



The bulletin for Gloucestershire's School Governors

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.

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Issue: 97

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[School Funding Consultation](#) - REMINDER

A briefing and consultation event is taking place at 2.00pm on **Monday 9th January** at Shire Hall, Gloucester. The main issues will be:

- Schools budgets for 2012/13 (Please see the consultation paper attached to the 5th December Heads Up)
- The impact of the government's school funding reform proposals due to be introduced from 2013/14.
- Academy funding

A further meeting has now been scheduled for 6.00pm on **Tuesday 10th January** in the Council Chamber, Shire Hall, Gloucester. All heads, governors and business managers would be very welcome. There are important issues to discuss that will have a bearing on the future funding of your school.

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Safeguarding messages

Section 175 Audit - please remember to send your 2011 Section 175 audit return and forward plan to the safeguarding office as soon as possible as the deadline has now passed and we need to analyse the results and target training where required.

Ofsted FAQs - Ofsted have updated the FAQs about safeguarding (notably the Single Central Record) on their website. Please see the link below which is a useful resource and includes information on the requirements for CRB checks <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/schools/for-schools/safeguarding-children>

Launch of the new Safeguarding e-learning programmes - Three new e-learning packages have been launched to cover Domestic Abuse, Parental Substance Misuse (Hidden Harm) and Safeguarding Leadership for front line and senior managers (**not** to replace the DCPO training). Training is free and passwords can be accessed within the DCPO Live Handbook under Training at www.gsrb.org.uk/handbook

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Staffing Changes

Heather Ingram, Strategic Lead for Governance, has been seconded to the post of Interim Head Teacher at The Ridge School (formerly Amberley Ridge School) until March 2012. Sandra Shepherd will cover Heather's responsibilities during this time.

Chris Malone, Strategic Lead for Early Years, has left the LA to take up a post in Oxfordshire. Julia Hawkes has been appointed as Strategic Lead for Early Years (Acting).

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[Planning for Children & Young People 2012 we want your views](#)

The Gloucestershire Children's Partnership works to improve the outcomes of vulnerable children and young people in Gloucestershire. It is a multi-agency partnership and includes representation from Gloucestershire County Council, Education Providers, District Councils, Health, Police, Probation Service, Job Centre plus and the Voluntary and Community Sector. The three year partnership plan, 'Children and Young People's Plan. 2009-12' is now in its final year (2011-12). We are in the process of producing a new partnership plan to help meet the needs of vulnerable children and young people, and their families. 'This will be the 2012-15 Children & Young People's Partnership Plan' (CYPPP). The new plan will again focus on partnership working to improve the outcomes for our vulnerable children and young people. We would like your views to inform the plan and shape how it is going to be delivered. Using feedback from a range of recent consultation events, we have produced a more detailed online survey to reach a wider audience. The survey can be found here: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/CYPP. Please complete the survey by **10th January 2012**.

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[Update regarding changes to Amberley Ridge, Sandford and Cam House schools](#)

The local authority has been working closely with the governors and leadership teams at The Ridge (formerly Amberley Ridge), Sandford and Cam House Schools in order to develop plans for sustainable improvement. As a result of this work, the governing body of each of the schools has taken the decision to work with the Academies Enterprise Trust in order to set up three sponsored academies for children with behavioural, emotional and social needs (BESN). Read the full message on the bulletin board.

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[Children's Centre Consultation Report and Executive Summary](#)

You will be aware that we have been analysing the feedback from everyone that took part in Children's Centre Consultation. The Consultation Report and Executive Summary are now available on the Children's Centre Webpage at the above link. Also at this link is an Executive Summary of the 2010/11 Performance report for Gloucestershire Children's Centres, an evaluation of a range of key areas of Children's Centre activity. The information from both reports will inform the revised specification for Children's Centre Services and improve the effectiveness of services as part of the performance management arrangements.

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[Pupil Premium for 2012 /13 has been announced by the DfE](#)

Please click on the links below for full details:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/adminandfinance/financialmanagement/schoolsrevenuefunding>

<http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-vote-office/3.Education-Pupil-Premium-2012-13.pdf>

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[NPQH \(National Professional Qualification for Headship\)](#)

A decision has been made by the Secretary of State to lift the mandatory status of NPQH **from early 2012** so first time applicants to headship in maintained schools will no longer be required to have the qualification. This decision is in line with ministerial intentions to give schools and those who lead them more freedom to make their own decisions. ***Until these changes come into effect, it is still a mandatory requirement that all first time applicants to headship in maintained schools must hold NPQH.***

It is clear, however, that the Government continues to recognise and endorse the value and importance of NPQH as the qualification of choice for anyone aspiring to headship. To this end, the Secretary of State for Education has asked the National College to review the programme to ensure that it continues to provide world-class leadership development and remains a mark of quality that governing bodies and academy boards can rely on when making appointments.

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Consultation

[A consultation on revised statutory guidance and regulations for exclusions from schools and pupil referral units in England](#)

The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on the DfE's revised exclusion guidance document and regulations relating to exclusion, including proposals for how regulations will be applied to academies and free schools. The guidance is aimed at head teachers, governors, local authorities, independent review panel members, clerks and SEN experts. In addition, the DfE invites responses from parents, pupils and voluntary and community organisations. Closing Date: Friday 17th February 2012.

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Governor Training

Training for Governors

The following courses are undersubscribed at the present time, please consider whether any of your governors require training in these areas

Safeguarding Children	26.01.12	Oxstalls Indoor Tennis Centre, Gloucester	09.30-12.00
Induction for New Governors	31.01.12	Cheltenham Area Civil Service Sports Association	09.30-15.30

If you would like to book a place on this course, please complete the governor training booking form and return it to: Governor Services, Shire Hall, Westgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2TP or fax it to 01452 427297.

The booking form can be downloaded at: <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schoolsnet/index.cfm?articleid=20737>

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

19th January 2012	2nd February 2012
23rd February 2012	8th March 2012
22nd March 2012	19th April 2012
3rd May 2012	17th May 2012
31st May 2012	21st June 2012
5th July 2012	19th July 2012

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