

# Governors' Essentials



## Newsletter for Governors and Clerks

Issue 68

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Item		Contact
1	<b>Department for Education (DfE) consultations</b>  To view all live consultations, please see the DfE's <a href="#">website</a> .	
2	<b>Ofsted updates</b>  <b>Inspection Update – November 2017</b> The 11 page <a href="#">document</a> provides information and guidance about Ofsted's work in schools. It includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information about the updated section 5 and section 8 school inspection handbooks 2017</li> </ul>	<b>Sally Dakin</b> <b>Commissioning and Partnerships Manager</b> <b>School Improvement/Children's Services</b> <b>Tel: 0300 300 6836</b> <b>Email: <a href="mailto:Sally.Dakin@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">Sally.Dakin@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a></b>

- Short inspections of good schools: maintained schools and academies consultation
- Clarification about the attainment of past pupils
- Key Stage 1 prior attainment
- Data analyst helpdesk
- Inspection Data Summary Report
- Appointment of Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs) in special measures maintained schools
- Schools requesting that inspectors sign declarations
- Recent useful publications /announcements relevant to inspections

**Reception curriculum in good and outstanding primary schools: bold beginnings**  
 This [report](#) looks at the Reception curriculum in successful schools and how well it prepared 4 and 5 year olds for the rest of their education and beyond.

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**HR updates**

**HR policy updates – Important Information**

The below policy for schools has been updated to reflect the change in process from the Annual Service Return to the Monthly Data Collection. This document should be read in conjunction with the Teachers’ Pensions’ Policy located [here](#).

Policy	Location
Schools Statutory Service Pack	<a href="#">Schools Statutory Services</a>

Headteachers and governors of all community and voluntary controlled schools and nurseries (and other maintained schools which adopt Central Bedfordshire Council’s policies) are advised to update themselves with this document.

**Pension’s auto-enrolment for maintained schools with transitional period employees**

Central Bedfordshire Council has been in contact with all schools via e-mail that had confirmed on their 2016 auto-enrolment declaration of compliance that they had workers to whom the transitional period applied for auto-enrolment purposes. The transitional period deadline was the 30th September 2017, which meant that an auto- enrolment assessment needed to have taken place as at 1st October 2017.

This meant that any affected schools needed to liaise with their payroll providers in order to assess and auto-enrol all eligible job holders into the relevant pension scheme as at 1st October 2017, but only if he/she had commenced with them prior to the 1st April 2013.

**Bronwen Anderson / Sarah Reed**  
**HR Policy Officers**  
**HR Policy & Implementation**  
**Tel: Bronwen on 0300 300 6458 or Sarah on 0300 300 4338**  
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	<p>Schools were also asked to advise their payroll providers that where an eligible job holder (who started with them prior to 1st April 2013) had opted- out of the pension scheme more than 12 months before the transitional delay assessment date of 1st October 2017, then under the rules of the transitional delay they cannot be automatically re-enrolled into either the Local Government or Teachers' pension scheme at this time.</p> <p>Guidance and template letters were provided to schools to share with their payroll providers to support with this process and to outline more clearly what was required. Schools were asked to discuss the process at the earliest opportunity with their payroll providers to plan who will undertake each task.</p> <p><b>Work Experience opportunities within Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) – Applications for 2017/18</b>  Following the “Find your Future” careers and employment event held at the Central Bedfordshire College Incuba site in Dunstable on Thursday 2nd November 2017, many secondary schools will be at the early planning stages of work experience programmes for their students.</p> <p>CBC is seeking to assist with placements for students who may be considering a career in the public sector or would like to know more about what we do. For further information, please see the information <a href="#">sheet</a>.</p> <p><b>Non-Teaching Staff and Apprenticeship contracts updated</b>  Following feedback received in relation to the content of the appointment declaration forms contained within the non-teaching and apprenticeship contracts, the documents have now been updated.</p> <p>As such, please can schools and HR/Payroll providers ensure that the new <a href="#">non-teaching</a> and <a href="#">apprenticeship</a> contracts (issued to schools via Central Essentials 336 - 3 November 2017) are used going forward.</p>	
4	<p><b>Briefing for Headteachers and Chairs of Governors held on Wednesday 1 November 2017</b>  Many thanks to all of you who managed to attend our first briefing of the academic year, it was great to see so many of you there and to personally manage to say 'hello' to many of you. There was much to discuss given the work taking place and some interesting debate about the focus many felt we should be considering across all our clusters on 'Diminishing the Difference'.</p> <p>The presentation Dawn gave on changes to school funding as we move towards the National Funding Formula can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	<p><b>Leo Jones</b>  Deputy Director, Education and Transformation  Children's Services  Tel: 0300 300 4218  Email: <a href="mailto:leo.jones@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">leo.jones@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a></p>

