



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

*“Supporting Catholic schools to provide excellent education where pupils flourish,
and Christ is made known to all.”*

Governor News – December 2020

This is a monthly summary to help governors keep up to date with key themes of national education policy, the local Diocesan context, research and good practice.

[Updated grievance policies are now available to download](#) from the CES website. You can view [an outline of the changes](#) in this document. There are separate versions of the policies maintained schools and academies, both in fully amendable word format – however, please note that **we do not expect schools to make substantial changes to the policies without discussing this with the Diocese first**. Please make sure your HR provider is aware of the updated policies

A new webinar *Governor monitoring during the COVID-19 pandemic* has been arranged for **9 February 2021** (18:00-19:30). Suitable for all governors, this session will explore some of the practical applications of governor monitoring for school improvement during these challenging times, including monitoring remotely, governor visits and use of performance data - [book your place here](#)

DfE has published [new guidance on the catch-up funding available to support children and young people to catch up on missed education](#)

Ofsted has published their [second briefing note on interim visits](#) - key findings show wide variability in pupils returning to school and challenges in keeping schools safe and open

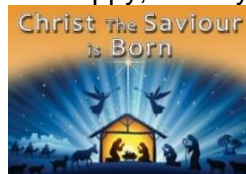
DfE has published [guidance for schools during the Brexit transition period and after 1 January 2021](#) This includes guidance on [recruiting and managing teachers and school staff](#), the [EU Settlement Scheme](#) and [school trips and exchanges](#)

The [latest Cybersurvey](#) has been published by Internet Matters. Among the themes highlighted in the report is that the numbers of children viewing harmful content online has dramatically increased with particular concerns relating to body image

Section 48 Inspections will not resume in Brentwood Diocese **until week beginning 1 March 2021 at the earliest** - schools overdue for inspection will form the first tranche. In addition, Section 48 Mid Term Reviews, which are not inspections but supportive visits looking at the areas of inspection, will not resume until at least after February half term 2021

[A recently published report by Interpol](#) found shifts in environmental, social and economic factors have combined to create an increased risk of child sexual exploitation and abuse, both online and offline

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and holy Christmas



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