



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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[Schools Forum Bulletin No 8](#)

Look out for the briefing for May which will shortly be available on the bulletin board.

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Information items

[Gloucestershire Schools Forum - biennial elections](#)

The biennial elections have been deferred from April to September 2011. The process, number of seats vacant and nominations received are set out at the above link.

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[Changes to Careers Services](#)

GCC have funded Prospects Services Ltd to deliver a transitional universal careers service for young people until March 2012. This will provide a continuation of the service available to providers, albeit at a reduced level due to funding cuts. Schools will receive detailed letters about the service after the May half-term, to be followed by meetings to discuss individual schools requirements. If you wish to discuss this further contact Andrew Webster (01452) 425659 or email: Andrew.Webster@prospects.co.uk

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[Work Experience Placement Checks - for Secondary and Special Schools](#)

Before Easter schools were alerted to the fact that YPLA funding for checking work experience placements was being withdrawn with almost immediate effect. GCC has funded a temporary extension to the contract which should allow continued checking for placements in the Summer Term and, if resources allow, those at the start of the Autumn Term. This is contingent upon schools notifying Prospect Training well in advance of any intended placement.

The DfE response to the Wolf Report indicates that schools will remain under a duty to provide work related learning (work experience) in KS4 until September 2012 with a longer term expectation to provide more work experience for older pupils. Schools will be free to determine whether and how they provide work experience in KS4.

We are developing some options for schools to help them continue to meet statutory requirements. We will be discussing options with Headteacher associations after half term.

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[Schools Internet Service - Invoice for Core Connectivity Service Charges 2011/12](#)

Schools will shortly be receiving an invoice for your core connectivity costs of the Schools Internet Service (SIS). The invoice will be emailed to you directly from South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) and covers the period 1st April 2011 to 31st March 2012. See full information on the bulletin board.

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[School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme](#)

The Public Health Minister, Anne Milton, has confirmed that the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme will remain unchanged until March 2012, when it'll be reviewed in light of new public health priorities and developing work on the ring-fenced budget for Public Health England. www.nhs.uk/Livewell/5ADAY/Pages/Schoolscheme.aspx

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[Asbestos Management Plan](#)

A management plan, which is an addition to the asbestos policy, has been devised to assist schools to monitor and manage asbestos material. The plan will help schools cover their responsibilities, and help to identify work, when necessary to ensure that asbestos is kept in safe condition. Schools with aided status may wish to use this document as a template to follow. You may wish to discuss any changes with your diocese property officer, who can assist you further. The guide should make clear your responsibilities, and when completed fulfil the renewed requirements from the Health and Safety Executive concerning duty holders and asbestos management in schools. If you have any concerns, contact Asset Management and Property Services on 01452 425831.

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School Tree Inspections

From the 1st April 2011 Tree inspections undertaken by Asset Management and Property Services will no longer be available to Schools, as the funding for this service have been removed. The County Council have approved a Tree Policy for the inspection and management of its tree stock, a copy of which is available on the Building Services home page.

A tree inspection list has been produced to enable schools to undertake an inspection of the trees on their sites. This will determine any health and safety issues that might arise from the trees location in relation to children and people using the site and also in relation to its buildings. Read the full letter on the bulletin board.

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A Free Business Support Service now available to all Governor Run and Out of School Settings

Gloucestershire Enterprise Limited has been commissioned to deliver the Better Business in Childcare (BBiC) service on behalf of Gloucestershire County Council's until 31st March 2012. Previously they have provided support to private, voluntary and independent childcare settings. This year they have been asked to provide the free business support to governor run settings and out of school clubs.

Visit www.betterbusinessinchildcare.co.uk to register. There is a dedicated telephone advice line which is available 5 days a week and is on 0845 838 9965.

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Prince's Trust National Citizen Service

Youth Charity, The Prince's Trust, in Partnership with Young Gloucestershire, is appealing for Gloucestershire's school leavers to take part in a new Government scheme to be run this summer. National Citizen Service (NC) is a free course for year 11 school leavers to learn new skills, challenge themselves and make a positive impact in their community during the summer holidays. Young people will design a project to benefit their local area as well as going on a five-day team building trip, taking part in activities such as kayaking and rock-climbing. For further information or to refer a young person please contact: Gail Rowlands, gail.rowlands@princes-trust.org.uk - 0117 9434944 / 07970873924 or visit: Princes Trust Website

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Governor Training

Training Courses - September-December 2011

For details of training courses available for governors, clerks to governors and head teachers.

Noticeboard

Gloucestershire Governors' Association Meeting

Theme: Governing Bodies can improve school performance

The final Open Meeting of the school year (and the GGA AGM) will be held on **Monday 13th June at 7pm in Shire Hall** (Westgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2TP). The speaker will be Professor Chris James of Bath University. He has studied schools and their governance over a number of years. Most recently he looked at the relationship between school governing bodies and school performance. The results have been published ('The Hidden Givers'). Some fascinating conclusions are evident from Chris James' work.

If you wish to attend please contact Jennie Leighton on 01452 425846 or email: governor.services@gloucestershire.gov.uk to help us make appropriate arrangements.

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Gloucestershire Closing the Gap Team Training Event

Monday 13th June 2011 - 09.00-16.00 - Venue: University of Gloucestershire - Oxstalls Campus. A flyer providing all the details and booking details are on Schoolsnet at the above link.

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

23rd June 2011
7th July 2011
21st July 2011

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