



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Governor News – March 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.

Don't forget to book your place on our [2024 Virtual Conference for Governors and Trustees!](#)

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](#)

DfE has made an important update to their statutory guidance [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023](#) This [video highlights the changes](#)

DfE has published updated [Working together to improve school attendance guidance](#) **which will become mandatory from September**. Changes include expectations on supporting pupils with mental health or physical ill health, new fine rates, absence thresholds at which penalties must be considered, requirements to share daily data and new absence codes

Reminder - by 31 March 2024 all maintained schools and academy trusts must submit the [schools financial value standard \(SFVS\)](#) and [school resource management self-assessment checklist \(SRMSAC\)](#) respectively. These tools provide assurance that the school or trust is meeting the basic standards of good financial health and resource management

Ofsted has updated their guidance [Inspecting schools: guide for maintained and academy schools](#) summarising what schools should expect and what they need to do as part of an Ofsted inspection

DfE has published new non-statutory [guidance](#) on how schools can develop, implement and maintain a policy that prohibits the use of mobile phones throughout the school day. The guidance aims to ensure a consistent approach across all schools, and to minimise disruption and improve behaviour linked to the use of mobile phones in schools

DfE has published Responding to requests for wraparound childcare guidance for schools ahead of the launch of the wraparound childcare programme, designed to support schools and trusts to understand how to respond to requests from parents including the responsibilities of the board in relation to considering whether to establish wraparound childcare on school sites. Boards are encouraged to read the guidance alongside the [wraparound guidance for schools](#)

This year's [Good School Food Awards](#) celebrate the inspiring governor or school leader going above and beyond to ensure young minds are given the fuel they need to succeed. Click [here](#) and select the Governor or School Leader category to nominate

Attending extra-curricular clubs during secondary school is associated with a range of positive outcomes when young people are in their early twenties according to a [study](#) carried out by the Education Policy Institute (EPI)

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

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