



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Governor News – February 2024

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.

Have you booked your place on our [2024 Virtual Conference for Governors and Trustees](#) yet? This is being held as a series of interactive webinars over the **mornings of Tuesday 12 March 2024 and Wednesday 13 March 2024**. Delegates can book for either or both mornings. [Book your place](#)

Ofsted has published its [response](#) to the coroner's report following the inquest into Ruth Perry's death which includes their action plan for improvement. Please note that Ofsted inspections have now resumed; all school inspectors must have completed mental health training before they can lead an inspection. The Catholic Schools Inspectorate have published a [statement](#) which addresses the report and the question of single-word judgements alongside a [summary document](#)

Ofsted's school inspection handbook and monitoring inspection handbook have been [updated](#) in relation to how inspectors respond to leaders showing signs of distress. The handbooks also include a new section providing clarity on the [pausing policy](#)

The next [Role of Trustees in a Catholic MAT](#) webinar on **26 March 2024** (17:30- 19:00) is a short course intended for those new to the trustee role within a Catholic MAT (CMAT) or as a refresher for trust boards as part of their ongoing training requirements. [To book your place](#)

Calling all chairs and vice chairs – don't forget to book your place on the online spring term Chairs' Forum - **Monday 18 March 2024 (16:30-18:00)**. This important termly virtual event for chairs and vice chairs will cover key topics as well as advice on recent Diocesan and National educational developments. [To book your place](#)

The [School Support Service](#) at Winckworth Sherwood are hosting [a free webinar series on all things SEND related](#) on [9 February](#), [14 March](#) and [2 May 2024](#), drawing on their experience of advising schools and trusts. Register for each webinar using the links above

DfE has released a progress report on their [education staff wellbeing charter](#). BDES has published a range of mental health and wellbeing resources to support you including a [Model Policy on Staff Wellbeing](#)

DfE have published a research report on the insights from educators and experts on the [use of generative AI \(GenAI\) in education](#). You may also be interested in this [article by Better Internet for Kids](#) laying out the ins and outs of AI and the impact of its continued development on children

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.