

Governors' Essentials



Newsletter for Governors and Clerks

Issue 84

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1. DfE consultations To view all live consultations, please see the DfE's website .	
2. HR updates EU Settlement Scheme As mentioned in Central Essentials previously, when the UK leaves the EU, eligible EU nationals will need to apply for settled status if they intend to continue living and working here. EEA citizens who are resident in the UK before the UK leaves the EU will continue to be eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme, until at least the 31st December 2020. Except in a few cases, you'll need to apply if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You're an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen • Your family member is an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen but you are not 	Sarah Reed HR Policy Officer HR Policy & Implementation Tel: 0300 300 4338 Email: hsserviceschools@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

You **will not** need to apply if you:

- Have British or Irish citizenship (including dual citizenship)
- Have indefinite leave to enter the UK
- Have indefinite leave to remain in the UK

Should the UK leave the EU without a deal, EEA citizens arriving in the UK from the date of exit from the EU to the 31st December 2020, will be subject to transitional immigration arrangements. Further information is available on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

If you believe that this scheme will affect you, we would strongly encourage you to view the HM Government website for further guidance which can be found [here](#). If you have not done so already, we would also encourage you to sign up for Government email alerts on the status of EU citizens in the UK by clicking [here](#).

If you are affected, you should apply now ahead of the deadline for applying which is the 30th June 2021, or 31 December 2020 if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Specific information or support about the EU Settlement Scheme can also be obtained from the EU Settlement Resolution Centre. Contact information can be found [here](#).

Teachers' Pension Scheme - Employer Contributions

In January 2019, the Department for Education (DfE) launched a consultation to seek views on the DfE's proposal to provide funding to support certain education institutions with the increase in employer contributions to the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS). The [actuarial valuation of the TPS](#) carried out on the 31st March 2016 confirmed that the employer contribution rate would increase from 16.4% to 23.6% from the 1st September 2019.

The response to the consultation has now been published and can be found [here](#). In summary, the consultation confirms that funding will be provided to the following institutions:

- Mainstream and special maintained schools
- Mainstream and special academies (including Alternative Provision, 16-19 academies and free schools)
- Maintained nursery schools
- Non-maintained special schools
- Independent Special Schools, to the extent they educate children with Education, Health and Care Plans
- Local Authority Centrally Employed Teachers
- Music Education Hubs

	<p>As you will see from the consultation response, the DfE is also providing funding for FE colleges and other public-funded training organisations including sixth form colleges, but the DfE will not be providing funding for universities and independent schools.</p> <p>The response also announced that the DfE will consider allowing independent schools to leave the TPS via a phased withdrawal, whereby a school could retain its current teachers in the TPS but the scheme would be closed to new teachers joining the school.</p> <p>The DfE has also published guidance on the pension grant methodology to help school leaders understand and plan for the pension grant and supplementary fund for schools. It is clear in this guidance that the grant will cover the 7 months of financial year 2019 to 2020 from September 2019. This guidance can be found here.</p> <p>Schools have been advised to share this information with their HR/Payroll providers so that they are aware of the funding available for the increase in employer contribution with effect from the 1st September 2019 and are able to take any necessary actions.</p> <p>DfE initiatives for teachers</p> <p>The latest bulletin from the DfE on teacher recruitment provides information on a number of issues that teachers may be interested in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher Vacancy Service • New content in the teacher workload reduction toolkit • Scholarships programme - recruitment to computer science • Potential new provider - briefing events • Teacher Subject Specialism Training - latest blog <p>Should you be interested in reading more about the above issues please view the overview document found here.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>Updated local health and safety policy template for schools</p> <p>Central Bedfordshire Council's (CBC's) Corporate Health and Safety Policy applies to all community and voluntary controlled schools, for which CBC is the employer.</p> <p>To provide a focused and tailored approach, schools should have their own local health and safety policy also, which is agreed and signed by the head teacher and chair of governors. A policy sets the local requirements for health and safety management in a school and helps clarify who is responsible for what. We have released a new, updated local policy template for schools to use, which may be downloaded from here.</p>	<p>Lee Butler Corporate Health and Safety Manager Tel: 0300 300 6793 Email: corporatehealth&safety@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>

