



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Governor News – February 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 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**. The [proposed revisions can be found here](#). One of the biggest changes is a **proposal to make it explicit that all governors and trustees should receive safeguarding and child protection training (including online safety) at induction**, and to require that the training should be regularly updated

Are you expecting the Section 48 phone call? BDES has developed a [helpful checklist for governors for Section 48 inspections](#) between February-July 2022. Please note that this checklist will be updated for September to reflect the new Catholic School Inspection Framework

Are you considering taking on the role of chair? Our [new webinar on Monday 7 March for chairs and aspiring chairs](#) will explore the responsibilities of the role and share good practice

Please note the proposal for important changes to prayer and liturgy in schools with the publication of the [draft Directory for Prayer and Liturgy in Catholic schools](#). The [consultation on this draft text closes on 28 February 2022](#) with full compliance with the final published directory required by September 2025

DfE have said its ‘top priority’ is supporting children to attend school and college and are seeking views on [proposals to improve the consistency of school attendance management](#). The [consultation](#) closes on **28 February 2022**

All governing boards have [legal duties in relation to pupils with SEND](#) including monitoring to ensure the SENCO has sufficient time and resources to carry out their role effectively. [Professor Adam Boddison](#) led a useful session at our virtual Governors Conference last year exploring the responsibilities and accountability of governors and trustees – if you would like to access the webinar recording [please get in touch](#)

Are you on a Premises committee or have responsibility for premises issues? [Book your place](#) on the [Maintaining and Improving the Premises and Sites of Catholic Schools](#) webinar on **Wednesday 8 June 2022** (17:30-19:00)

Proficiency in reading is fundamental to pupils’ success and [DfE have published guidance for schools to meet existing expectations for teaching early reading](#)

NFER have published a [report investigating the changing landscape of pupil disadvantage](#) following the sharp increase in the number of families in poverty due to the pandemic. Transitional arrangements introduced to smooth the roll out of Universal Credit and the Covid-19 pandemic have significantly increased the number of pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) – a key measure of disadvantage in schools. [What are the implications for your school?](#)

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