

Diocese of Chichester Governance E-Bulletin :

November 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*)



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governancepodcast.buzzsprout.com

Click above where you can either listen or go to your favourite podcast platform and you can subscribe! The fifth episode of the podcast is now live.

Dear colleagues,

I am constantly encouraged by those governors that I meet online at training sessions and network meetings. It is great to see the take up but hope more will be joining us in the upcoming opportunities.

With the Diocesan Academies Roadshow on 29th it will be a good opportunity to meet many Chairs in person. If you are there, please do make a point of at least shaking my hand (not a virtual one this year!). It will be good to meet you.

Whilst the Schools Bill is not progressing through parliament, at least for the time being, we have an opportunity to take stock and reflect on the future. What challenges are you facing and how will you address them? Academisation and financial challenges are probably top of the list. But what else? Feel free to contact me to talk through any concerns around governance.

You may be aware that a new SIAMS Framework was launched a couple of weeks ago. Dr Margaret James called it *'Radically different, Radically the same'*! I'll unpack that and the new Framework in sessions throughout the next calendar year! See below.

I continue to be excited about the possibilities of the Governance Podcast. Watch this space for developments. Please do listen and subscribe. If you have a question you'd like answered, or a story you can tell of good church school governance do email me!

At my grandson's school (not in this diocese) the word of the week is 'gregarious' – is that a necessity for governors? After all we are told to: "encourage one another and build each other up." ([1 Thessalonians 5:11](#))

Mike Simmonds
Governance Development Officer.

SIAMS – Statutory Inspections of Methodist and Anglican Schools

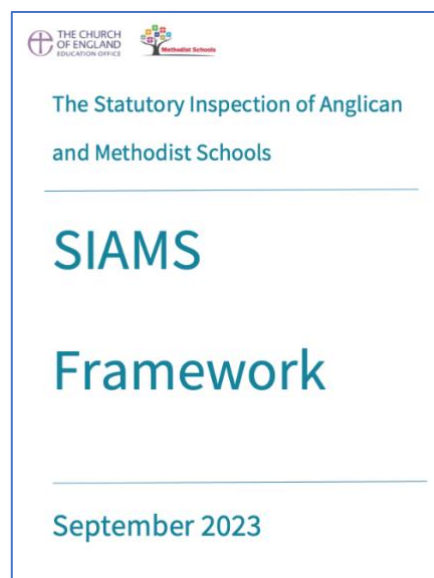
You may be aware that from September 2023 there will be a new SIAMS Framework. This builds on the existing schedule which remains in force for the current academic year. So no change if you are likely to be inspected before end July 2023.

Any changes of this nature are bound to raise questions and concerns. Whilst school leaders are being invited to 'Getting to Grips with SIAMS' these are not really for governors. **Virtual Sessions for Governors** will be planned and announced in the next e-bulletin.

Meanwhile Mike Simmonds is reflecting on how best to equip governors in supporting school leaders and to be the very best church schools. Key to this will be developing an understanding of the theology as well as practices that inform all that we do.

You can find all the new documents on the [CEEO website](#) (you will need to scroll down to the relevant section). If, once you have read and reflected on the new framework and the accompanying documents, you have any urgent questions or concerns please don't hesitate to email mike.simmonds@chichester.anglican.org

To support this change – watch out as well for Podcast episodes in the new year!








Governance Training

The programme of virtual development sessions for governors can be booked through [Eventbrite](#). Information about each course can be found below. They are for **ALL** Governors.

Courses coming up soon (Click on logo to book your place)

