

Governors' Essentials



Newsletter for Governors and Clerks

Issue 80

Date: December 2018

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1.	<p>Ofsted updates</p> <p>Amanda Spielman letter to the Public Accounts Committee: short inspection model review Ofsted's Chief Inspector, Amanda Spielman, wrote to the Public Accounts Committee on 4 December 2018 in response to their request to review the short inspection model to ensure it provides sufficient, meaningful assurance about schools' effectiveness, and to set out plans for collecting more and better evidence from parents about schools.</p> <p>Commentary on curriculum research - phase 3 Amanda Spielman provides a commentary on phase 3 of Ofsted's research into the school curriculum.</p> <p>Using Ofsted's IDSR: early years foundation stage profile to key stage 4 - updates Ofsted has updated the anonymised 2018 primary report with absence data and added the anonymised 2018 key stage 4 report.</p>	<p>Sally Dakin Commissioning and Partnerships Manager Tel: 0300 300 6836 Email: Sally.Dakin@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p> <p>Danyel Islam Learning Data and Performance Manager Tel: 0300 300 4542 Email: danyel.islam@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>	

<p>2.</p>	<p>Department for Education’s (DfE) Get information about schools (GIAS) Just a quick reminder that all maintained school governing boards and academy trusts have a legal duty to provide all of the following information (in so far as it is available to them) on GIAS:</p> <p>Name of chair of governors Appointed by Start and end date</p> <p>Governors Name Appointed by Start and end date</p> <p>Historic information (left within last 12 months)</p> <p>Please check that the above information for your school is on GIAS and that it is up-to-date.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>Department for Education (DfE) consultations</p> <p>To view all live consultations, please see the DfE’s website.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>HR updates</p> <p>Childcare Disqualification changes 2018 Schools have been reminded of the 2018 changes to Childcare Disqualification, which no longer requires schools to establish whether a member of staff is ‘disqualified by association’. This means staff must not be asked questions relating to someone living or working in their household when undertaking checks and this has been updated in the revised document on the Schools’ Portal.</p> <p>2019/20 NJC Pay Spine The two year NJC pay agreement covering 2019/2020 must be implemented for all support staff effective 1st April 2019. This agreement includes significant changes, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a bottom rate of £9.00 per hour (£17,364) on new Spinal Column Point (SCP)1 (equivalent to old SCPs 6 & 7) • ‘Pairing off’ old SCPs 6-17 inclusive to create new SCPs 1-6 inclusive 	<p>Rachael King / Sarah Reed HR Policy Officers HR Policy & Implementation Tel: Rachael on 0300 300 4804 or Sarah on 0300 300 4338 Email: hrrservicesschools@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • equal steps of 2.0% between each new SCPs 1 to 22 inclusive (equivalent to the existing SCPs 6-28 inclusive) • creating equal steps between these pay points with the introduction of new SCPs 10, 13, 16, 18 and 21 to which no old SCPs will assimilate. This means that the current number of pay points in a grade might change • on new SCP 23 and above (equivalent to old SCP 29 and above), 2.0% increase on the 2018 rate <p>Due to the complexity of the new grading and scale point structure alignment, this will require extensive pay modelling by all schools. To support schools with this process, the Council is undertaking an exercise to integrate the nationally agreed pay award and new pay points into the existing Schools' Pay Scales and Levels so that schools have a framework from which to progress, supporting pay parity across maintained schools in Central Bedfordshire.</p> <p>Schools will be provided with updates on how this will look within the Schools' Levels 1-4 via communications in Central Essentials and monthly Schools' Finance newsletter, in the near future. The proposed revised pay scales will be consulted upon with Council's recognised Trade Unions through the Council's collective consultation process.</p> <p>Teachers Pensions – Monthly Contributions Reconciliation (MCR) Teachers Pensions is introducing Monthly Contributions Reconciliation (MCR) which will bring together existing Monthly Data Collection, Monthly Contributions Breakdown and Enrolment processes into one monthly return, helping to improve member data and simplify tasks. For more information please visit this link.</p>	
5.	<p>Council Consultation on Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the Academic Year 2020-2021</p> <p>At the Executive meeting held on Tuesday 4 December 2018, members approved the proposals for changes to be consulted on for the admissions criteria for all Community and Voluntary Controlled schools in Central Bedfordshire with effect from September 2020. The proposed changes the Council is consulting on are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including priority for children previously in state care outside of England to the over-subscription criteria in all Community and Voluntary Controlled schools in Central Bedfordshire • Including children of staff priority to the over-subscription criteria to seven lower schools - Dunstable Icknield Lower, Fairfield Park Lower, Greenleas School, Heathwood Lower, Shefford Lower, Southcott Lower and Thomas Johnson Lower 	<p>Jessica Mortimer-Wabel Admissions Manager School Organisation, Admissions & Capital Planning Tel: 0300 300 4769 Email: jessica.mortimer@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linslade Lower School - reducing the school's Published Admission Number from 45 to 30 <p>The consultation period runs from Wednesday 5 December 2018 to Wednesday 30 January 2019.</p> <p>A copy of the consultation document has been emailed to all academies and schools this week.</p> <p>To respond to these changes, please do so via the online feedback form which can be found via this link.</p>	
<p>6. Consultations to be launched in January regarding proposed school expansions and a proposed change of age range</p> <p>This is prior notification of consultations that are to be launched by the Council in early January. Responses will be needed to each of the three consultations before the next edition of Governors Essentials is circulated</p> <p>Templefield Lower School, Flitwick - for a proposed change of age range from 4-9 years to 2-9 years from September 2019, to enable the merger between the school and Windmill Pre-school, which is a committee-run pre-school that operates out of a facility on the school site.</p> <p>The high level of support received during the joint preliminary consultation for the proposal, carried out by the school and pre-school during October 2018, resulted in the submission of a request to the Council by the governing board of Templefield Lower to consider a change of age range for the school.</p> <p>A statutory consultation, therefore, is to be launched in early January regarding the proposal. Following the completion of this part of the process and taking into consideration the level of support received, the Council's Executive Member for Families, Education and Children will be asked to determine the change of age range for the school.</p> <p>Edward Peake Middle School, Biggleswade - for a proposed expansion by 2 x FE for September 2020 under the Council's New School Places programme. Additional primary school places are required as a result of significant and continued housing development in the town.</p> <p>A preliminary consultation was carried out by the Council during October/November 2018 to gauge the level of support for the proposed expansion. Results from this consultation have led to the launch of the statutory consultation.</p>	<p>Sue Barrow Information Manager School Organisation, Admissions & Capital Planning Tel: 0300 300 5700 Email: sue.barrow@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>

