



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Governor News – July 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.

Please note that the nomination and disclosure forms have been updated when seeking approval for the appointment or reappointment of foundation governors. All candidates must be practising Catholic as verified by a priest's reference. [To request the reappointment of an existing foundation governor; details of a potential new foundation governor](#)

[Ofsted has announced revisions to school inspections](#) which will see inspectors return more quickly to schools graded inadequate overall due to ineffective safeguarding, but where all other judgements were good or better. [They are also consulting on proposed changes to their complaints process](#) which will increase transparency and make it easier for schools to raise concerns. [When will my school be inspected?](#)

Are you a new governor? These webinars will help you gain confidence and knowledge of your role within a Catholic setting. The Induction training consists of 2 modules and the expectation is that governors attend both to complete their induction training.

[To book Module 1- *The Distinctive Nature of Catholic Schools* – Wed 13 December 2023 \(17:00-18:30\); To book Module 2 - *An Introduction to the Roles and Responsibilities of Governors* – Mon 22 Jan 2024 \(17:00-18:30\)](#)

DfE has published the [Estate Management Competency Framework](#), which sets out the skills, knowledge and expertise required to manage school estates effectively

DfE have launched [a consultation on proposed changes to the statutory guidance. Working together to safeguard children](#) seeking views on how best to strengthen multi-agency help, support, safeguarding and child protection across the system as a whole. The [consultation runs until 6 September](#)

The findings from the [first DfE national behaviour survey report](#) cover school behaviour policies and culture, school environment and pupil experience, the frequency and impact of poor behaviour, and how schools responded during 2021/22

[A survey published by The Children's Society](#) has found parents are still paying high costs for uniform despite [DfE statutory guidance](#) requiring schools to be fully compliant by summer 2023. Has your governing body reviewed the uniform policy to ensure it is cost-effective?

The National Literacy Trust is calling for urgent action to be taken to 'provide opportunities aimed at reconnecting children and young people with the creative elements that transform writing into a pleasurable personal experience' following their [latest findings](#) which reveal that just over a third of children said they enjoy writing in their free time

The government has appointed [a new panel of 22 experts which will oversee the development of a new plan to improve cultural education](#) for young people

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.