



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Dear new governor

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you as a new governor and thank you for your contribution to Catholic education. Bishop Alan values the contribution made by you and all governors in the success of our schools and recognises the time, commitment and hard work of all who volunteer to become governors or trustees.

In-School Induction

It is very important that you, as a new governor, feel welcomed into the school



“It’s a stimulating and rewarding role which allows me to give back to the school that gave me an excellent start in life.”

Ian, St Mary’s Catholic Primary School

community and have the necessary information and support to fulfil your role with confidence. Schools all have different ways of welcoming new governors but our [model Induction checklist](#) gives examples of the key information and support that you should receive as a new governor. Schools are welcome to use this checklist or adapt it for their school.

Please note especially that safeguarding training should be included as part of your governor induction. The Diocese also runs a safeguarding webinar for governors about twice a year. You can find details in the [Events section of the Diocesan website](#).

Gift-ED: online learning

As well as in-school induction, it is important that new governors attend appropriate Catholic governor training to gain confidence and knowledge of their role within a Catholic setting. In order to ensure that this happens the Diocese of Brentwood Education Service have produced an online course called ‘Faithful Governance’ to support Foundation Governors in their role and you have been sent the unique access code for your school to access this course.

Diocesan training for governors

We have also developed a range of [webinars](#) and face-to-face training to support you in their role, including Diocesan Induction training. This consists of two modules and the expectation is that governors attend both to complete their induction training.

These are the Induction modules currently scheduled:

Module 1: The Distinctive Nature of Catholic Schools – Wed 14 December 2022 (17:00-18:30)

This module explores the distinctive ethos of church schools and the role of governance within a Catholic setting.

Module 2: An Introduction to the Roles and Responsibilities of Governors – Mon 23 Jan 2023 (17:00-18:30)

This module will help governors gain confidence and knowledge of the 3 core functions of governance and share good practice

To book your place

Governor News

This is a one page summary of the key themes of national education policy, the local Diocesan context, training opportunities, research and good practice. It aims to help keep you up-to-date with the constant changes and will be emailed to you once a month.



I hope you enjoy the challenge and find it a rewarding experience.

If you have a question about governance or need further support please get in touch with Debbi Botham, Diocesan Governance Development Officer

debbibotham@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Robert Simpson
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