



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Governor News – February 2023

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.

Book your place! Bishop Alan wants to meet and commission all Foundation Governors who are currently in post and we are delighted that a further commissioning event will take place on **Thursday 22 June 2022** (18:00 start) at Billericay Parish Church The Most Holy Redeemer, Billericay. This is for new Foundation Governors and MAT Trustees and those unable to attend a previous commissioning event but other governors serving in our Catholic schools who would like to attend are also welcome to attend. [To book your place](#)

Are you a new governor? Our new [Handbook for New Governors](#) will give you the key information you need as you grow into the role.

Our Induction training consists of two modules and the expectation is that governors attend both to complete their induction training. [To book Module 1- The Distinctive Nature of Catholic Schools – 12 June 2023](#) (17:00-18:30); [to book Module 2 - An Introduction to the Roles and Responsibilities of Governors – 3 July 2023](#) (17:00-18:30)

Safeguarding should be the number one priority for all schools. **How confident are governors that the school meets all statutory requirements for safeguarding?** Our [Safeguarding checklist](#) covers the essential questions for a governor or trustee to ask. The next [Safeguarding Children update will run as a webinar on Monday 27 March 2023](#) (17:30-19:00) and cover all the essential information needed to understand your statutory responsibilities

DfE has published new research on [Flexible working in schools](#) exploring the costs and benefits associated with implementing flexible working in schools

Governing boards have an important role in ensuring their school offers pupils a broad and balanced curriculum and DfE has recently published a new [national plan for music education](#). This sets out what their vision for of high-quality music in schools with music valued and celebrated to ‘enable all children and young people to learn to sing, play an instrument and create music together’

It is the statutory responsibility of the governing body and trustees to ensure the [School Food Standards](#) are being met. DfE has published [School food: guidance for governors](#) recommending they work with senior leaders to develop a whole school food policy

Ofsted’s data on school inspections carried out up to the end of December 2022 [show a continuing trend of improvement since the pandemic](#)

[DfE has confirmed that all state-funded schools in England currently without a defibrillator to receive one by the end of the academic year](#)

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

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