	<p>The presentation we used for the afternoon including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• my vision of where we are and ambitions for the future</li> <li>• an overview of standards based on our most recent data</li> <li>• emerging numbers coming out of our locality educational plans in terms of school places</li> </ul> <p>can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>We are consulting with schools regarding the changes to DSG funding and moves to the National Funding Formula by way of an <a href="#">online survey</a>, so please have your say.</p> <p>I also spoke about a new online system we have purchased as a Local Authority called 'Pendulum Lite' with some detail of this in the presentation. Just to be clear, this will be available for all schools with no cost (the Local Authority has purchased this module) and in the next few weeks, more details will be provided of the benefits of Pendulum and how schools will be able to access it. Each school will have several access log-ons. The system will give schools an overview of all your data, the latest news around education from numerous publications as well as detail on the latest Ofsted inspections – including summaries of gradings and areas of focus for particular inspectors and enable us to better share best practice.</p> <p>I also discussed my ambition to have more local learning events each year for both headteachers and governors but also aspiring leaders and teachers. I hope, in the next few weeks, to be able to write out with details of our first such events to take place early in the New Year and do hope you will be able to join us on these.</p> <p>Finally, a huge thank you for all your hard work in supporting all children across Central Bedfordshire on their educational journeys. I am confident about how much impact we can make in the coming months through working together to do so.</p>	
5	<p><b>Retrospective consultations launched by Bedfordshire Schools Trust</b></p> <p>The Bedfordshire Schools Trust (BEST) is required to consult on the increase in pupil numbers for two of its academies – Gothic Mede (lower), Arlesey and Robert Bloomfield (middle), Shefford – prior to submitting an application to the DfE for the two retrospective increases.</p> <p>Information from the Trust can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>The consultation runs until 7 December 2017 and responses should be directed to <a href="#">BEST</a>.</p>	<p><b>Sue Barrow</b>  <b>Information Manager</b>  <b>School Organisation, Admissions &amp; Capital Planning</b>  <b>Tel: 0300 300 5700</b>  <b>Email: <a href="mailto:sue.barrow@centralbedfordshire.gov">sue.barrow@centralbedfordshire.gov</a></b></p>

