

Governors' Essentials



Newsletter for Governors and Clerks

Issue 69

Date: December 2017

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1	<p>Department for Education (DfE) consultations</p> <p>Keeping children safe in education: proposed revisions</p> <p>The DfE is seeking views on revisions to 'Keeping children safe in education', the statutory guidance that sets out what schools and colleges should do and the legal duties with which they must comply to keep children safe.</p> <p>In addition, the DfE is seeking views on a new departmental non-statutory advice document covering sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges.</p> <p>Following this consultation, the Government proposes to update and replace the current statutory guidance 'Keeping children safe in education 2016'. The Government will also consider revising the advice on sexual violence and sexual harassment.</p> <p>Consultation closes on 22 February 2018.</p> <p>To view all live consultations, please see the DfE's website.</p>	

<p>2</p>	<p>Ofsted updates</p> <p>Governance - extract from Ofsted School inspection handbook issued October 2017 An extract from the October 2017 Ofsted Inspection Handbook can be found here. There are no changes to the information which was contained in the August 2016 handbook, the extract for which was provided in a previous issue of Governors' Essentials, but it is a helpful reminder for governors.</p>	<p>Sally Dakin Commissioning and Partnerships Manager School Improvement/Children's Services Tel: 0300 300 6836 Email: Sally.Dakin@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>HR updates</p> <p>Changes to identity checking guidelines for DBS check applications - Important information New guidance in relation to ID checking for DBS applications has recently been issued by the Government which took effect on the 24th October 2017 but will be running in parallel with the existing DBS checking guidance until the 25th January 2018, when the existing guidelines will cease to apply.</p> <p>The new guidelines will apply to all applications for a standard or enhanced check and are being introduced so that the DBS's identity checking process is aligned to the 'Right to Work' check. These state that employers must prevent illegal working in the UK by carrying out document checks on people before employing them to make sure they are allowed to work within the UK.</p> <p>The updated guidelines tighten up the document requirements for non-EEA nationals who are applying for DBS checks to undertake paid work so that they are consistent with the existing Right to Work document list and the main changes are, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following documents have been added to the list of valid ID documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Group 2a – Immigration Document, visa or work permit. Issued by a country outside the EEA (European Economic Area). Valid only for roles whereby the applicant is living and working outside of the UK ○ Group 2b – Bank or Building society statement. Issued from within a country outside the EEA, must be issued in last 3 months and branch must be in the country where the applicant lives and works • The following documents have been removed from the list of valid ID documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Group 2b – Work Permit/Visa (UK) (UK Residence Permit) 	<p>Bronwen Anderson / Sarah Reed HR Policy Officers HR Policy & Implementation Tel: Bronwen on 0300 300 6458 or Sarah on 0300 300 4338 Email: hsserviceschools@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>

Schools have been advised to ensure that their provider for DBS checks is complying with the new guidelines which can be accessed [here](#).

Teachers' Pensions November Newsletter

The latest Teachers' Pensions' November newsletter has recently been released by Teachers' Pensions outlining any recent news that affects their members, which can be located on the Teachers' Pensions' website by clicking [here](#).

Schools have been asked to share this information with their teachers.

Headteacher Recruitment guidance

The Government has recently issued updated guidance in relation to recruiting and selecting Headteachers and other school leaders which can be accessed by clicking [here](#). This guide, which has been written in partnership with the National Governance Association, highlights the importance of professional recruitment practice in recruiting and selecting Headteachers and:

- identifies good practice
- emphasises the need for fairness and transparency
- signposts to all related guidance

This document should be read in conjunction with the Council's Headteacher Recruitment Guidance Document which can be found on the [Schools' Portal](#).

Central Bedfordshire Council's (CBC) Work Experience update

In November, schools were provided with an introduction to CBC's commitment to deliver work experience opportunities across the Council in as many diverse areas as possible.

At the start of the spring term, we will be providing schools with links to a newly created Work Experience Handbook and further guidance information, giving them more information on what work experience placements can offer applicants at CBC, along with the ability to apply for placement opportunities. These will be added to CBC's work experience web page.

Please see the PDF copies of the [Work Experience Handbook](#) and [Further guidance information](#), for your reference. In the meantime, if your work experience leads in school, class teachers or mentors identify students who are interested in undertaking a work experience placement with CBC, please ask them to register their interest via CBC's work experience web page:

<http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/jobs/other/work-experience.aspx>

	<p>If you would like to find out more about how work experience placements can work for your students, please visit the work experience web page or contact us at Recruitment@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.</p>	
4	<p>Totternhoe Lower School – proposed change of age range from lower to primary Following the conclusion of its consultation, the governing body of Totternhoe Lower School has decided to proceed with its proposed change of age range, from 2 - 9 years to 2 - 11 years, from lower to primary, with effect from September 2019.</p> <p>Although Totternhoe Lower School is currently a community school, the school is working towards joining the Diocese of St Albans Multi Academy Trust and the proposed change, therefore, will be determined by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.</p> <p>A summary of all of the school age range changes within Central Bedfordshire, both proposed and approved, is available on our website here.</p>	<p>Sue Barrow Information Manager School Organisation, Admissions & Capital Planning Tel: 0300 300 5700 Email: sue.barrow@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>
5	<p>Executive approve temporary expansions of Thomas Johnson Lower School, Lidlington and Biggleswade Academy At its meeting on 5 December 2017, the Council's Executive gave its approval for the commencement of capital expenditure for the temporary expansions of Thomas Johnson Lower School and Biggleswade Academy, subject to the granting of planning permission for the projects. The report to the Executive can be found here.</p> <p>The temporary expansions will enable the schools to address the deficit in school places within the relevant wards. Thomas Johnson Lower will increase from 18 to 30 places for 2018 and Biggleswade Academy will offer an additional 60 middle school places for both 2018 and 2019.</p> <p>As the expansions are temporary, public consultation was not required for these proposals but permission was still required from the Executive.</p>	<p>Sue Barrow Information Manager School Organisation, Admissions & Capital Planning Tel: 0300 300 5700 Email: sue.barrow@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>
6	<p>Central Essentials 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 Schools' Portal.</p>	
7	<p><u>School Governors One Stop Shop (SGOSS)</u> SGOSS is a free 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>									
<p>8</p>	<p>Inspiring Governance 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 here.</p>									
<p>9</p>	<p>Governor training programme 2017/2018 – courses available in January and February Please see the details of the governor training programme and information regarding courses available in January and February 2018 can be found below:</p> <p>January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GT70 – Recruiting and appointing a new school leader on 18 January 2018 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm • GT85 – Understanding performance data lower on 22 January 2018 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm • GT82 – Taking the Chair (Session 1) on 25 January 2018 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm <p>February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GT87 – Understanding performance data primary on 8 February 2018 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm • GT50 - Health and safety in a school/academy setting on 21 February 2018 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm • GT83 – Taking the Chair (Session 2) on 22 February 2018 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm <p>Course Cost: Free to subscribing governing bodies</p> <p>Ad hoc</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="199 1209 1057 1348"> <thead> <tr> <th>Schools</th> <th>Academies</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>£105 per session</td> <td>£115 per session</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£158 per half day session</td> <td>£173 per half day session</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£315 for a whole day course</td> <td>£345 for a whole day course</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Schools	Academies	£105 per session	£115 per session	£158 per half day session	£173 per half day session	£315 for a whole day course	£345 for a whole day course	
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To book a place/places, please contact Joanna Brown by emailing gov.training@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.

Finally.....

Have a very Happy Christmas and New Year!

