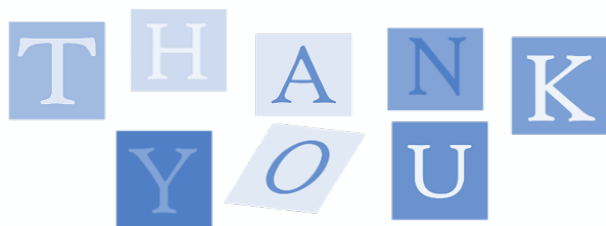


Charging for training

Please check if 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.



...for everything you do for
children in Oxfordshire

We hope you have a relaxing break and come back refreshed for the summer term.

Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 2nd May 2025.

With very best wishes

The Oxfordshire Governor Services Team -

Zaheer, Helen and Ruth

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