# Governance Newsletter



### **KEY INFORMATION & ACTIONS**

Thank you for all the feedback given through the survey on the first round of governance meetings in the new structure. Please click <u>here</u> to view a summary of feedback and the resulting actions which are now being implemented.

Trust Board request AGB Governors to follow up on any action points from their schools Quality Assurance reports.

# **TSAT Governance News & Resources**

Conducting a Governor visit: Thank you to so many schools have hosted successful Governor visits during Term 2. When you have conducted a visit, please do ensure you complete the Governor visit form as this is a valuable document for your fellow Governors to understand what you have observed, as well as evidencing for Ofsted effective Governor challenge. A downloadable template form can be in the 'Governor Resources' section of our <u>website</u>.

Questions Resource: Check out our \*NEW\* Questions Document for 24/25 which will be able to support you with devising questions for your AGB meetings or school visits.

We desperately need more Governors to sit on Governor Discipline Panels (GDCs) to review suspensions and exclusions of pupils in our schools. Please refer to the latest communications from the Governance Team <a href="here">here</a> on what it entails and how to get involved.



# **Messages to Governors**

The Board of Directors wish to pass on their thanks to AGB Governors for the ongoing work and support you are providing schools with their budgets.

It has been a significant start to the year with the successful launch of the AGBs and RABs. Thank you to all governors who have worked to make this successful and provided feedback which has been key in formulating the actions to further develop our structure.

Kelly Denton, Head of Governance and Compliance

## **TSAT News**

- Meon Infant Schools achieves 'Thinking School' accreditation!
- Holcombe Grammar School are going Co-Ed from September 2026
- Kings Ash Academy celebrate graduation from Behaviour Hub Programme with £9k grant for new playground

Read the latest 'Our Trust' Newsletter containing updates across the Trust: Our Trust Newsletter

# **Governors In the Spotlight**

Last academic year, we introduced a new recognition scheme to acknowledge and celebrate the incredible work our Governors do for their schools. Recipients of this award for 23/24 were Mike Baker (Maritime), Richard Holdsworth (Victory) and Sarah Roads (Meon Way and The Portsmouth Academy).

We celebrated a Lifetime Achievement for contributions to Governance being awarded to Peter Martin, Vice Chair of the TSAT Board of Directors.









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## What's On: Governor Hub



Our best resource for supporting Governors is the Governor Hub Knowledge website where all resources are free and easy to access. Below are recommendations:

If you have any issues accessing Governor Hub, please contact us at governance@tsatrust.org.uk.

Explore the webinars and events available to all Governors through Governor Hub: <u>School governance webinars to</u> watch on-demand

Listen to the latest episodes of Governance focused podcasts from NGA and others  $\underline{School\ governance}$   $\underline{podcasts}$ 

Term 3 Recommendations on Governor Hub Knowledge <u>Ofsted inspection: safeguarding | GovernorHub</u> – Understand what inspectors expect to see in your schools' safeguarding arrangements.

<u>SEND link governor | GovernorHub</u> - Assigned as the SEND Link Governor for your school and looking to build your knowledge and confidence? Governor Hub has a new course available.

#### Governor Vacancies

Do you know someone who is interested in a Governance role? Please explore our vacancies <u>here</u> and share this link with potential candidates.

VACANCY IN THE SPOTLIGHT: Cedar Childrens Academy are looking for a Chair of Governors!

# Dates for your diary:

- AGB Week, W/C 27th January 2025
- 'Week of Thinking' WeAreOne event, W/C 3rd February 2025
- February Half Term, W/C 17th February 2025

### **National Sector News & Resources**

Summary of Children's Wellbeing & Schools Bill

**2024 Budget Updates for Education** 

**Ofsted Annual Report** 

School Attendance 23/24 data analysis: a widening gap between vulnerable pupils and their peers

National Audit Office SEND Report highlights significant financial pressures

New Proactive Duty for Employers: Prevent Sexual Harassment

## Meet our Trustees - Clive Star, South West

I've been on the Trust Board now for two and a half years. My area of specialism is IT and Data Protection (an area I worked in for over 30 years). In addition to sitting on the Board I am a member of the Operations Committee which covers Trust wide Health & Safety and IT. I'm also a member of the Audit and Risk Committee which covers Internal Audit, External Audit as well as Data Protection. In addition, I am Chair of the South West RAB. In between all that I join Governor Discipline Committees where we consider representations for suspended and excluded pupils.

Having recently retired from paid employment I'm now living my dream of travelling around the world as much as I can.

# Clerk's Update

## **Recruiting Governors through E-Ploy!**

E-Ploy is now set up with a specific module to support you with advertising for and recruiting new Governors.

If you have any questions, please contact ourselves or the recruitment team.

#### **Term 3 Clerks Briefing**

Thank you for joining us for our Term 3 Clerks Briefing. The recording of this is available and the slides have been sent to you.

Regional Pre-AGB Meetings are set up for you to join on Monday 20th January 2025!