



Welcome to our governance news update

Hello

The warm weather has welcomed us back for the summer term. Our training programme has begun again, and we look forward to seeing many of you online over the next few weeks.

There are lots of national updates this time from the Department of Education for you to consider.

As always, please do get in touch if you need support or advice. We love to hear from you.

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Contact us

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

News Update

National Updates



Guidance and resources for governors

Links to relevant guidance and resources for governors of academies and local-authority-maintained schools have been updated.

‘SEN and disability duties: guidance for school governing boards’ has been added to the ‘Safeguarding, SEND and pupil wellbeing’ section.

[Academy trusts: governance - GOV.UK](#)

[Local-authority-maintained schools: governance - GOV.UK](#)

Early Years Foundation Stage nutrition

This new guidance is for early years providers in England who are caring for early years children aged 0 to 5 years.

It supports providers in meeting the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework requirement ‘Where children are provided with meals, snacks and drinks, these must be healthy, balanced and nutritious’.

From September 2025, the EYFS statutory framework will include a safeguarding and welfare requirement that asks providers to follow this nutrition guidance unless there is good reason not to.

[Early Years Foundation Stage nutrition - GOV.UK](#)

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News Update

School estate management standards

The standards set of practices and processes required to effectively manage the school estate.

[School estate management standards - GOV.UK](#)

[Estate management: competency framework and relevant training - GOV.UK](#)

Millions of families to benefit from lower school uniform costs

Government to cut school uniform costs for around 4.2 million children, as the government's [Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill](#) proceeds in the House of Lords this week

[Millions of families to benefit from lower school uniform costs - GOV.UK](#)

Protective security and preparedness for education settings

Guidance on how education settings should prepare for and respond to terrorism and other major incidents has been updated to include defining 'volunteers' and 'educational settings', outlining the responsibilities for security and incident leads, considering the vulnerabilities of a setting's location and building when responses are needed, how events are promoted, how plans and in event information is communicated and the provision of post-incident welfare.

[Protective security and preparedness for education settings - GOV.UK](#)

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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.

The second cohort of RISE advisers to 'Regional improvement for standards and excellence (RISE)' has been added

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

Government survey results

- School and college voice: September 2024

Findings from regular surveys of school and college teachers and leaders on a variety of topics

[School and college voice: September 2024 - GOV.UK](#)

- Parent, pupil and learner voice: omnibus surveys 2024-25

Findings from regular surveys of primary and secondary school pupils' parents or carers, secondary school pupils and 16 to 18 learners.

[Parent, pupil and learner voice: omnibus surveys for 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

Establishing school-based nursery provision

The non-statutory guidance for schools, responsible bodies and childcare providers looking to open or expand school-based nursery provision has been updated to reflect the updated requirements that maintained schools must meet when making a significant change (prescribed alterations).

[Establishing school-based nursery provision - GOV.UK](#)
[Making significant changes to maintained schools](#)

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News Update

Oxfordshire Updates

Schools Buyback

Don't forget to purchase, opt out or renew your buybacks for next year!

The purchase period for school buybacks has been open for a few weeks now and we've seen plenty of schools log in to [Education Services](#) and secure their subscriptions for the new academic year. This includes **GovernorHub**, the **Clerking Service**, **Governor** and **Clerks' training programmes** and **NGA membership**.

This is a reminder to all governing boards that you still have time to do this, if you have not yet done so.



**Governor
Services Training**



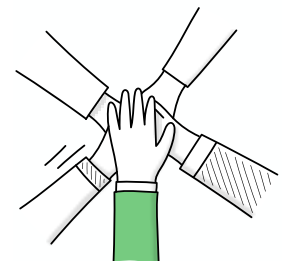
**OCC Clerking
Service**

Governor Services Training

Governor Services training programme

Our summer term training programmes are now in full swing. Sessions can be booked on [GovernorHub](#) or by emailing governortraining@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Full details of the programme can be found [here](#)



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News Update

**FREE
EVENT**

Feeding Success: a whole school approach to enhancing wellbeing, learning and performance through nutrition

30th June 2025

This session will explore how improving food and nutrition in schools supports learning and wellbeing for all.

We will review key evidence highlighting the link between diet and performance and establish the key features of a healthy diet. The session will also look at how to foster a healthy food culture in a school and provide a framework for this to be evaluated by governors or key staff.

Governors will:

- Have a clear understanding of how diet, food and nutrition can impact performance and behaviour of young people at school
- Gain key insights into the Eatwell Guide as a model for healthy eating promoting both physical and mental health
- Understand how the wider food environment and culture in their own school can contribute positively to young people's wellbeing through nutrition
- Gain resources to facilitate governor visits to assess the food culture in their school.

[Book here on GovernorHub](#)

or email governortraining@oxfordshire.gov.uk

This session is free to attend, whether you subscribe to our training package or not

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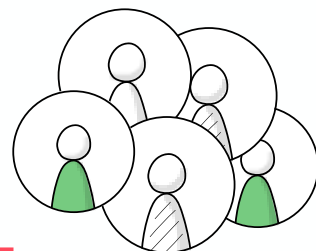
email: clerking.service@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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](#)



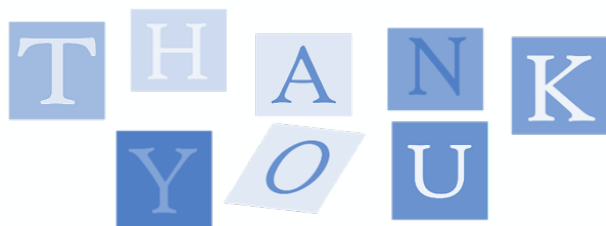
Charging for training

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 that the exam and assessment season runs smoothly in your school.

Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 16th May 2025.

With very best wishes

The Oxfordshire Governor Services Team -

Zaheer, Helen and Ruth

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