



Welcome to our governance news update

The nights are drawing in and we are now racing towards the end of term with all the wonderful school events to look forward to.

There are lots of updates this week, including revised and updated DfE guidance and resources on many useful topics.

As always, if you have any questions about the contents of the newsletter, please do get in touch.

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

Assistant Director –
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Helen Tate

Governor Support
Officer



Ruth Pangu

Clerk to Governors
Team Lead

News Update

National Updates

Inspection Data Summary Report (IDSR)

The new IDSR is now available and has been revised in line with the new Ofsted Framework.

- It covers the school context, attainment and progress, as well as information about staffing, attendance and behaviour
- Multi-year averages are now used to smooth fluctuations in achievement, particularly in small schools
- A DfE log-in is required to access it, so speak to your school to gain access.



[School inspection data summary report \(IDSR\) guide - GOV.UK](#)

School resource management guidance

Lots of information, tools, training and guidance to help schools and trusts save money on day-to-day costs.

[School resource management](#)



Support and intervention in schools

Statutory guidance on the responsibilities of local authorities and regional directors relating to schools and pupil referral units that require support or intervention has been updated following the school accountability reform consultation. The changes reflect amendments to the Coasting Schools (England) Regulations and introduce revised policies for 'stuck' schools and academies identified as being in special measures or requiring significant improvement.

[Support and intervention in schools](#)

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News Update

Governance guides update

New digital versions of both the maintains schools and the academy trust governance guides have been published.

NOTE - There is no change to the content. The last update was in June 2025

[Maintained schools: governance guide - GOV.UK](#)

[Academy trust governance guide](#)



National Behaviour Survey report published

Survey findings on behaviour in schools, including school behaviour culture and policies, behaviour management, frequency and impact of misbehaviour and response.

[National behaviour survey report: 2024 to 2025 academic year](#)

Free breakfast clubs - guidance

Guidance on setting up and running free breakfast clubs, including specific guidance for schools joining phase 1 of the national rollout from April 2026.

[Free breakfast clubs: guidance for schools and trusts](#)

[Involving older pupils in free breakfast clubs](#)

Effective Governance Resources updated

Resources have been added to this useful page on diversity to 'Recruiting governors and academy trustees: resources'.

[Effective governance resources](#)

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News Update

Oxfordshire Updates

Migration from GovernorHub

A recorded version of our briefing on the migration away from GovernorHub is now available on the Oxfordshire Schools website here: [Migration information | Oxfordshire Schools](#), along with answers to all the questions which were asked.



We will give another update at our **Governor briefing on Thursday 4th December**, and there will be an opportunity to ask further questions then.

Update from the OCC SEND inspection

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) have reported that Oxfordshire's local area partnership has taken "effective action" to make improvements in services and support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

following an initial inspection in July 2023. Read more here:

[Inspectors find effective progress in Oxfordshire's SEND services](#)

Headteacher Appraisals

Have you booked your HT appraisal before the end of this term?

You need to:

- Have a formal appraisal meeting with the External Adviser
- Recommendations must go to the Pay Committee
- The pay committee must decide and communicate the decision

Reminder

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News Update

Martyn's Law, formally known as the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 received Royal Assent on 3 April 2025. The government intends for there to be an implementation period of **at least 24 months** before the act comes into force.

We have put together a paper bringing together the information you need which can be found here:

[Information for Schools: Martyn's Law](#)

Advance
warning

Experienced Governor? Help Another Oxfordshire School to Thrive

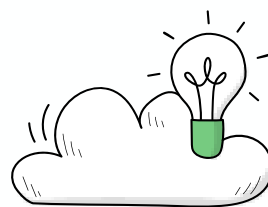
Are you an experienced governor who would be interested in supporting other schools in Oxfordshire?

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



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News Update

Governor Services Training

Free Governor briefing Thursday 4th December

Our next briefing takes place on **4th December**. This briefing is free for all to attend whether you subscribe to our training programme or not.

Please book your place [HERE](#)

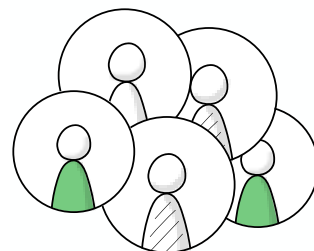
We look forward to seeing you on Thursday.

FREE!

Spring term training programme now out

As our autumn training programme moves into its final weeks of the term, we would like to thank you for training with us. We hope you have found it useful.

Full details of our Spring term training programme are now available on the Schools website here: [Governor training | Oxfordshire Schools](#) and all sessions are available to book on [GovernorHub](#)



Don't forget to have a look at our free Bitesize training which you can access at any time [here](#)

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News Update

Charging for training – a reminder

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.

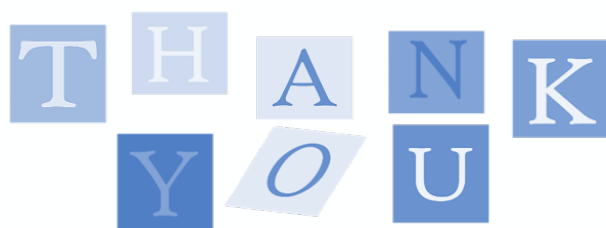
For governors at schools that do not currently subscribe, there is a charge to attend, and schools will be invoiced after the event. Any free briefings or events are clearly indicated

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

Our last newsletter of the term will be published on 15th December.

With best wishes

The Oxfordshire Governor Services Team -

Kim, Helen and Ruth

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