
The latest news, views, and announcements

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**Disadvantage: defining it
& tackling it**

The NGA have recently published an article about disadvantage

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Do you have a governor who has gone above and beyond?

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Disadvantage: defining it & tackling it

NGA originally raised the issues of 'disadvantage' in their Spotlight on Disadvantage report (July 2018) and highlighted a disconnect between the issues facing disadvantaged pupils which present as barriers to learning effectively and the teaching approaches adopted by schools in trying to improve achievement in school.

- The four most common issues affecting learning were family life, low attendance, social and emotional barriers and individual needs such as SEND or EAL.
- The three most common initiatives funded via PPG by schools were targeted group support, numeracy intervention and literacy intervention.

This highlights the disconnect and raises the importance also of focussed and purposeful pastoral strategies in addition.

The DfE in April announced two changes to how PPG is allocated:

- Schools must now 'demonstrate how their spending decisions are informed by research evidence,'
- and must use the templated documents to outline their strategy.

cont. >>>

Disadvantage (cont. ...)

If we have learned anything from the pandemic, it is how disproportionately it has affected disadvantaged pupils and we, as governors, would do well to refocus on this crucial group of pupils and how our schools address under achievement using relevant and research-based strategies.

Questions to consider:

To what extent do we consider food poverty as a barrier to learning?

What measures have we put in place to address mental health issues both of pupils and of their family members?

How do we understand the issues facing pupils with poor attendance and what can we do to address them?

How broad is our PSHE curriculum and does it address social and emotional issues affecting learning?

Thursday 24th June the NGA are hosting a webinar session on Disadvantage: defining it and then tackling it. Event time is 16.30 to 17:00 & you can register to attend via the NGA website. All webinar recordings are available for NGA members via their website if you are unable to attend the “live” event.

LASGB Event-Wellbeing from a Practitioners Viewpoint

The above workshop will be a virtual meeting held on 30th June at 19:00. The aim is to have the view of a Headteacher, Chair of Governor (primary special school) and a Learning Professional. There will be also an opportunity on the night to ask questions & interaction with other governors.

Details, including booking arrangements are available on the LASGB website.

Special Recognition Awards

We did not make any awards last year, so we now have 13 to be awarded this year (from 2020 and 4 so far from 2021).

We have extended the deadline for this year until 31st July 2021. If you have a Governor on your Board who you feel is deserving of an award then please e mail admin@lasgb.org.uk

The recommendation must come from the Chair of Governors or the Headteacher.

The only limitation is that it should be one per school per year.



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

www.lasgb.org.uk | admin@lasgb.org.uk

Special Schools Workshop | Report

A total of 22 Delegates and 8 LASGB Exec Members attended a very successful Special Schools Workshop on 19 May 2021.

Presentations on the evening were Preparation for Adulthood given by Gail Barlow and PSHE/RHE in the context of Special Schools by Sarah McEwan, Michelle Crouch and Carole Hodgson. David Bird led the follow up session on Catch Up Funding.

British Sign Language Interpreters provided support to those who required it. Although the Workshop was held using ZOOM there was lots of opportunity for questions and delegate interaction.

Copies of the material used at the Workshop and relevant extracts from the “chat thread” are available on the LASGB website under “Recent Training”.

What would you like from the LASGB

Later this term the LASGB will be meeting to plan our programme for next year. If you have any suggestions for workshops/speakers/topics to cover, please do let us know.

We are very keen to meet the needs of all our Lancashire governors.