	<p>The Council's Executive will be asked to consider the results of both the preliminary and the statutory consultation and determine the proposed expansion at their meeting on 2 April 2019.</p> <p>Thornhill Primary School, Houghton Regis - for a proposed expansion by 2 x FE for September 2021 under the Council's New School Places programme. Additional primary school places are required as a result of current and future significant housing development on land north of Houghton Regis, known as HRN1. This is the preliminary part of the consultation process.</p> <p>Subject to the responses received during this part of the process, a statutory consultation will be launched in late February to complete the procedure that the DfE requires the Council to undertake for the proposed expansion of a maintained school.</p> <p>You will be able to access and respond to each consultation via the Council's website, here for Templefield Lower and Edward Peake Middle and here for Thornhill Primary, when they are launched during the first week of January.</p>	
7.	<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>	
8.	<p>Governors for Schools (formerly SGOSS) Governors for Schools is a free, online governor recruitment service which has 'access to a wide talent pool of skilled volunteers from big name organisations'. The vacancy form allows schools to specify exactly the skill set required and Governors for Schools introduces schools to candidates matching those requirements.</p> <p>Governors for Schools brokers the relationship with potential governors on schools' behalf, saving schools valuable time and ensuring that volunteers are prepared for the role.</p>	
9.	<p>Inspiring Governance Inspiring Governance is a free, online service that connects schools and trusts in England with skilled volunteers.</p>	
10.	<p>Governor training programme 2018/2019 – courses available in January and February Please see the list of course dates for the governor training programme and information regarding courses available in January and February 2019 can be found below:</p>	<p>Joanna Brown Commissioning and Partnerships Officer School Improvement Tel: 0300 300 6598 Email: gov.training@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>

January

- GT96 – Clerks’ seminar on 16 January 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm
- GT139 – Understanding performance data lower on 21 January 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Dunstable from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm
- GT124 – Recruiting and appointing a new school leader on 23 January 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm
- GT136 – Taking the Chair Session 1 (first of three sessions) on 24 January 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm

February

- GT141 – Understanding performance data lower on 4 February 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Dunstable from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm
- GT104 – Health and safety in a school/academy setting on 20 February 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm
- GT137 – Taking the Chair Session 2 (second of three sessions) on 21 February 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council’s offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm
- GT117 – Ofsted update (**re-arranged date**) on 26 February 2019 at The Rufus Centre, Flitwick from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Course Cost:

Free to subscribing governing bodies

Ad hoc

Schools	Academies
£108 per session	£118 per session
£163 per half day session	£178 per half day session
£324 for a whole day course	£355 for a whole day course

To book a place/places, please contact Joanna Brown by emailing gov.training@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.

On-line learning

For subscribing governing bodies, governors have access to a suite of **on-line learning** through Learning Link (which is provided by the National Governance Association). As it is e-learning, governors have the flexibility to complete the modules at a time that suites them and as progress can be saved, the courses can be completed in ‘bitesize chunks’.