



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Governor News – January 2022

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.

DfE has updated its [Covid-19 operational guidance](#) outlining the actions school leaders should take to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) in their school

The [Diocesan Statement of Commitment to Racial Justice](#) has now been approved by the DBE. You may like to upload this to your school website, publicly referencing your agreement with it or create and highlight a statement of your own

There have been changes to the [Early Years Inspection Handbook](#) (para 101) re-emphasising the focus on Communication and Language. Are you expecting the Ofsted phone call? [Our guidance gives tips on preparing for the meeting](#) together with a quick checklist outlining key areas to help you be ready for Ofsted

Governors who already have an access code for *Faithful Governance* will now be able to view a new course ***Appointing Headteachers*** (also useful for appointing deputy headteachers) as part of the Gift-ED library. Each school has been allocated at least 5 Gift-ED licences. Chairs can [request access to the Gift ED library of online courses for further governors](#)

The new RSE curriculum became statutory from September 2020 and it is important that primary and secondary governors are aware of their responsibilities under the new statutory guidance. [Book your place on our webinar Relationships and Sex Education \(RSE\) – governing body responsibilities \(Wednesday 9 February 2022 17:30-19:30\)](#)

As a result of the treatment of six-year old Arthur Labinjo-Hughes at the hands of his father and his partner [the Government has launched a national review and local inspection](#) to determine improvements needed by the agencies that came into contact with him in the months before he died. How robust are your child protection records? How do you know?

DfE are [seeking views on proposed changes to the statutory KCSIE Guidance](#) with a view to making changes for September 2022 – the consultation closes on **8 March 2022**.

[DfE has recently updated its external reviews of governance guidance](#) (ERGs) When did you last review the effectiveness of your governing body?

A reminder that DfE has published [guidance for governors and school leaders on using their pupil premium funding effectively](#), as well as [advice for primary schools on how the PE and Sport Premium should be spent](#)

A new webinar has been arranged for **Monday 7 March 2022** (17:00-19:00) to support new and aspiring chairs and vice chairs. The [webinar will explore the responsibilities of the role and share good practice](#). To book your place [please complete this form](#)

A [series of reports from Ofsted looks at the effect of the pandemic on children and how education providers are helping them catch up](#)

This 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