



## Diocese of Chichester Governance E-Bulletin : December 2021

*Learning with meaning and purpose - to know God and shape the world*

**'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the holy spirit.'** Romans 15 v13



Dear Colleagues,

I have been really blessed by the welcome I have received in my new role as Governance Development Officer. I look forward to meeting more of you in the New Year and beyond.

As I reflect on the meaning and purpose of this Christmas season I am thinking about the genealogy of Jesus. I thought the verse **"But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son,"** (Galatians 4:4) might sound more interesting! But it is incredible [Continue Reading.....](#)

### COVID-19 UPDATED Guidance

In this last week of term you will be well aware of the challenges being faced as the new variant of Covid-19 is impacting us all. Your school will be responding to the latest guidance affecting them now and for the return to school in January. This is largely operational but to keep yourself informed you might like to access:

[Actions for schools during the Coronavirus outbreak](#)

[Daily rapid testing for COVID-19 contacts launches this week](#)

As any further changes or announcements are published over the next few weeks you can access the DfE website or @educationgovuk on Twitter

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DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

new GOVERNANCE TRAINING 2022

Safeguarding, Charing, Clerking, Questioning skills, and much more

Virtual training sessions will be available from January 2022 - keep a watch on the training section of the website by using the QR Code or web address below

bit.ly/ChichesterGovernors

## Governance Training Programme

We are delighted to launch our programme of virtual development sessions. All these can be booked through [Eventbrite](#). Information about each course can be found following the link on the diocesan Eventbrite booking page to the relevant course.

These are all new opportunities even where the title may sound familiar. Each one will be an opportunity to be inspired, informed and supported in your role as a governor of a Church School. They will include the following **Upcoming Governance Sessions**:

**Online Training**  
**SAFEGUARDING FOR GOVERNORS**  
12 JANUARY 2022  
27 APRIL 2022

Overview of safeguarding responsibilities with reference to CofE Safeguarding training content

All governors and especially Safeguarding governor  
- book on the website or use the QR Code

**choose, book, & join**  
bit.ly/ChichesterGovernors

**Online Training**  
**THE ART OF BEST QUESTIONING**  
9 FEBRUARY 2022

Drawing on the model of coaching to improve and develop better questioning skills

All governors including headteachers  
- book on the website or use the QR Code

**choose, book, & join**  
bit.ly/ChichesterGovernors

**Online Training**  
**NEW TO CHURCH SCHOOL GOVERNANCE**  
14 MARCH 2022

How to be Called, Connected and Committed to church school governance: focus on CofE Vision

New governors and a refresh for the experienced  
- book on the website or use the QR Code

**choose, book, & join**  
bit.ly/ChichesterGovernors

**Online Training**  
**OFSTED MIGHT CALL**  
24 MARCH 2022

An overview of what to expect and be ready for the Ofsted interview

All governors  
- book on the website or use the QR Code

**choose, book, & join**  
bit.ly/ChichesterGovernors

### **Other sessions planned (details on Eventbrite):**

March: Network session for Chairs  
May: In Person, In School (Monitoring)  
June: Chair? Could this be me?

March: Clerking a Church School  
June: Growing Partnerships

## **SIAMS Training**

### Introduction to SIAMS for Governors

Wednesday 19 January 18.00 -19.00 Zoom

## Recruitment

Where vacancies exist governance boards often find it difficult to recruit. Please feel free to contact Mike Simmonds to discuss your needs and consider solutions. Meanwhile we are planning to have a **Governor Vacancies** page on our website so please email your specific vacancies, the skills you have identified you need and an email address for potential governors to express an interest to [Michelle.Perry@Chichester.Anglican.Org](mailto:Michelle.Perry@Chichester.Anglican.Org).

You may already have a process leading to the appointment/election of governors already in place. A briefing of possible processes will soon be available to support you – watch this space in next month's Governance E-bulletin.

Some have found **Inspiring Governors** helpful, and they have two recommended upcoming sessions to help navigate and make the most of their platform.



Are you looking for skilled volunteers to join your governing board? Would you like to diversify how you find skilled volunteers to become governors or trustees at your school or multi academy trust?

Join Inspiring Governance for a lunchtime learning session hosted on Zoom with Richard Ellam, Head of School and Trust Support, suitable for anyone who is signed up to the Inspiring Governance recruitment tool, regardless of your experience of using it. Attendees will experience:

### ONLINE SUPPORT SESSIONS FOR SCHOOL AND TRUST GOVERNOR RECRUITMENT

A live walkthrough of the Inspiring Governance online recruitment platform with Q&A

- Ideas on recruitment strategies using Inspiring Governance
- A guide on writing more effective vacancies and invitations to attract more volunteers
- Access to a volunteer's eye view of what they see on the platform and in their invitations
- Information about how to get help from the Inspiring Governance customer service team.

**Sign up to one of the sessions below.**

**Thu 13 January 2022**

Zoom webinar  
12:00-13:00

12:00-13:00

Sign up

**Thu 10 February 2022**

Zoom webinar  
12:00-13:00

Sign up

## In Person or Virtual?

The question on many governors' minds at present is whether meetings and visits to schools are advisable in the current context of the pandemic. In the absence of specific guidance, it is only right that decisions are made locally.

Without adding to the already pressurised role of the headteacher, the chair might want to have an open conversation and most likely offer to delay a continuation of in-person activity until the situation becomes clearer. More than likely schools will welcome this responsible group mitigating the situation and making the pragmatic decision not to be in school. At least that's my view!

