



BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

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

Governor News – April 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.

The Diocese has published [results of ‘Bishop Alan listens’ research report](#) – research into why Catholics no longer come to Church

The DfE’s Governance Handbook and competency framework documents have been withdrawn and replaced with two new governance guides. We encourage everyone involved in school and trust governance to explore these new guides:

[Maintained schools governance](#)

[Academy trust governance](#)

It is strongly recommended that schools [review their admission arrangements](#) in the summer term ready for consultation in the autumn term if required. You may find this presentation useful [Slides for admissions presentation 12.03.24.pptx](#)

As you know, the [Prayer and Liturgy Directory](#) has been published, for **implementation by September 2025**. Governors and directors, as guardians of the Catholic school’s life and mission, have a key responsibility to ensure that the prayer and liturgy policy is updated regularly and shared with all stakeholders. The presentation from the Governors’ Conference outlines your key responsibilities [Prayer and Liturgy Directory Presentation.pptx](#)

DfE has published [new guidance on PE and Sports in schools](#) helping schools increase access to physical activity and extra-curricular sport, including examples of good practice

Ofsted has launched their [Big Listen](#), seeking views on how they can improve. The consultation **closes on 31 May 2024**

Ofsted have published a [new subject report on the quality of English in primary and secondary schools in England](#). The [press release](#) highlights that the teaching of reading in schools has improved significantly but writing and spoken language need more focus

Are all your governors up-to-date with their statutory responsibilities around safeguarding? The next *Safeguarding Children* webinar on **Monday 7 October 2024** (17:30-19:00) will focus on the next KCSIE, due to be published in the autumn term. [Book your place](#)

New [research](#) by the EPI has found that suspended pupils were on average 12 months behind non-suspended pupils, and calls for schools to plan early intervention for those identified at risk of suspension and be better equipped to recognise pupils with mental health and other additional needs

Ofcom’s report [Children’s Media Use and Attitudes](#) makes fascinating reading across a number of areas of children’s media use

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