



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Governor News – November 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.

With the new national restrictions, the government has published [guidance](#) for education settings which builds on their [previous guidance](#). This includes new instructions on face coverings in secondary schools

The [Governance Handbook](#) has been updated to reflect policy and legislation changes from the past year, or to clarify language where necessary. A summary of the changes can be found on page 8 of the Handbook

If you are on the headteacher appraisal panel, you should ensure that at least one member of the panel completes the online training course, part of our Gift-ED library. You can [preview a demo version here](#). If you do not already have an access code, please ensure the chair or clerk advises us of the governors who should access this course [by using this link](#)

2 new webinars for governors are available for booking - [Safeguarding Children](#) (16 November 2020 17:30-19:00) and [Relationships and Sex Education \(RSE\) – guidance for governors](#) (18 January 2021 18:00-19:30)

The Diocese has put together useful [supporting information for RSE](#) including a Diocesan RSE Exemplar Model Policy and Governor Audit for Monitoring RSE

DfE have worked with the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) on [cyber security questions for governors and trustees](#) to help inform conversations with school leaders

DfE have published new role descriptors designed to provide high-level information about [structures and roles in maintained school governance](#) and [academy trust governance](#)

DfE have published [Headteachers’ Standards 2020](#), non-statutory guidance which replaces the national standards of excellence for headteachers 2015

The second annual [State of the Nation report](#) published to mark World Mental Health Day has provided an in-depth picture of the experiences of children and young people during the pandemic and how it has affected their wellbeing

DfE have published [guidance to help schools and colleges understand their duties in relation to asbestos management](#). It should be used alongside more detailed advice, such as the Health and Safety Executive’s (HSE) [duty to manage asbestos guidance](#) and [asbestos management checklist for schools](#)

The government has [published guidance about recruiting teachers from overseas once the UK has left the EU](#)

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