<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Church End Lower School – initial steps towards change of designation</b>  The governing body of Church End Lower School, Marston Moretaine has launched a preliminary consultation regarding their proposal to change the designation of the school to ‘voluntary controlled’. This is the first stage of the process and the document can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Responses to this consultation are required by 8 December 2017.</p> <p>The next stage will be for the Council’s Executive to consider the level of support for the proposal expressed during the preliminary consultation and to decide whether to confirm their support for the governing body’s application to the DfE to proceed to the next stage. If the DfE gives its approval for the proposal at this stage, statutory notices will be published regarding the proposed closure of the current foundation school and opening of the new VC school.</p> <p>Ultimately, it will be the responsibility of the Council to determine the proposal.</p>	<p><b>Sue Barrow</b>  <b>Information Manager</b>  <b>School Organisation, Admissions &amp; Capital Planning</b>  <b>Tel: 0300 300 5700</b>  <b>Email: <a href="mailto:sue.barrow@centralbedfordshire.gov">sue.barrow@centralbedfordshire.gov</a></b></p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Director’s meeting with Headteachers and Chairs of Governors on 1 March 2018</b>  The next meeting for headteachers and chairs of governors (or designated representatives) will be held at The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, MK45 1AH from 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm.</p> <p>Places can be booked by sending an email to <a href="mailto:Joanna.Brown@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">Joanna.Brown@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a> or by telephoning 0300 300 6598.</p> <p>An agenda will follow in due course.</p>	
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Could you provide overnight care to a child in a difficult situation?</b>  If you’re looking to develop your skills and experience while at the same time supporting Central Bedfordshire’s young people, we would like to hear from you.</p> <p>Central Bedfordshire Council’s Fostering Team are seeking people to join their PACE fostering scheme and are looking for competent, caring and resilient people who can provide overnight care to young people who have found themselves in a difficult situation.</p> <p>The Council has a duty to provide accommodation to under-18s who have been arrested and charged in relation to a criminal offence. As a PACE foster carer, your role will be to provide overnight care to a young person before they attend court the next day. You will be required to collect the young person from the police station after office hours. The following morning you will transport them to court where they will be met by a social worker.</p>	<p><b>Jenny Howard</b>  <b>Marketing, Recruitment and Training Officer</b>  <b>Adoption and Fostering</b>  <b>Corporate Parenting Service</b>  <b>Tel: 0300 300 6661</b>  <b>Mob: 07342 091620</b>  <b>Email: <a href="mailto:jenny.howard@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">jenny.howard@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a></b></p>

	<p>PACE placements are required in order to limit the amount of time children and young people are required to spend in police custody. As a PACE foster, you will receive full training, support and you will be paid £237 for each week you are on duty.</p> <p>If you are required to care for a young person during your duty week you will receive an additional allowance of £113 per week, pro rata for each night you care for a young person. Typically, you will only be required to care for a young person for one night. If you would like to find out more, you can visit our <a href="#">website</a>, register your interest by calling our fostering duty worker on 0300 300 8181 or email <a href="mailto:fostering@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">fostering@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a>.</p>	
9	<p><b>Central Essentials</b> Central Essentials (CE) is the newsletter emailed to schools on a weekly basis. Some of the information included in CE is also repeated in Governors' Essentials. CE can be accessed on the <a href="#">Schools' Portal</a>.</p>	
10	<p><b><a href="#">School Governors One Stop Shop (SGOSS)</a></b> SGOSS is a <b>free</b> online governor recruitment service which means schools/academies can register their governor vacancies direct.</p> <p>Signing up with SGOSS allows you to create a school profile, add/remove/edit your vacancies, list any specific skills requirements, and gain access to additional resources and guidance to help with staff and parent vacancies.</p>	
11	<p><b>Inspiring Governance</b> Inspiring Governance is an online recruitment service, connecting volunteers with governing boards in schools and colleges. It is funded by Government. If you have vacancies on your board, register them <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	
12	<p><b>FREE Safeguarding Children in the Digital World, from Discovery to Recovery: online sexual abuse of children conference on Wednesday 13th December 2017 from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm at King's House, Bedford, MK42 9AZ</b> This conference is for professionals working within Bedfordshire and is part of the Bedfordshire OPCC's commitment to work in partnership with the Marie Collins Foundation (MCF) over the next three years. The MCF is the UK charity enabling children who suffer sexual abuse and exploitation via internet and mobile technologies to recover and live safe, fulfilling lives.</p>	

The conference will provide delegates with the chance to learn about the new developments in preventing online abuse of children, and the challenges faced by families and professionals in combating child abuse imagery and grooming of children online from both a local and national perspective. Delegates will also be introduced to the training model 'Click: Path to Protection' which is being rolled out across Bedfordshire. Please see the [flyer](#) for further details.

Places can be booked via [CPD Online](#). For enquiries please email [LSCB.Training@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:LSCB.Training@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) or call 0300 300 6676.