



We would like to invite you to contact **Governor Services** with news, information or details of events for governors.

Email: governor.services@gloucestershire.gov.uk or phone 01452 425313. Publication dates for future editions can be found in the 'Noticeboard' section below. Chairs are asked to share the contents of this e-bulletin with their governing body.

Edition: 10th November 2011

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[Consultation on School Term Dates for Gloucestershire County Council for the Academic Year 2013/2014](#)

We are currently seeking views on a draft calendar for the 2013/14 school year. Comments will be welcome by no later than **Thursday 22nd December 2011**.

Please see the calendars of proposed term dates on our website www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/termdateconsultation and vote for your preferred option by selecting option 1 or option 2.

We also welcome any comments you wish to make to our email address termdateconsultation@gloucestershire.gov.uk

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[Gloucester Primary Place Planning](#)

As you may know, our projections show that we need to put in place 120 additional temporary primary school places in Gloucester to address the rise in demand for September 2012. Following feedback received from schools in Gloucester, we have considered potential locations for the additional places. Please click on the link above for further information on the list of schools that have indicated they can support additional reception pupils in the year September 2012. A final decision is anticipated at the end of November 2011. Further information about these proposals is available at: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucesterprimaryplaces.

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[Pupil Premium increase](#)

The Department for Education has announced that this year's Pupil Premium for disadvantaged pupils has been increased from £430 to £488 - an additional £58 per pupil. The funding premium for children of service families will remain at £200 per pupil for 2011-12.

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[Winter Risks](#)

Last winter 91% of all property claims received were from schools suffering burst pipes with a cost to the insurance fund of £350,000.00. There were also claims for injuries sustained by staff/pupils slipping on icy surfaces. Schools are reminded that they have a 'duty of care' to take reasonable precautions to prevent or minimise loss to their property and also a legal responsibility to ensure the safety of their pupils/staff and visitors. A lack of duty of care may result in a property claim being rejected. Please follow the above links for 'Cold Weather Advice' from Property Care and the 'Dealing with Snow and Ice Guidance' from the Safety, Health and Environment Unit to make sure that your property and people are protected.

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[Information for Secondary Schools on Careers Education and Independent Advice and Guidance \(CEIAG\)](#)

Few would argue that young people need help making choices about their future study and employment choices. Schools do much to prepare students through careers education and work related learning but this needs to be supported for many students by access to impartial information, advice and guidance.

Most secondary schools in the county were represented at a meeting called on 20th September by GASH & GCC to discuss the proposed changes to the Careers Service. This was followed by an equally well represented conference on 18th October organised by Prospects Services Ltd, the current guidance provider for GCC. This indicates that secondary schools are beginning to seriously consider their options for the new duties they are likely to inherit under the Education Bill. A diagram setting out a summary of the changes is attached.

To help schools find the best and most efficient way of meeting the guidance needs of their students, GCC and Prospects have drafted a proposal that would enable schools to continue with something that approximates to the current arrangements, with some flexibility over volumes, for another year. This would involve joint funding between GCC and schools. The arrangement would lead to GCC helping schools work together to commission a new service from April 2013 onwards when they will be re-commissioning the Youth Support Service. The aim would be that by working together a full service can be commissioned at the lowest cost.

The proposal has been sent in the first instance to Careers leads in schools for comment. A copy of the paper is attached. The next step will be to make a formal offer to schools in mid November. Schools will be asked to indicate by mid December whether they wish to join this proposal.

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Consultation

[Proposed changes to the newly qualified teacher \(NQT\) induction regulations for England](#)

This consultation document provides details of the proposed changes to the NQT induction regulations for teachers in England. The current system for NQT induction is set out in *The Education (Induction Arrangements for School Teachers) (England) Regulations 2008*. These proposals aim to reduce prescription and provide appropriate bodies and schools with the flexibility to exercise their professional judgement in relation to their own induction arrangements.

Responses may be made online at: www.education.gov.uk/consultations/ or sent by email to: NQTinduction.CONULTATION@education.gsi.gov.uk or by post to: Teacher Standards and Development Team, DfE, Level 4, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.

The consultation period ends on 1st December 2011.

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Noticeboard

Local Authority / Gloucestershire Governors' Association Meeting

The next open meeting of the Gloucestershire Governors' Association will be held on **Monday 28th November - 7.00-9.00 pm** - Shire Hall, Westgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2TP.

Ofsted is introducing a new school inspection framework from January 2012. The new framework has now been published in draft form (<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/draft-framework-for-school-inspection-january-2012>).

The new arrangements will introduce four principal judgements that will lead to the overall effectiveness grade for the school. More time will be spent in the classroom, and there will be a sharper focus on how head teachers and governors lead a continued drive on raising standards.

This event will provide an early opportunity for governors to:

- be informed about the important changes to the evaluation schedule (<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/draft-evaluation-schedule-for-inspection-of-maintained-schools-and-academies-january-2012>) and conduct of inspections
- identify the similarities and differences between the current and new frameworks
- hear from inspectors about the inspection process and protocols: timelines, preparation and the inspection visit itself
- learn about the focus on vulnerable groups, reading and phonics at all key stages
- consider how governors and head teachers might respond to new expectations regarding self-evaluation

Please let Jennie Leighton, Governor Services know if you are going to attend so that we can make suitable arrangements. Tel. 01452 425846 or email: governor.services@gloucestershire.gov.uk

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Future publication dates of 'What's Up Gov?'

24th November 2011

8th December 2011

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