

Welcome to a Brief Overview of the 2024-25 Governor Training Programme from School & Governor Support

We hope you will find a whole range of courses to support you in your governance role this year within this programme. Our training is delivered mainly online through live, interactive webinars with experienced S&GS staff and external professionals. Full details of all our courses are being added to BESS. Just [click here](#) and scroll down the left-hand side of the page to select 'Provider – SCHOOL & GOVERNOR SUPPORT'.

NOTE: An important change this year is that those courses marked ** are available to all maintained schools at no cost, so governors can attend regardless of whether this package is purchased or not. Inclusion of this free training is reflected in the significant price reduction of the training package for maintained schools.

Subscribe to the S&GS Training Offer

Costs have changed significantly this year due to the local authority C&YP directorate commissioning and paying for some training courses for local authority governors. Our annual Training Offer costs are as follows:

£230	Maintained schools who also subscribe to our Service Offer
£325	Maintained schools who do not subscribe to our Service Offer
£460	Academies who also subscribe to our Service Offer
£640	Academies who do not subscribe to our Service Offer

The option to 'Pay as you go' is also available.

Feedback continues to be overwhelmingly positive with delegates valuing the interactive nature of the courses and the facility to ask questions and have follow up support.

"The knowledge and advice from trainers was excellent."

"Being in a small group online so there were not too many people and discussions were easy to be part of"

"Quality of presentations and the abundant knowledge of the subjects by the tutors"

"Good trainers who engage with the delegates and answered all questions posed"

"Fantastic training, both trainers were exceptionally knowledgeable"

Schools subscribing to the Training Offer can book up to 3 governors on any training session so do, please, take advantage of all that's on offer and keep an eye out for additional courses still to come. Full details of each course are on the [BESS website](#).

Schools who do not subscribe to our Training Offer can, of course, still book governors onto our training sessions and will be invoiced for the cost of each individual session (prices are listed on the booking page).

Training Calendar – Dates for 2024-25

AUTUMN Training	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Governor Induction		Tue 8 th & 15 th	Mon 11 th & 18 th	Tue 3 rd & 10 th
Clerks/GPs' Briefing	Tue 10 th			
Chairs' Briefing			Thu 21 st	
Complaints Management			Tue 26 th	
Effective Challenge				Tue 10 th
Introduction to Chairing		Thu 17 th		
Introduction to Finance			Mon 11 th	
Role of the Governance Safeguarding Lead		Thu 10 th		
Role of SEND Link Governor Webinar			Thu 21 st	
GB Role in Monitoring the Curriculum**				Wed 4 th
HT Performance Management**		Mon 14 th		
Preparing for Ofsted**				Wed 11 th
Pupil Premium**			Wed 13 th	
Understand your IDSR – Primary**			Wed 20 th	

SPRING Training	Jan	Feb	Mar
Governor Induction		Tue 4 th & 11 th	Wed 19 th & 26 th
Clerks/GPs' Briefing	Tue 14 th		
Chairs' Briefing			Thu 27 th
Introduction to Clerking	Mon 20 th		
Intro to Finance			Mon 17 th
Managing Financial Resources	Mon 20 th		
Prevent			
Role of the Governance Safeguarding Lead	Thu 23 rd		
Role of the SEND Link Governor Webinar			Mon 24 th
Mental Health & Wellbeing**	Wed 29 th		
Understand your IDSR – Secondary**	Wed 15 th		

SUMMER Training	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Governor Induction		Tue 6 th & 13 th	Tue 24 th part 1	Tue 1 st part 2
Clerks/GPs' Briefing		¹ Thu 8 th		
Chairs' Briefing			² Sat 21 st	
Complaints Management	Tue 29 th			
Effective Challenge	Tue 8 th			
Introduction to Chairing		Thu 15 th		
Managing Financial Resources		Mon 12 th		
Role of the Governance Safeguarding Lead		Tue 20 th		
SEND Link Governor Workshop		Wed 21 st		
GB's Role in Monitoring the Curriculum**		Wed 21 st		
HT Performance Management**			tbc	
Mental Health & Wellbeing**			Wed 18 th	
Preparing for Ofsted**	Wed 2 nd			
Pupil Premium**	Wed 9 th			

¹ This is our summer in-person briefing to take place at a city centre location, tbc.

² This is our summer in-person briefing to take place at a city centre location, tbc.

** are available to all maintained schools at no cost, so governors can attend regardless of whether this package is purchased or not.

2024-25 Training Sessions

All our training can be found online by [clicking here](#) and scrolling down the left-hand side of the page to select 'Provider – SCHOOL & GOVERNOR SUPPORT'. Please make bookings via your school office.

