



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Governor News – May 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.

If you are a new Foundation Governor or MAT Trustee - or are a Foundation Governor who has been unable to attend a previous commissioning - we look forward to welcoming you at the commissioning event on **Thursday 22 June 2023** (18:00 start) at The Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Billericay. Bishop Alan wants to meet and commission all Foundation Governors who are currently in post but other governors serving in our Catholic schools who would like to attend are also welcome to be part of this unique event [To book your place](#)

Bishop Alan's firm belief is that the best future for our schools is to work more closely together by joining Catholic Multi Academy Trusts (CMATs) to formally shape the Catholic education system in their locality. Our webinar *Joining a Catholic MAT- Your Questions Answered* on **Tuesday 19 September 2023 (17:30-19:00)** is a short course intended to support governing bodies of Catholic maintained schools as they explore joining a Catholic multi-academy trust (CMAT) and provide the opportunity to ask questions. [Book your place](#)

Have you booked your place on the Religious Education Directory (RED) webinar on **27 June 2023** (17:00-18:30)? Catholic schools must be in full compliance with the RED, which covers Religious Education delivered up to and including Key Stage 3, by **September 2025**. [To book your place please complete this form](#)

Participating in appropriate Catholic governor training is an expectation of all governors regardless of length of service and experience; we will be looking for evidence of this before approving the re-appointment of foundation governors in the future. **Please note that the training via the Gift-ED App will be free until 31 August 2023 after which there will be a charge.** Details of this change will follow in the weekly mailing to all schools later this week

Ofsted have published a [report exploring the role and responsibilities of multi-academy trusts in school inspections](#) and how they evaluate their work in their inspections of schools

[To mark the Coronation all state funded primary schools will be sent wildflower seeds](#), inspired by His Majesty the King's love of nature, which aims to encourage children to learn about and improve the biodiversity of school's green spaces, while making them nicer places to work and learn. [The Call of Creation](#) stresses that each of us has a responsibility to promote the common good and is called to repair our own relationship with the environment. How 'green' is your school?

The findings from a recent [safeguarding survey by NSPCC](#) has found that 93% of teachers surveyed said that, over the last year, the number of safeguarding referrals had increased. Schools play a vital role in keeping children safe – how does your school identify problems before they escalate, effectively share information, and put in place holistic support?

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

Diocesan communications are issued solely to support you to carry out your education functions as a Catholic school leader on behalf of your diocesan bishop. They may contain sensitive information and must be respected as private communications and not be shared with any third parties external to the diocese without written BDES consent.