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LASGB Spring Workshop – The Governor Role in Sustainability in Schools

The workshop will be held at The McDonald Tickled Trout Hotel in Preston on 1 March 2023. We have opted for meat-free snacks to fit in with the agenda, so arrival from 6.30pm is recommended. There is free parking on site. We have two main speakers plus time built in for discussion and questions:

Wendy Litherland, BSc Hons, PGCE, Director of Sustainability and teacher of Science at St Christopher's CE High School, Accrington. Wendy's presentation – Kick-Start Sustainability – will look at what sustainability looks like in her school and how she has developed it.

Melissa Klavins-Bridge, MEng, CEng, MICE, Senior Structural Engineer, Water, Ports and Nuclear, Warrington, and school governor in two primary settings in Chorley. Melissa will look at the UN Sustainable Development Goals, resources and strategies that have worked in her schools.

The link for bookings is: <https://www.lasgb.org.uk/training/upcoming-training/>

Governor Services Spring Agenda Item on Complaints

Governors might like to pay attention to the item on this term's core agenda relating to your Complaints' Policy. Within this agenda item, governors are recommended to adopt the DfE version of a recently written policy 'Model policy for managing serial or unreasonable complaints.' The LASGB Executive would urge governors to ensure:

- You do not already have a policy that performs this role, such as that adopted in South Ribble, that you wish to retain and
- You ensure it sits alongside your 'main' complaints policy, which for many LA schools is the LA adopted policy.

Contact Details

Your school may be asked to confirm your contact details, including a direct email address and contact number - a mobile number if you wish to receive text reminders of bookings in future. Members of the Executive are currently checking to ensure that our database for flyers and information is up to date.

Whilst we are checking contact details, we have noticed that some school websites have not been updated recently. It is the governing body's responsibility to check that the website is compliant with regulations. (Here for maintained schools; there is some variation for academies - see link below.)

This should include:

- the structure and remit of the governing body and any committees, and the full names of the chair of each.
- for each governor who has served at any point over the past 12 months:
 - their full names, date of appointment, term of office, date they stepped down (where applicable), who appointed them (in accordance with the governing body's instrument of government),
 - relevant business and pecuniary interests (as recorded in the register of interests) including:
 - governance roles in other educational institutions.
 - any material interests arising from relationships between governors or relationships between governors and school staff (including spouses, partners and close relatives); and
- their attendance record at governing body and committee meetings over the last academic year.

Full details can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-maintained-schools-must-publish-online> (with a link to the guidance specific to academies)

Watch this Space!! Special Schools Workshop – Summer Term 2023

The LASGB regularly holds a workshop for Special Schools. This year it is proposed to run the Workshop in the summer term, probably in May. The subject will be the Special Schools' Curriculum. Details, including the confirmed date, will be provided nearer the time.

If you have any views on the topics to be presented/discussed, please let us know. Any suggestions should be sent via the "Contact Us" page of the LASGB website. We are looking forward to receiving your input.

Mental Health Awareness

Many schools nationally took part in Mental Health Awareness Week between 6th and 12th February this year. Some suggested resources were uploaded to our Facebook group page before and during that week but as this topic is not simply relevant for one week per year, some suggested resources are shared below. Governors might wish to ask their schools what they are doing to raise the profile of this area both within and outside the taught curriculum.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/schools>

<https://www.4myschools.org/mental-health-week-2023-resources-for-teachers/>

<https://mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/resources/lets-connect-children-s-mental-health-week-2023-toolkit-of-resources/>

Recently in the News

Governors might also like to consider how their schools tackle the inclusivity of LGBTQ+ pupils within their schools, following the recent news of the murder of a transgender schoolgirl in Warrington.

There is a **Lancashire Governor** course entitled: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: Guidance for Governors:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/lpds/courses/details/?courseID=GOV152&courseSuffix=f&financialYear=2022/2023>

Governors for Schools have a recent blog on the subject:

<https://governorsforschools.org.uk/blog/guest-post-how-can-governors-support-lgbt-inclusivity-in-schools/>

Using your **NGA Learning Link** login, you can view 3 short modules on Equality and Diversity on this platform also:

<https://www.nga.org.uk/Training-and-Development/NGA-Learning-Link-e-learning/Collections/Vision,-ethos-and-strategic-direction.aspx>

Recognition Awards



If you have any Governor who you feel is deserving of an award, then all we need is supporting email with details of the Governor and why you think their service deserves to be recognized from the Headteacher or Chair of Governors send to contact@lasgb.org.uk



Almost 75% of Lancashire's Schools/Academies are members of the LASGB



www.lasgb.org.uk | contact@lasgb.org.uk