

Governor Bulletin



FAO: Headteachers & Chairs of Governors Spring 2012 – Issue 26

Happy New Year to all governors of Derbyshire Schools!



Please share this information with your governors.

'Governor Strategic Briefings – The New OfSTED Framework'

Following on from the popular autumn governor briefings, Councillor Mike Longden, Cabinet Member for Education and Ian Thomas, Strategic Director, Children and Younger Adults, would like to invite the governors of your school to one of the following sessions:

Monday 5 March 2012 – Sawley Junior School, Long Eaton, NG10 3DQ

Wednesday 7 March 2012 – Council Chamber, County Hall, Matlock (limited to 100)

Monday 19 March 2012 – Springwell Community College, Chesterfield, S43 3NQ

Wednesday 21 March 2012 – Chapel-en-le-Frith High School, High Peak, SK23 OTQ

To book places, please email governor.support@derbyshire.gov.uk or telephone 01629 535769.

All sessions are from **6-8pm** and there is **no charge** for Derbyshire LA maintained schools.

Future Governor Bulletins

From March 2012 information and updates for all governors will appear in the Derbyshire eMagazine. Register to have an alert emailed directly to you:

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/governormagazine

The Education Act 2011

This received Royal Assent on 15 November 2011. The DfE is currently preparing new School Governance (Constitution) Regulations that will come into force in September 2012. New guidance will be provided in due course.

New Schools Extranet

Please see attached for information on the replacement to the DnFL.

Derbyshire School Governors' Association

Open to all Derbyshire School Governors. Meetings held on the 4th Wednesday of each month (excluding December and August) at County Hall Matlock, Committee Room 4, 7-9pm. If your school can host a meeting, this enables the venue to be rotated around the county. Please contact Paul Mason, Chair of DSGA via <http://www.dsga.org.uk/>. The DSGA bulletin board gives more very useful information for governors, including alerting governors to DfE consultations.

Dates of future meetings: 25 January, 22 February and 28 March 2012.

governor.support@derbyshire.gov.uk

Leading Governors - the role of the chair of governors in schools and academies.

This leadership development booklet explores the role of the chair of governors and provides an overview of the National College's new programme of training for chairs of governors available from April 2012.

It can be accessed at www.nationalcollege.org.uk

School Profile – requirement soon to be removed

The following announcement was made by the DfE last term: 'It is vital that schools communicate information to parents. Removing the requirement to produce a school profile means that governing bodies and schools will be freed from unnecessary administrative burdens and will have the autonomy to choose for themselves how to publicise their school to parents. Subject to parliamentary approval, we expect this will be removed during the 2011/12 academic year.' Further information will be given in due course.

NPQH

The DfE announced in December 2011 that the requirement to have NPQH for a first headship is to be withdrawn. However, until parliamentary procedure is completed, the qualification remains mandatory.

Calling all Secondary Schools

Has your school promoted the **BIG VOTE**, by supporting young people to put themselves forward as candidates for the 2012-2014 Derbyshire Youth Council?

To find out more, go to:
www.derbyshire.gov.uk/bigvote

Long Term Headteacher Absence

In the unlikely event that the Headteacher is absent for more than a short term illness, Chairs of Governors are advised to contact CAYA HR Advice and Guidance Team, on 01629 535734. New Chairs of Governors may wish to clarify with their headteacher how they will be informed of such a situation and the routine cover arrangements for any short term absence of the headteacher.

CAYA HR will be happy to provide advice and guidance on any actions the Chair should consider taking in relation to the adopted absence management procedure and any welfare considerations. If the Chair has identified any school leadership and management issues arising from the head's absence, HR can also alert the Advisory Service who will be able to offer advice.

For any other member of staff the headteacher is in a position to initiate the appropriate actions and any relevant support, so it is important that the Chair of Governors is able to ensure equivalent responses are made for a headteacher who experiences more than a short term absence.

Governor Support Helpline: 01629 535769

Useful Links

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/infoforschools - a dedicated section on the main Derbyshire County Council website for schools, with a section for Governors

www.dsga.org.uk – Derbyshire School Governors' Association is run by Derbyshire governors for Derbyshire governors.

www.derbyshireparentpartnership.co.uk – Free, confidential, impartial help, advice and support for parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) in Derby and Derbyshire.

www.dfe.gov.uk – The Department for Education website contains a range of information for governors.

www.governorline.info – Free, confidential advice, information and support to school governors, clerks and individuals involved directly in the governance of maintained schools in England.

Agenda & Briefing Service

You may find this useful in supporting your work on the Governing Body. The comprehensive agenda is supported by updated explanatory notes. It is accessed as a Traded Service, please contact Tracey on 01629 535769 to subscribe or for further information.

Previous bulletins can be accessed at:

<http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/infoforschools>

Spring 2012 Training Programme – Mini Guide

Date	Training Course	Area/Venue
03.03.12	New Governors	County Hall, Matlock
06.03.12	School Finance	Parkside Community School
06.03.03	Special Educational Needs	Brimington Junior School
06.03.12	New Chair/Vice Chair	Glossop Area
07.03.12	New Chair/Vice Chair	Parkside Community School
10.03.12	New Governors	The Old Post Centre, Swadlincote
13.03.12	Experienced Chair/Vice Chair	Glossop Area
14.03.12	School Finance	Ripley Junior School
15.03.12	Experienced Chair/Vice Chair	Parkside Community School
22.03.12	School Finance	Eureka Primary School
24.03.12	New Governors	Bolsover Area

Full details are available at: <http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/infoforschools>

Governor Briefing Spring 2012

New Schools Extranet Replacing Temporary Communication Solution

This is to update you on developments with the new Schools Extranet Site. Further updates for Governors will be sent in due course.

The temporary solution provided when DNfL was withdrawn is being replaced by a new schools extranet site with a single point of authenticated access for all electronic communication between the Authority and Schools.

There will be two main areas to the new schools extranet site:

- General information and traded services information
- Secure area for accessing confidential information and secure data exchange facilities including access to data books.

The principle on which the new site has been developed is to provide schools with one portal for all communication with the Authority. We have also included a bulletin board to support the action messages and alerts which schools have told us have been most useful in the past. We will also be sending a weekly e-Newsletter to schools to let them know what has been put onto the site.

We are aiming for all schools to have access from the beginning of January 2012.

I attach the site structure for your information. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me either by phone on 01629 538095 or by email on mandy.swood@derbyshire.gov.uk

Mandy Stafford-Wood
Head of Information
Children & Younger Adults

Site Structure

1. Teaching and Learning
 - Advisory Service
 - Outdoor education and PE
 - Learning Resources
 - School Library Service
 - Primary School Swimming
 - ICT

2. Pupil Support
 - Education Welfare
 - Behaviour Support
 - Co-ordinated School Admissions
 - SEN and Inclusion
 - Elective Home Education
 - Traveller Families and Children
 - EAL
 - Teenage Parents
 - Children missing from education
 - Safeguarding

3. Leadership and Governance
 - Governor Information

4. Finance & Legal
 - DSAS/SAP

5. Human Resources & Payroll

6. Property Services

7. Health & Safety

8. ICT
 - ICT Administration
 - ICT Support

9. Business Intelligence

10. Data Collections
 - School Census
 - School Workforce Census
 - P Scales
 - FSP/KS1
 - KS4
 - CiC

11. My School