



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Governor News – March 2021

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.

You will have seen that the [government has set out its 'roadmap' for the return to school from 8 March 2021](#), with secondary schools able to decide a phased return for different year groups during that first week. Governing bodies should have oversight of their school's full reopening plans and risk assessments as well as staff wellbeing. This [model risk assessment and action plan](#) may be helpful

The New Catholic School Inspection Framework will be mandatory from **September 2022** but will be trialled from September 2021 in certain schools and Dioceses and from a later date in some places. The [Evaluation Schedule and Grade Descriptors have now been published](#). Training to look at this document in more detail will be scheduled in due course

Governors who already have an access code for *Faithful Governance* will now be able to view **two new courses as part of the Gift-ED library**. These are *Preparing for Ofsted* and *Engaging with Parents*. Each school has been allocated up to 10 Gift-ED licences so if you would like to request access to the Gift ED library of online courses for governors, please ask your chair to advise Sophie Russell [by using this link](#)

Two *Finance, Budgets and Financial Monitoring* webinars, suitable for all governors but essential for those serving on a finance committee, will provide governors with the knowledge to effectively lead strategic financial management within their schools.
[Book webinar for maintained school governors](#): Tues 11 May 2021 17:30 -19:00
[Book webinar for governors in Academies/MATs](#): Wed 9 June 2021 17:30 -19:00

Following the [recent consultation, DfE have confirmed that students who were due to sit exams this summer will receive grades determined by teachers](#)

Please note that when recruiting headteachers and deputy headteachers you must use [the BDES letter and form proforma when requesting a faith and character reference from clergy](#) allowing sufficient time for a response before shortlisting takes place

[Sir Kevan Collins has been appointed as education recovery commissioner](#) to lead a comprehensive programme of catch-up aimed at young people who have lost out on learning during the pandemic

I am delighted to confirm that the Mental Health and Well-Being page on our website is now live for use. Here you will find [a wealth of links to useful resources](#)

CES have updated their [Guidance for Governors – Recruitment and Application Forms – Notes to Applicants](#) Please ensure HR are aware

DfE have [published details on the offer available to early career teachers](#) and how this will be developed for national roll-out

This is an optional service, sent once a month. If you prefer NOT to receive Governor News please e-mail sophierussell@dioceseofbrentwood.org with the subject heading UNSUBSCRIBE GN; please include your name and school