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# Governor Training

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We have developed a comprehensive range of training that we offer for school staff and governors.

## Developing a Monitoring Programme

This session is to support governors to use their School/Academy's own Improvement Plans and develop a governor monitoring programme of visits and activities to evidence how well they challenge and support their School/Academy. This is a bespoke session for individual schools.

## Effective Clerking

The course is intended to equip newly-appointed clerks to governing bodies with the knowledge and skills required to undertake the role effectively. It will also be of benefit to existing clerks who want to measure their own understanding of the role against national standards of good practice.

## Effective Governance

Every School/Academy/Federation should have an effective governing body made up of well informed, knowledgeable, skilled governors. Working alongside and with governing bodies, advisory boards, committees and parents forums are an intrinsic part of improving outcomes for children and families, as well as focusing resources to address priorities.

Showing accountability and demonstrating how governance works is a key feature of current inspection regimes.

Ensuring that you understand terms of reference, create appropriate structures, strike the right balance between support and challenge and have clarity about decisions are all vital for providing effective governance. This practical programme is provided to support governing bodies fulfill their strategic role effectively.

## Good to Outstanding Governance

This course is for governing boards who are already established as part of a Good School but want to ensure that they move to Outstanding. This session offers practical guidance to achieve outstanding governance, in line with Ofsted's views of Outstanding governance.

## Impact of Pupil Premium

The Pupil Premium is additional funding to help schools close the attainment gap between children from low-income and other disadvantaged families and their peers. Schools need to publish details of their Pupil Premium allocation, their planned spend for the year ahead and outline the impact it has had.

## **MATs (Multi Academy Trusts) – considerations for LA School governing boards moving to a MAT**

This session is aimed at Local Authority governing boards considering their options, opportunities to discuss the differences in governance and the range of items to consider before deciding to convert. We will help you to consider the implications of an LA governing body/school in becoming an Academy.

## **MATs – considerations for Single Converter Academies moving to a MAT**

This session will give you an understanding of the considerations expected of a Trust Board becoming a Multi Academy Trust from that of a single converter academy. It will facilitate discussion on areas to review and consider before making the decision to move to become a Multi Academy Trust, including the importance of due diligence, etc.

## **MATs – how effective are we as a Trust Board?**

This session is based on the MAT 21 questions paper, evaluating how effective the MAT board is. It will also facilitate discussion using a Trust Board evaluation toolkit. It will give you an understanding of the expectations from Ofsted and the Regional Schools Commissioners regarding Trust Boards.

## **MATs – Roles and Responsibilities for the Local Governing Body**

This session is aimed at a more local level in ensuring the understanding and expectations on members of the local governing body to help the Academy raise standards. It is designed to give Local Governing Bodies an understanding of their new role as a governor. This will include the differences; from an LA Maintained Governor role and one within an Academy Trust as well as the difference between the Trust Board and the Local Governing Board.

## **MATs – Roles and Responsibilities for the Trust Board**

This session is for Trust Boards to gain an understanding of their new role as a Trustee within an Academy Trust and how they could be challenged by the Department for Education/Ofsted and the Regional Schools Commissioners. It will help to understand your role in helping the Academy raise standards.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation the curriculum**

This course will provide you with an opportunity to discuss effective strategies that enable governors to carry out various functions and roles effectively and to share effective Governing Body practice.

## OFSTED training workshop

Working alongside and with governing bodies, advisory boards, committees and parents' forums are an intrinsic part of improving outcomes for children and families, as well as focusing resources to address priorities. Showing accountability and demonstrating how governance works is a key feature of current inspection regimes.

This practical workshop provides governing bodies an understanding of Ofsted, the new framework for inspection and the role of the governing body.

## Performance Management Monitoring of the Headteacher and teaching staff

This course covers a governor's role on the Headteacher Performance Management Panel in understanding impact of effective performance management and how teaching and learning is directly affected, practical monitoring activities, valuing staff and the importance of excellent external advice.

## Personnel matters

This course will outline the framework of employment law and practice which governors must observe in carrying out their delegated responsibilities and provide discussion on how to best discharge decision making functions.

## Planning and running effective meetings

Ensuring that effective meetings take place is vital to the work of any governing body, advisory board or management committee. It supports the active engagement and inclusion of all members, makes best use of skills and knowledge, gives clear direction and improves decision making. It allows the setting to demonstrate accountability and sustainable leadership which will have an impact on outcomes and reaching targets.

## Preparation for Ofsted – Part 1

This course is essential learning for governors. It will consider the new framework and provide an opportunity for information sharing. There will be examples of how to prepare for OFSTED, consider what information is needed. We will use an Ofsted Preparation Planning Toolkit to ensure governors can evidence effectively their knowledge, skills and ability to fulfil their three core functions.

## Preparation for Ofsted – Part 2 (advanced)

This session is split into two parts, with the first part using a planning toolkit for preparing for Ofsted, with governors exploring the questions and level of knowledge expected of them. The second part is an interview as though it was an Ofsted inspection where governors would be coached to answer key questions about their school/academy.

## Recruiting, inducting and supporting community representatives

Working alongside and with governing bodies, advisory boards, committees and parents forums are an intrinsic part of improving outcomes for children and families, as well as focusing resources to address priorities.

Recruiting and support parents and community members to take on these roles requires understanding of what motivates and what will sustain potential candidates. Skills in communication and mentoring alongside a clear approach to risk management and confidentiality are required. Achieving this effectiveness requires a shared vision, an understanding of the needs of the community and its representatives.

## School improvement

This practical programme is designed to help governing bodies fulfil their strategic role in the effective and efficient management of school improvement. The programme covers the OFSTED focus areas and the OFSTED framework around teaching, behaviour and safety, leadership and management, data and raise and OFSTED.

## Staff Wellbeing

This course covers the governing body's role in promoting staff and Headteacher Wellbeing. This will be considered in context of local and national expectations from OFSTED, rapid change and recruitment.

At a time when recruitment is a national issue, recognising the importance of staff wellbeing is crucial in helping to appoint and retain staff, including Headteachers.

This training takes Governing Bodies through a series of exercises in order to answer the above questions, in the context of each setting, taking into account guidance and advice from others, including the Health & Safety Executive and MIND.

## The role of the Chair

Every School/Academy/Federation should have an effective governing body made up of well informed, knowledgeable, skilled governors.

Being the chair of governors is central to this. It is a very worthwhile role, yet demanding role. To be effective, you need a good understanding of the role and its responsibilities so that your school gains maximum benefit.

## The role of the Governor

Every School/Academy/Federation should have an effective governing body made up of well informed, knowledgeable, skilled governors. Showing accountability and demonstrating how governance works is a key feature of current inspection regimes and it is key that all governors are aware of their role and the law relating to staff governors.

This comprehensive course offers governors the opportunity to learn about their role and their three core functions (strategic, accountability and critical friend) as well as providing an overview of data and finance.

**For more information please see**  
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