

# Diocese of Chichester Governance E-Bulletin :

May 2022



*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 15:13)



Dear colleague,

There are usually encouraging opportunities that the summer term brings. As you support your school with the range of normal activities that have returned, I am sure you will find time to celebrate and encourage all concerned. For my part I have had numerous conversations with governors and enjoyed the opportunity to meet many, albeit virtually. There is more to come before the summer holidays whether in networks, training sessions or 1:1 which I am looking forward to. Feel free to contact me if there is something you want to talk through.

Recruitment and succession planning is a constant pressure for governance boards as some chairs have indicated in our recent survey. I am pleased therefore to draw your attention to our new resources for recruitment on page 5. We also begin to address succession planning in a session for potential chairs and there will be more next year. By the way, the survey is still open, and I'd urge you to complete it as soon as possible (see below).

The survey also indicated a need for training on monitoring. We already had in place and I draw attention to our In Person, In School session (see below) which is a focus on monitoring with some innovative advice. Please do book as many governors as possible on this course.

At the end of this edition is the announcement of two exciting developments to support and resource you beginning in September. Do take a look. In the next e-bulletin I will also be sharing the more in-depth introduction to the governance of Church Schools that I am planning, along with a whole year of training opportunities.

I have a celebration in May I'd almost prefer to forget! I am some years off when I will begin to be proud of my age and come full circle counting the years in halves! However, the most important celebration we can have is what God is doing in our lives, and through our governance. It would be great to hear from you if you have seen specific answers to prayer or watched and engaged as God has impacted through your work.

Have a truly blessed summer term,

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mike Simmonds  
Governance Development Officer

### In this Governance E-bulletin

- [Network for Chairs - 10 June at 11am](#)
- [Summer term governance courses](#)
- [New recruitment resources](#)
- [Nomination Forms](#)
- [Save the Date: Virtual Conference 28 Sept.](#)
- [Podcast coming in the Autumn](#)
- [Information \(NGA/GHub and GVO\)](#)



### Next Network for Chairs on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 14.00 (1 hour)

Chairs of Governors, please do all you can to attend the meeting of the Network of Chairs, join the Zoom call at 2pm and stay as long as you are able. Vice Chairs welcome as well.

[Click here to Book](#)

If you haven't completed the Chairs Survey, there is still time as we value your opinion. [Click here](#)

### Training for ALL governors this term

Please put these in your diary and book your place

<p><b>In Person, In School (Monitoring)</b></p> <p>The most asked for course! A must for all governors. Focused on School Visits, policy, practice, and monitoring for All Governors.</p> <p>Choose from two dates:  <b>18<sup>th</sup> May at 5pm (one hour)</b>  <a href="#">Click here to book</a></p> <p><b>19<sup>th</sup> May at 10am</b>  <a href="#">Click here to book</a></p>	<p><b>Clerking A Church School</b>  <b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June, 13.30pm (one hour)</b>  <i>(Postponed from April)</i></p> <p>Commencing a termly network for Clerks – Governance Professionals. Intended to support and inform anyone clerking our Church Schools. This is essential and supplementary to the support they will receive elsewhere of a more generic nature. <i>Would chairs please do all they can to encourage their clerk to attend.</i></p> <p><a href="#">Click to book here</a></p>
<p><b>New to Church School Governance</b>  <b>26<sup>th</sup> May at 10am (90 minutes)</b></p> <p>For new governors or as a refresher on what it means to be a governor of a Church School. This focuses on how to be Called, Connected and Committed in line with the Church of England Vision for Education. When last run the feedback was that 100% of those who attended found it was excellent or good.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to book</a></p>	<p><b>Chair? Could This Be Me?</b>  <b>14<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm (90mins)</b></p> <p>Succession planning needs governors to be aware of the skills and responsibilities. An introduction should this become a reality for potential Chairs and Vice Chairs of governors and committees, including those wondering if they might be!</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to book</a></p>

# REVIEW — AT END OF SCHOOL YEAR — REFRESH

**Tuesday 5 July 15.30-17.00**

Before the end of the year review your role as a governor and refresh your understanding in preparation for the next year with others!  
A time to meet, share experiences, learn from each other and be inspired in your roles. If there are enough, this will be hybrid with some meeting in Church House and others online. Otherwise, it will move to Zoom.

Book your preference and we will confirm nearer the time.

For ALL Governors of Chichester Diocese CofE Schools

[Click here to book](#)

For further details or any questions about these courses please email  
[mike.simmonds@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:mike.simmonds@chichester.anglican.org)



A NEW Recruitment Pack providing guidance on how to approach recruitment for all categories of governors has been launched is available to download [Click Here](#).

Visit the web page for more information [Click here](#)

Have you watched or shown our recruitment video? [Click here to view](#)

Have you seen the governor recruitment page on the Chichester Diocese website? [Click here](#) Feel free to use some or all of the text in your recruitment campaign.

## Nomination Forms

As you may already know from our previous e-bulletins, we have a new system for the nomination forms for the appointment and re-appointment of Foundation Governors. We now have online forms using Adobe-Sign, a secure system for completion and electronically 'signing' the form. This has been in place since March and is working well. We really hope that you will find this system to be as helpful and efficient as we have so far. Once you have used the system any feedback will be gratefully received.

As a Clerk or Chair having to explain the system to a potential governor, or those needing to provide supporting statements, if you wish to have a dummy run just let me know and Michelle can arrange that. Otherwise, for those of you who have not had the opportunity to experience the new system, [click here](#) to see a few screenshots of what to expect and the process.

In the meantime if you have a potential Foundation Governor that needs a form sent out, please email: [michelle.perry@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:michelle.perry@chichester.anglican.org) the name and email address of the person and their personal form will be sent out to them and to each person needing to supply the supporting statements.

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# WHAT'S NEXT?

## PLANS FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

A programme of training in 2022/23 is being prepared.



The poster features the Diocese of Chichester Education Department logo at the top. Below it is a white banner with the text 'SAVE THE DATE' in red. The main text reads 'GOVERNORS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE' in large white letters, followed by '6PM ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2022' in smaller white letters. At the bottom, it says 'More details and booking details available later in summer term'.

We are delighted to announce that the Bishop Martin, the Bishop of Chichester, has agreed to participate in our Governors Virtual Conference on 28<sup>th</sup> September. More details of the programme and how to book will be in the next e-bulletin. For now, spread the word and save the date so not to miss participating – hopefully governors from across the Diocese will be on this Zoom Conference!

*Coming in the autumn term*



The poster has a teal background. At the top, it says 'GOVERNANCE PODCAST' in large white letters, with 'FOR GOVERNORS IN THE DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER' below it. In the center is a black and white microphone with a soundwave graphic behind it. To the right is a small photo of Mike Simmonds. At the bottom left is the Diocese of Chichester Education Department logo. At the bottom right, it says 'with Governance Development Officer, Mike Simmonds'. At the very bottom is the website 'www.schools.chichester.anglican.org'.

## Information

The National Governance Association (NGA) annual governance survey is open until 30<sup>th</sup> May. You may want to contribute your experience. [Click here.](#)

[GovernorHub](#) and [Governors' Virtual Office](#) are two subscription services that can help manage your governance records, paperwork etc. You may want to explore how they can make your governance more efficient and effective. (We are only suggesting and are not being paid for this!)



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If you would find it useful to discuss any of the issues that affect governance, please do email or call our Governance Development Officer [Mike Simmonds](#).

*Next edition of Governors e-bulletin is due week beginning 21st June 2022.*