

# GOVERNOR HEADLINES

Thank you for all the positive feedback we have received in response to the first edition of **Governor Headlines**. It was very rewarding to hear your thoughts and views regarding the items you would find it helpful to know about, we will of course be including these over the forthcoming months.

This month and going forward **The Knowledge** will not be sent as a separate email, but embedded in this newsletter to avoid cluttering up your inbox.

The Summer term is always a particularly busy time with KS2 SATs, A Levels and GCSE examinations. We all look forward to seeing the outcomes of everyone's hard work and thank governors for the many ways they have led their schools as part of their leadership teams to achieve their very best.



What's new this month - May 2017

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## The Knowledge



Please find the latest edition of **The Knowledge** for May 2017 [here](#).

Please be aware that due to the Election information it contains, this month's edition could be subject to change.

## Helping you to...

### Prepare for Ofsted

#### **"The quality of leadership, including governance" Briefings for Chairs of Governors**

During May we have held a series of Ofsted Briefings for Chairs of Governors for schools that are potentially overdue or expecting an Ofsted inspection during the Summer term of 2017.

The aim of the briefings was to support Chairs of Governors to ensure:

- governors have the level of confidence required to play a strong role as part of the wider leadership team in navigating the school through an Ofsted inspection;
- governors know their school well and can demonstrate how they are undertaking their statutory responsibilities and supporting the school's improvement;
- governors are well prepared and have the knowledge to undertake the conversation with the Ofsted inspector in showing how governance is contributing to good or better education for the pupils at their school.

There is one remaining briefing event:

Location: **Kesgrave Community and Conference Centre, Kesgrave, Ipswich, IP5 1JF**

Date: 8 May 2017

Time: 6pm – 7:30pm

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There is no charge for this session.

If you would like to book a place please contact Lyndsay Cook at:

[Lyndsay.cook@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Lyndsay.cook@suffolk.gov.uk)



## Information for Schools with Foundation and/ or Partnership Governors

The first changes from the School Governance (Constitution and Federations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 came into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017. These amendments include changes to Regulation 14 of the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012 and Regulation 22 of the School Governance (Federations) (England) Regulations 2012 which previously allowed governing bodies to round the number of partnership or foundation governors up or down to the nearest whole number in order to meet the requirements of the regulations in respect of the size of the governing body. Our understanding of the removal of these sections within the regulations is that now you will need to round down to the nearest whole number.

For example, a governing body with 11 governors in total could currently have either 2 or 3 partnership or foundation governors because the regulations required that the number of these governors should “*include at least two (but no more than one quarter of the total)*”. Therefore the example governing body could have rounded the maximum of one quarter of the total 11 Governors (= 2.75) up to 3, but due to the regulation changes this can no longer occur and so the figure will now **need** to be rounded down to 2.

We believe that if this affects you, it will require you to amend your Instrument of Government so that you are still in line with the statutory guidance.

If you need to reconstitute your governing body in response to this amendment by removing any surplus foundation or partnership governors then please get in contact with Joanna Howell and Lyndsay Cook at [governance@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:governance@suffolk.gov.uk) – it’s a relatively quick process and is really simple to do.

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## Health and Safety Responsibilities Maintained, Academies and Free Schools

Nina Bickerton - Suffolk Schools H&S Advisor has provided some useful information for governors on the following topics:

[Health and Safety Responsibilities in Schools](#)

[Academy Conversion – School Sites and Buildings](#)

[Health and Safety Message Regarding Documentation Retention - for all Maintained Schools](#)

## Training Opportunities

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## **Governor Leadership Development Programme**

The Governor Leadership Development Programme is highly recommended for all Chairs of Governors whether they are new to the role or have several years of experience. Aspirant Chairs are also welcome to apply.

This opportunity comes at "no cost" to schools as the National College of Teaching and Leadership is providing scholarship funding, with Suffolk County Council also making a contribution.

However, full attendance will be required to enable this "no cost" option to pertain.

For further information and booking details please follow the links below:

[Governor Leadership Development Programme - Ipswich Venue](#)

[Governor Leadership Development Programme - Bury St Edmunds Venue](#)

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