All our online training takes place online via Microsoft Teams starting at 5.30; depending on the course, sessions run for between one to two hours.

Brief course descriptions

Chairs' Termly Briefings

Our termly briefings provide Chairs and Vice Chairs of Governors with timely and topical insight into key governance issues. Also included at no cost to those who subscribe to our service offer.

Clerks' and Governance Professionals' Termly Briefings

Relevant for both new and experienced Clerks and Governance Professionals, our termly briefings ensure you are up to date with DfE directives and other governance issues arising. Also included at no cost to those who subscribe to our service offer.

An Introduction to Clerking

An online workshop for new governance professionals and clerks working in either maintained school or academy settings, focused on helping you understand your role and build confidence in carrying out your responsibilities in supporting the board.

Complaints Management for Governors

This training will highlight the good practice that helps prevent complaints from escalating, as well as the most challenging aspects of complaints management.

Effective Challenge

Ensure you have the knowledge and skills required to fulfil the second core function of governance: to hold school leaders to account in an effective and appropriate way.

The Governing Board's role in Monitoring the Curriculum in Primary Schools**

Ofsted inspectors consider whether the work of the board supports the school in providing a high-quality education for its pupils. This training will assist boards to understand their responsibilities, how they can be informed about the curriculum and how to monitor.

Governor Induction

Induction training is a must for all new governors. Our programme, delivered via one recorded webinar and two live webinars, offers a comprehensive introduction to your new role.

Headteacher's Performance Management**

Recommended training for any governor appointed to your HT's performance management panel.

Introduction to Chairing a Governing Board

Develop your skills and confidence to understand and manage the Chair's responsibilities and build an effective governance team. Also included at no cost to those who subscribe to our service offer.

Introduction to Finance

Ensure you understand the general principles of governance and accountability in relation to strategic financial management in BCC maintained and academy schools.

Managing Financial Resources (Maintained Schools Only)

A more in-depth look at school finances than our Introduction to Finance session (above). It clarifies the role and responsibilities of the finance committee in respect of strategic financial management.

Prevent

Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of schools' wider safeguarding duties. This training will help you understand your role in this as a governor and update you on the current concerns locally.

Pupil Premium**

This module provides advice and guidance on ensuring that proposals put forward for Pupil and Recovery Premium spending will lead to the biggest possible increases in pupils' learning.

Role of the Governance Safeguarding Lead

All Governance Safeguarding Leads should undergo training to ensure they are able and confident to take leadership responsibility for their school's safeguarding arrangements.

Role of the SEND Link Governor

For those new to the role, this pre-recorded session covers how the needs of pupils with SEND are met in schools and the role of the board and link governor in securing effective provision for pupils with SEND.

SEND Link Governor Workshop

This interactive session is open to experienced link governors and to all those link governors who have completed the webinar on the role of the SEND link governor, and will help address arising questions and concerns.

Understanding your School Inspection Data Summary Report (IDSR): an Interactive Session for Primary/Secondary School Governors**

The IDSR, shared with schools, contains the data Ofsted inspectors use. Training dates are scheduled so that governors can use their own school's IDSR during the session. There are separate sessions for primary and secondary school governors.

A Whole-School Approach to Mental Health and Wellbeing**

Learn more about the governor's role in ensuring that a coordinated and evidence-informed approach to mental health in schools leads to improved staff, pupil and student wellbeing.

NEW COURSE: Preparing for Ofsted**

Learn more about the Ofsted Inspection Framework and gain an overview of inspection process. The session will help you understand the role of Governors during inspections.

Recorded courses which come as part of your subscription

NEW COURSE: Phonics - What Governors Need to Know**

A guide for governors on how they can have effective oversight of phonics teaching in their schools. Available Spring term 2025.

Being Strategic

A recorded webinar that will help governors and trustees take a broader and longer-term perspective for their school, set a clear strategy and monitor within an annual cycle. Available Spring term 2025.

Single Central Record (SCR): the Role of Governors in Ensuring Compliance

A recorded training session with a small group of governors led by Ellen Osborne from 'Compliance for Schools'. The session covers what the SCR should record and how governors can ensure compliance.

Freely available recorded webinars

At no cost S&GS also have recorded webinars for governors to access at their convenience:

School Exclusions

Recommended for any governor appointed to an exclusions panel. Steve Parton from BCC's School Exclusions team led this training with a small group of governors; this session was specially developed to support governors in undertaking this role.

Strategic Safeguarding

A short 70-minute recorded training session designed to equip governors with the knowledge to provide strategic challenge. A new PowerPoint and short recorded update is available for governors and trustees in line with KCSiE 2024.

For more information about this briefing note, please contact:

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Web: [School & Governor Support](#)