<p>Wednesday 23rd November at 5pm</p>		<p>Developing a strong partnership with the church is more than an opportunity. This session will help you make more of what should already exist and provide a route for moving forwards. Especially for Foundation Governors – come to the session with your Vicar!</p>
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<p>Thursday 8th December at 5pm</p>		<p>This is a theme of much importance! Governors are expected to monitor, but what might that entail? What do you do when you visit the school? What other ways are there of carrying out this aspect of the role of a governing board. Help will also be provided on asking the right questions.</p>
<p>Thursday 12th January at 4pm</p>		<p>All governors are to undertake safeguarding training. This session provides an overview of school and governance safeguarding with reference to Church of England safeguarding training placed in the context of schools and Keeping Children Safe In Education 2022. <i>For all governors – see below.</i></p>
<p>Tuesday 17th January at 10.30am</p>		<p>Know and be prepared - providing an overview of what to expect and be prepared for when Ofsted call. You will discover some wisdom, knowledge, and skills in this important aspect of governance. <i>For all Governors.</i></p>
<p>Wednesday 25th January at 1pm</p>		<p>A session <i>especially for Chairs</i> but all governors are welcome. Help my Headteacher might resign is to provide you with principles, practicalities and support for recruitment.</p>
<p>Tuesday 7th February at 12.30pm</p>		<p>Diversity on governance boards. This session falls during Racial Awareness Week. The focus will be on equality and unconscious bias as well as the need to examine recruiting governors including the challenge of younger, gender and racial diversity. <i>For all Governors.</i></p>

<p>Thursday 23rd February at 10am</p>		<p>Governors are expected to monitor, but what might that entail? What do you do when you visit the school? What other ways are there of carrying out this role. Help will also be provided on asking the right questions. (A repeat of a session run last term) <i>For all Governors.</i></p>
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MAKING SENSE OF CHURCH SCHOOL GOVERNANCE
Essential for all governors

<p>23rd February 2nd March 9 March at 5pm</p>		<p>Following the success of <i>Making Sense of Church School Governance</i> this three-session course is being run again for new governors and those who want to develop their understanding and practice. <i>For all Governors.</i></p>
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Foundation Governors agree to attend the Making Sense (see above) course in the first year of their appointment and Safeguarding Training within three months. Our course is designed to put safeguarding into the context of the Church of England. All other governors should now attend some safeguarding training anyway and this course is suitable. The next date is 4pm on 12 January.

Save the Date – Other Training in March				
March	Thu 9th	2pm	90 mins	SIAMS for governors
	Weds 15th	3pm	60 mins	Chairs Network
	Weds 15th	4pm	90 mins	Governors & Heads Partnership - a renewed approach to accountability
	Thurs 23rd	2pm	60 mins	Governance Professionals Network
	Fri 31st	12.15pm	45 mins	Easter Reflection for governors

Notes:

You can advertise your **vacancies on the Diocesan website**. 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](#)

The process for **nominating Foundation Governors** is an online system for both appointments and reappointments. Please contact [Michelle Perry](#) with the full name and contact email address of the nominee who needs the form to complete.

Please keep the Diocese UpToDate with your **Governing Body Information** using the Request Form in [WORD format found here](#)

Recommended Grove Book



This booklet considers What might it mean for teaching and learning to be distinctively Christian? It includes both discussion of the issues and practical examples from classroom.

£3.95 direct from grovebooks.co.uk in book or pdf

Last call to enrol in this course starting January 2022 and be part of a cohort of learners in the Diocese. [Visit the website and apply today!](#)



Church School Governance Online Training Programme (CSGTP) Improving Church School Governance

Duration: 6 months | Delivery: Online | Start date: January 2023

Would you be interested in pursuing a more in-depth course on the successful Church School Governance Course run by Liverpool Hope University? We have an opportunity to develop a cohort of students in the Diocese next Spring. This will enable participation in the online course and engagement with colleagues from across the Diocese supported by our Governance Officer, Mike Simmonds.

The course is suitable for new and experienced governors, trustees and anyone involved in Church school governance. Any questions please do contact Mike Simmonds. **Click here to go to the Liverpool Hope website by [clicking here.](#)**

Margaret from our Diocese has just completed this year's course and says:

"Transformational, life changing, challenging and inspirational, is how I would describe this Church School course for Governors. It has the power to turn all your current thoughts inside out and gives one a whole new perspective on how to view governance in a Church School context, and I feel better equipped to carry out my role. This is done through many different ways, all rooted in a Biblical context, via a consideration of the raison d'être of Church Schools and the importance of education within them, the values of wisdom, hope, dignity and community, to one's own role, types of leadership and accountability. Invaluable and enjoyable."

Please forward this email to all your colleague governors.

Once again, thank you for everything you do as you serve the children and staff in your schools.

Warmest thanks,

Mike Simmonds

Governance Development Officer

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