	<p>The revised template provides far more information and guidance for schools on the areas of health and safety management that they should be considering. Notes on completion are within the template, to guide schools through adapting it to local circumstances. As with all items on the Schools' Portal, this document is provided for community and voluntary controlled schools where CBC is the employer.</p> <p>Its use is not mandatory – schools are free to develop their own documents. The expectation is simply that any alternative approach is suitable and sufficient.</p> <p>The revised template goes beyond the areas mentioned in the Department for Education's own 'Health and Safety: Advice for schools' document. In addition, it clarifies the duties of headteachers and governors. The document uses the template styles of those recently adopted by School Improvement, to give consistency in approach.</p> <p>Moving forward, we will be looking to update and refresh the content on the Schools' Portal over the coming year. We have started to reorganise the pages and documents are now stored in topic-specific groups within a folder on Box, which is the council's cloud storage provider. For now, relevant content from the old site has been moved into Box folders and will be replaced with updated versions as they are reviewed and developed.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Changes approved for Church End Lower School and Templefield Lower School</p> <p>At a meeting held on 20 March 2019, the Executive Member for Families, Education and Children considered and approved the proposed changes for Church End Lower School, Marston Moretaine and Templefield Lower School, Flitwick.</p> <p>The governing board of Church End Lower School is proposing to change the school's designation from foundation to voluntary controlled. With approval from the Executive Member now confirmed, the school and the Diocese of St Albans Board of Education have been able to apply to the DfE for the required final approval for the change. It is hoped that the DfE will approve the change and that it will come into effect from 1 May 2019, with the dual-site Church End Lower School closing on 30 April and the new dual-site Marston Moreteyne Church of England Voluntary Controlled School opening the following day at both Church Walk and Great Linns.</p> <p>The change approved for Templefield Lower School is for a change of age range from 4-9 years to 2-9 years to enable a merger between the school and Windmill Pre-school, an on-site early years provision.</p> <p>The report and record of the decisions are available on the Council's 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>Southill Lower School and Derwent Lower School – in federation from 1 May 2019 Following the completion of their joint consultation, the governing boards of Southill Lower School and Derwent Lower School, Henlow have agreed to form a federation called “The Derwent and Southill Federation”.</p> <p>The federation comes into effect on 1 May 2019.</p>	<p>Sue Barrow Information Manager School Organisation, Admissions & Capital Planning Tel: 0300 300 5700 Email: sue.barrow@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>
6.	<p>Executive approve the expansion of Edward Peake C of E VC Middle School under the New School Places Programme At their meeting on 2 April 2019, the Council’s Executive approved the expansion of Edward Peake C of E VC Middle School, Biggleswade by 2 x FE for September 2020.</p> <p>Additional primary school places are required as a result of significant and continued housing development in the town. The report detailing the proposal and the minutes of the meeting are now available on the Council’s website here.</p>	<p>Sue Barrow Information Manager School Organisation, Admissions & Capital Planning Tel: 0300 300 5700 Email: sue.barrow@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</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 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’.</p> <p>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>Working Together Safeguarding training (9.30 am to 4.30 pm) on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 7th May 2019 at The Bedford Golf Club, Great Denham • Wednesday 15th May 2019 at The Leagrave Centre, Luton 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 21st May 2019 at The Incuba, Dunstable • Monday 3rd June The Bedford Golf Club, Great Denham <p>Please see the flyer for further information.</p>	
11.	<p>Governor training programme 2018/2019 – courses available in May and June Please see the list of course dates for the governor training programme and information regarding courses with spaces available in April and May 2019, can be found below:</p> <p>May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GT129 - SEND/vulnerable learners - the role of the SEND Governor on 8 May 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm • GT142 - Understanding performance data primary on 13 May 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm • GT120 - Promoting British values through Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development (SMSC) on 14 May 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm • GT110 – Induction (whole day) on 21 May 2019 Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Chicksands from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm • GT127 - Keeping children safe in education - the role of governors on 22 May 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm <p>June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GT111 – Induction (whole day) on 12 June 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Chicksands from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm • GT105 – Health and safety in a school/academy setting on 17 June 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm • GT102 – Governors' monitoring visits on 18 June 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Dunstable from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm • GT144 – Improving attendance and reducing persistent absence (a whole school approach) on 19 June 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm • GT132 – Support and challenge on 20 June 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Chicksands from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm • GT94 – Appraisal of the headteacher's performance on 24 June 2019 at Central Bedfordshire Council's offices, Chicksands from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm <p>Course Cost: Free to subscribing governing bodies Ad hoc</p>	<p>Joanna Brown Commissioning and Partnerships Officer School Improvement Tel: 0300 300 6598 Email: gov.training@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p>

Schools	Academies		
£108 per session £163 per half day session £324 for a whole day course	£118 per session £178 per half day session £355 for a whole day course		
<p>To book a place/places, please contact Joanna Brown by emailing gov.training@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.</p>			
<p>On-line learning For subscribing governing bodies, governors have access to a suite of on-line learning through <u>Learning Link</u> (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'.</p>			