



Gloucestershire Governors' Association

Ofsted New Inspection Framework

GGA Open Meetings 2011/12

- 7th November 2011
Supporting your Head with business expertise
- 28th November 2011
The New Ofsted Framework
- January 2012
Budget Setting
- 27th February 2012
Empowering Governance
- 23rd April 2012
Topic to be identified
- 18th June 2012
Topic to be identified (AGM)

The new framework will take effect from January 2012. As expected, it has a much higher focus on teaching and learning within the classroom.

With just four criteria to mark instead of 26, the inspectors can spend longer observing lessons and life within the school. A higher weight will be placed on teaching standards to prevent schools who aren't outstanding in teaching from being classed outstanding overall, which currently covers 26% of outstanding schools.

The four new criteria are:

- ✦ pupil achievement;
- ✦ quality of teaching;
- ✦ quality of leadership and management;
- ✦ the behaviour and safety of pupils at school.

The frequency of inspection will also change; schools judged outstanding will be inspected only in evidence of falling standards, while good schools will be inspected every 5 years and satisfactory schools every 3 years. Inadequate schools will be kept under careful observation, and re-inspected within a year.

An online survey will be set up where parents can leave anonymous messages about the wellbeing of pupils at the school. The Government intends that this new framework will focus efforts on those schools whose pupils are failing to achieve their potential, particularly in literacy and numeracy. The draft proposed framework is on the Ofsted website ([Click here](#))

The GGA Open Meeting on 28th November at 7pm in Shire Hall will deal with this new Ofsted inspection framework.

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

In the *White Paper: The Importance of Teaching* there was a remit to the National College to work with the National Governors' Association (NGA) to produce materials for the development of chairs of governors. The NGA is part of a National College partnership group which also includes the National Co-ordinators of Governor Services (NCOGS) and the Foundation, Aided and Academies National Association (FASNA).

The NGA was delighted to announce that the first phase of the project – a booklet about chairing (*Leading governors: the role of the chair of governors in schools and academies*) – has now been published.

More information about the next phases of the programme can be viewed on the National College website ([Click here](#)).

For those who are members of the NGA, a hard copy of the booklet will be going out with the next issues of *Governing Matters*, but for others it can also be downloaded from the National College's website via the attached link ([Click here](#)).

Good News - Pupil Premium

The DfE have announced that the pupil premium will rise by £58 per pupil for this year, up to £488 per pupil. The money has been released because fewer than expected children have registered for Free School Meals (FSMs) this year.

News of the extra cash for this year comes after Ministers recently announced that the total funding available for the Pupil Premium next year (i.e 2012-13) will double to £1.25bn. It will rise again each year until 2014-15 when it will be worth £2.5bn.

Per pupil allocations and how the Pupil Premium will be distributed in 2012-13 has not yet been finalised

Calling all schools.....it's Jubilee Time!!



The Big Lottery Fund want to hear from all schools across the ITV West Region so they can tell you how you can get involved in this exciting project.

Many of you will already have school projects that link you

with the elderly in your communities. The Big Lottery Fund would like to talk to you about how you could incorporate **Jubilee Time after Time** or how you might like to consider introducing a project between now and the

celebration of the Queen's Jubilee in June 2012.

There are five £500 awards for the most innovative school projects.

[Click here for link](#)

Ofsted Parents' Website

Ofsted has launched their new website that allows parents to anonymously rate a school on various subjects through a questionnaire ('Parent View'). At the end of each school year the results will be collated to allow comparisons to be drawn between

schools. Ofsted will also use the information to help decide whether a school should be inspected. Parents will be asked a variety of questions regarding how the school is performing such as whether their child is happy and whether

their school is well led.

The new website can be viewed here

[Click here for link](#)

SkillZONE — Gloucestershire's first safety education centre

Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service's new life skills centre will open in Gloucester in April 2012.

SkillZONE will be a state-of-the-art, fully interactive learning environment to teach children, young people and other vulnerable people how to recognise dangerous situations and stay safe.

SkillZONE will open its doors in September 2012 and bookings will be taken from April 2012.

For more information, view the SkillZONE website

[Click here to link](#)



Behaviour Checklist

The DfE have published a checklist compiled by Charlie Taylor, the Government's Expert Adviser on behaviour in schools, and an experienced Headteacher of a special school dealing with some of the worst behavioural issues.

Taylor explained that the checklist is designed to help teachers deal with challenging behaviour. Although it contains very simple tasks, having them laid out and ticked off is thought to help ensure they are all completed consistently.

The document contains checklists for teachers on the classroom; pupils; teaching; and parents, and for headteachers on policy; leadership; building; staff; children; teaching; individual pupils; and parents

[Click here for link](#)

'School governors give an enormous amount to the education system in England, yet their contribution is largely hidden from public view'.

Taken from the 'Hidden Givers' a study of school governing bodies in England

The Castle Gate Family Trust

The Castle Gate Family Trust helps families through the Criminal Justice process – from court, through custody and to release. It is based in the Visitors Centre in HMP Gloucester.

They provide support for prisoners' families throughout the county. The support also extends to children living in Gloucestershire with a parent in another prison and those children who are at risk of offending themselves.

The aim is to help strengthen and maintain good family ties and reduce the trauma and effects of separation associated with a custodial sentence.

For more information [Click here](#)



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Have your say.....

We would be delighted to receive your comments, ideas or articles for future publications of the GGA newsletter.

Please contact Craig Guthrie by email: craig.c.guthrie@sky.com

The Gloucestershire Governors' Association exists to serve the governors and, hence, the schools and children of Gloucestershire. It is affiliated to the National Governors' Association (NGA).

It holds a termly Open Meeting to which all governors of all Gloucestershire schools are invited.

Affiliated schools pay a small annual subscription (used for the running of the GGA); governors from these are able to stand for election to the Executive Committee and a representative of each affiliated school may vote at the AGM.

Joining the GGA/attending its meetings gives a governor the opportunity:

- to hear professional speakers on topical issues affecting the governance of schools
- to obtain information and advice about topical issues
- to share anxieties, information and good practice

For more information visit our website - [Click here](#)

Anti-Bullying Week 14-18 November

The annual Anti-Bullying week runs from Monday 14th to Friday 18th November 2011.

Anti-bullying week is headed by the anti-bullying alliance (ABA) (a coalition of a number of anti-bullying organisations with over 130 members).

This year's theme is verbal bullying, with the slogan - 'Stop and think - words can hurt.' The theme and slogan are designed to challenge children and young people to stop and think about the language they are using in their face-to-face and digital communications. The premise behind the theme is to highlight the fact that the use of words and expressions that are



homophobic, racist, sexist or disablist - as well as being offensive - when left unchallenged can lead to bullying and intimidation.

To go with the week, the ABA produces a pack of materials which is available to download from their website – this includes a specific briefing for governors.

The governors' briefing can be downloaded via the attached link [Click here](#)

The full briefing pack is available via the ABA's website [Click here](#)