



Welcome to our governance news update

I hope everyone is staying safe and dry in this autumnal rain.

As well as our usual national updates, we are once again on the look out for any experienced governors who have the capacity to share their expertise with boards in need of support. Please fill in the form on the link if you are able to help.

We have also been asked to share again the offer of an interest free energy efficiency loan for maintained schools. Please do take a look. This could become part of your climate action plan.

Contact us

For **governance** queries

email: governorservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Phone: 0330 0249 046

For **clerking** queries

email: clerking.service@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Kim Wilson

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Helen Tate

Governor Support
Officer



Ruth Pangu

Clerk to Governors
Team Lead

News Update

National Updates

Ofsted update

Ofsted has released two blogs which may be of interest this week. An update in the new inspection framework and the role of data in inspections.

[Our renewed inspection framework: what we've learned from pilots – Ofsted: education](#)

[The role of data on school and further education inspections – Ofsted: education](#)



Curriculum and Assessment review update

The independent review of England's curriculum, assessment and qualifications system, chaired by Professor Becky Francis CBE, and the government's response.

[Curriculum and Assessment Review - GOV.UK](#)

[Curriculum and Assessment Review Final Report: government response - GOV.UK](#)

New curriculum

The government sets out plans to bring the curriculum into the modern day and help young people step into the future.

[New curriculum to give young people the skills for life and work - GOV.UK](#)

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News Update

School uniform policy guidance update

The guidance has been updated to include new and revised information



[Developing school uniform policy - GOV.UK](#)

Sustainability and climate action plans

Updated to provide greater clarity on the climate action plan template and sustainability leadership structure, and to add an additional case-study from Manchester Metropolitan University

[Sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education - GOV.UK](#)

Schools Statutory Guidance

A minor update has been made to the list, so this seemed like a good time to remind all of those in governance where to find all key statutory guidance.

[Schools: statutory guidance - GOV.UK](#)

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News Update

Oxfordshire Updates

Energy Efficiency loans for maintained schools

OCC is still taking applications for maintained schools looking to reduce their energy bills and carbon footprint through its interest-free [energy efficiency loan scheme](#). Schools can apply for funding of up to £70,000 with payback periods of 11-14 years to invest in LEDs, solar PV, and/or a battery system.

Loans are designed to help schools cut energy use without upfront capital and prioritise measures that pay for themselves through energy bill reductions. Repayments start 12 months after installation to allow for savings to accrue.

10 schools have successfully installed, with combined annual savings expected to surpass 250,000 kwh, 84 tonnes of carbon, and £70,000. You can read about several schools that have applied [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

For more information, please contact Sam Randle at sam.randle@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Action on
Carbon &
Energy in
Schools

In addition, schools looking for assistance in developing a climate action plan per new DfE guidance are encouraged to attend a free *let's go* zero workshops. Please sign up or cascade the sign-up link [here](#).

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News Update

Experienced Governor? Help Another Oxfordshire School to Thrive

Are you an experienced governor who would be interested in supporting other schools in Oxfordshire?

Do you have the capacity to share your experience by joining another governing board?

If this sounds like you, we'd love to hear from you.

Please complete our short Microsoft Form here: [OCC Governor Register of Interest](#), and we'll be in touch to connect you with schools looking to develop their boards.

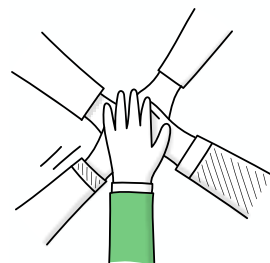
Thank you for your interest

Governor Services Training

Governor Services training programme

We are two thirds of the way through our autumn training programme. It's great to see so many of you attending our sessions.

Our Spring training programme is now available to book on [GovernorHub](#). Full details of the programme will be available on the [Governor training | Oxfordshire Schools](#) website shortly.



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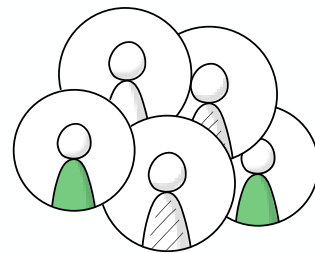
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News Update

Free briefings

We will be continuing our free briefings throughout the next academic year, so please do sign up. Topics will vary, so watch out nearer the time for an agenda. Our next briefing takes place on 4th December [Book 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.

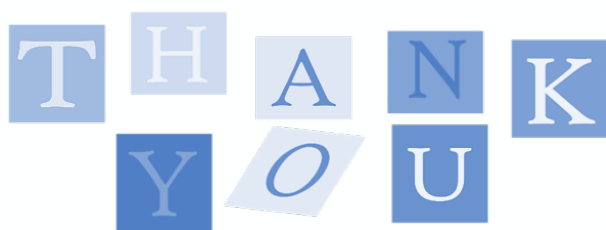
For governors at schools that do not currently subscribe, there is a charge to attend, and schools will be invoiced after the event. Any free briefings or events are clearly indicated

Pay-as-you-use rates for non-subscribers (academic year 2025/26 rates)

Governor Induction £250 per governor

Clerk's Induction £250 per governance professional (clerk)

All other training courses £160 per attendee



*...for everything you do for
children in Oxfordshire*

With best wishes

The Oxfordshire Governor Services Team -

Kim, Helen and Ruth

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