

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

Representing Lancashire Governors for 22 years

www.lasgb.org.uk

**A regular email service from the LASGB September 2016 No. 66
The Voice of Lancashire Governors in Lancashire, the North West and Nationally
For Governors by Governors.**

This email is sent to all members of the LASGB, covering information which we hope you will find of interest. Your comments on the contents of the email, or any other matters, will be very welcome. For more information about the LASGB please email johnmdavey@btinternet.com.

LASGB Annual General Meeting 2016.

Please note that the LASGB will be holding the Annual General meeting at the Tickled Trout Hotel, Preston on Saturday 22nd October 2016, 9:30 for refreshments. Please also note the change of dates. This is your opportunity to meet the executive, raise issues that concern you and generally share good practice with other governors in Lancashire. The agenda will include amendments to the LASGB constitution and the launch of the new LASGB website. Please see the proposed new constitution attached to this e-mail.

LASGB Autumn Mini-Conference

Date for your diary. The next LASGB Mini-Conference, “**A Broad and Balanced Curriculum**”, will be held at the Best Western Premier Hallmark Hotel Preston, Leyland, Leyland Way, Leyland, Preston PR25 4JX on 9th November at 18:30 for refreshments. As with all our conferences, all governors from member governing bodies are welcome. Book your place early using this link [here](#).

Have you an idea for a mini-conference, is there something that you wish to discuss then please let us know [here](#).

Is the expansion of grammar schools an admission of failure?

The government tell us that 1.4 million more children are in good or outstanding schools. Good and outstanding schools teach all students to their abilities using differentiation to develop and stretch all learners. By deciding to expand the grammar school estate are the government admitting that they are incapable of providing an education system for all? Estelle Morris, at our annual conference in 2011, said “It does not matter what it says over the door, it’s what happens in the classroom that matters.”

Inequality in education starts before school. Without getting religious, a house built on sand will fall, a house built on rock is strong. If we invest in the foundation stage of education, where the inequalities are smaller and the opportunities for equalising development are greater we give all children a substantial foundation to build on. If the government has a spare £50 million to invest in education, then they should use it to support Sure Start and Early Years where it will give a most impact.

The return on this investment in early years will take longer to be seen - not in the life of a parliament - but it will have a much greater effect on the life chances of children and young people than the divisive grammar school system.



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Is the Schools' Portal for you?

The LASGB is an independent governor association run by governors for governors but we do work with LCC Governor Services as a consultee and we do support a number of LCC initiatives. We would like to remind all governors on governing bodies that use any the LCC clerking services that they have access to the schools' portal. The schools' portal is a mine of information for governors. LCC Governor Services keep you up to date with local and national information on governance. Also on the portal is the Governors Portal link where you will find information on training, GEL as featured in the June e-newsletter, governance A-Z and much more. Contact your school portal administrator or email schoolsportal@lancashire.gov.uk for further information.

LASGB Support for Governors

Please remember that LASGB is here to help you. If you have any concerns, require support, have a subject you would like us to bring to conference or the mini-conferences please don't hesitate to contact:- John Davey, chair; Chris McConnachie, vice-chair, or Bill Hodgson, president, using our corporate e-mail admin@lasgb.org.uk.

Any one for the e-newsletter

Please email chris.mcconnachie@virgin.net with any change or corrections to your email details. Remember - there is no limit to the number of your Governors who can receive these LASGB e-newsletters so if any of you know of anyone who would like to receive this directly please contact Chris or get them to e-mail. All words in [blue and underscored](#) are links to create an e-mail or to a web page. Hover your pointer over them then ctrl+click.

