

Governor Services Termly Update – Autumn 2015

The mission statement of KCC's Leadership and Governance team is

Enabling all young people of Kent to receive a first class education with outstanding governance strengthening school improvement.

The government has set out a challenging agenda for schools and Local Authorities in raising standards and improving schools. Governing bodies have a vital role to play in ensuring that happens.

The Kent Governance Team is your dedicated team who will work with you to meet the needs of individual governors and governing bodies of all the county's schools, in the light of national legislation and guidance. We are:

North Kent (Dartford, Gravesham, Sevenoaks): Suzanne Mayes suzanne.mayes@kent.gov.uk

South Kent (Ashford, Dover, Shepway): Tina Gimber tina.gimber@kent.gov.uk

East Kent (Canterbury, Swale, Thanet): Lorraine Monkhouse lorraine.monkhouse@kent.gov.uk

West Kent (Maidstone, Tonbridge and Malling, Tunbridge Wells): Sue Warren
susanmary.warren@kent.gov.uk

CONSTITUTION

Although all GB's should now have reconstituted remember that you can reconstitute at any time. As you know, included in the guidance is greater flexibility of terms of office for governors. Although the maximum term of office remains four years, governing bodies can now specify in the instrument of government that the term of office for an individual governor within a particular category may be between one and four years as determined by the appointing body at the time of appointment.

[Constitution of governing bodies of maintained schools - Publications](#)

NEW OFSTED INSPECTION FRAMEWORK

Please find guidance on the new framework here

[New Inspection Arrangements from September 2015](#)

THE COUNTER TERRORISM SECURITY ACT 2015

The Prevent Strategy has three main objectives:

- Respond to the **ideological challenge** of terrorism & the threat we face from those who promote it;
- **Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism** and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support;
- **Work with sectors and institutions** where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to **address**.

The Prevent strategy aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. While it remains rare for children and young people to become involved in terrorist activity, young people from an early age can be exposed to terrorist & extremist influences or prejudiced views. As with other forms of safeguarding strategies, early intervention is always preferable. Schools, working with other local

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partners, families and communities, play a key role in ensuring young people and their communities are safe from the threat of terrorism.

Schools subject to the Prevent Duty will be expected to demonstrate activity in the following areas –

- Assessing the risk of children being drawn into terrorism
- Demonstrate that they are protecting children and young people from being drawn into terrorism by having robust safeguarding policies.
- Ensure that their safeguarding arrangements take into account the policies and procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Board.
- make sure that staff have training that gives them the knowledge and confidence to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism, and to challenge extremist ideas which can be used to legitimise terrorism
- Expected to ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school.

Please look out for the specific training the LA are offering on this.

Link to Safeguarding newsletter

http://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/46870/CP-Newsletter-September-15.pdf

Link to training

http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html

Link to DfE Prevent Duty Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty>

Link to ATL factsheet

<https://www.atl.org.uk/Images/adv84-understanding-prevent-duty.pdf>

Link to Home Office Propaganda Information

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/440450/How_social_media_is_used_to_encourage_travel_to_Syria_and_Iraq.pdf

Link to DfE Prevent Duty guidance

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf

Link to Self-Assessment Form

http://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/31744/Education-Prevent-Assessment-SETU-Tool.pdf

WHISTLEBLOWING

Please ensure your schools have an up to date Whistleblowing policy. Make sure your arrangements are clear and that all staff are aware of them. The LA Policy which applies to all employees, agency workers, volunteers and those contractors working on KCC Premises are covered by this policy. In the first instance you should contact the Whistleblowing Hotline internalaudit@kent.gov.uk with the subject line “Whistle Blowing”

BUSINESS INTERESTS

Further to last term’s District Governor Briefings a reminder that there is now a requirement for Governor Business Interests to be published on the school website. Governing bodies should make it clear in their **code of conduct** that this information will be published about their **governors and any associate members**. Any governor failing to provide information to enable the governing body to fulfil their responsibilities may be in breach of the code of conduct and as a result be bringing the governing body into disrepute. In such cases the governing body should consider suspending the governor.

It is important you look at this before signing your Code of Conduct. Further details are available here [Information that must be on your school website](#)

HEADTEACHER PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND APPRAISAL

A reminder that the terms and conditions have changed and Governing Bodies should follow the very clear advice in the Teachers Pay and Conditions Document and ensure they have adjusted their own pay policies in line. This is important to action now at the start of the Performance Management cycle. A list of approved external advisers can be found on Kelsi:- <http://www.kelsi.org.uk//Headteacher-Appraisal-LA-List-August-2015.docx>

EDUKENT EXPO AND CONFERENCE

Come and join us at Detling for this year’s Edukent Expo and Conference at the Kent County Showground on Wednesday 11th November – for more details visit:

[EduKent EXPO & Conference](#)

PARENT ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Please see below details of our forthcoming workshop in Maidstone to support schools in developing effective strategies to engage parents which is a key to raising attainment:

HARNESSING PARENT POWER: 5 key strategies

Half-day workshop for senior leaders, teachers, governors, parent support workers and local authority advisers with Fiona Carnie

Tuesday 20 October 2015, 9.30 - 13.00 - MAIDSTONE - Tudor Park Marriott Hotel

www.parentcouncils.co.uk

FREE CPR TRAINING PACKS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

British Heart Foundation CPR training pack for secondary schools

As part of its work to help people survive an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, the British Heart Foundation is offering **CPR training packs free to all secondary schools in the UK**. Each school that applies will receive a pack of 35 kits, each containing a lightweight manikin and a 30-minute DVD which includes familiarisation on the use of AEDs – enough to allow every young person in a class to learn CPR first-hand.

Secondary schools can order kits through the British Heart Foundation website at

<http://www.bhf.org.uk/lifesavers>.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR BRIEFINGS AND GOVERNOR TRAINING EVENTS

Please note that you do need to register for attendance at Governor District Briefings and Training events but should you need to cancel for any reason please do so using your CPD account or email the course administrator, details of whom can be found on your booking confirmation. As long as you email the Training and Development team with an apology on or before the date there will be no charge for non-attendance. We hope many of you will take up the events we have running. The programme and details of events and courses can be accessed via [Leadership and Governance training and development - kelsi.org.uk](http://www.kelsi.org.uk).

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO CLERKS

Thank you for all your hard work in ensuring that Kent LA maintained schools have met the deadline to reconstitute their governing body by September 2015.

We fully understand the magnitude of the task, and appreciate your perseverance in this matter.

Could we please enlist your assistance again to ensure that the information we now hold on your governing body membership is correct, and ask that you login to [CPD online](#) and check the details on record.

Could you please email any amendments to leadershipgovernancecentral@kent.gov.uk.

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PLEASE NOTE THAT LINKS TO COURSES ON SOME OF THE TOPICS RAISED ABOVE CAN BE FOUND IN THE SIGNPOSTS TO LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT BELOW:

Signposts

- [Kent Governors CPD Online](#)
- [The Governor Magazine](#)
- [Leadership and Governance training and development](#)
- [Leadership - kelsi.org.uk](#)

External Links

- [Kent Governors Association](#)
- [National Governors' Association](#)
- [SGOSS](#)