

Shaping Governance - Newsletter

Welcome to our regular newsletter bringing you news, hints and tips from across the sectors that we work with, and some of our own news.

Warmest regards,

The Shaping Governance Team



Interesting Governance news from across the sectors

Updated guidance for Academies embarking on significant change

The DfE has this month released updated guidance for Academies undergoing significant change. New processes have been put in place and will become effective from 1st April 2024. Full guidance can be found here

Almost half of Multi Academy Trusts in England in deficit

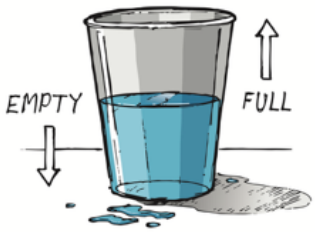
The recently released Benchmark report from accountancy network, Kreston UK, showed that of the 279 Trust accounts studied (representing more than 2300 schools), 47% were running in-year deficits. This has been attributed to a number of factors including rising energy prices and staffing costs. Despite most Trusts having done everything suggested by the Government to control costs and improve efficiencies, schools are still finding that they are being asked to do more with less.

Ofsted - MPs call for an end to single word grades

It is essential that changes are made to Ofsted following the tragic death of Ruth Perry. One of the recommendations made was that schools should not be automatically graded "inadequate" for minor safeguarding concerns. Yet, as highlighted in this cross-party Education Select Committee's report, most in the sector still want strong accountability in schools.
Ofsted has responded to the report stating lessons will be learnt, and that they will respond to the recommendations made. Whatever changes are implemented, robust Governance will still play a vital role in holding leaders to account within schools. How this is done can make all the difference. Here at Shaping Governance, we are strong believers in an Appreciative Approach.

Shaping Governance through an appreciative lens.

Su Turner, CEO of Shaping Governance, is a trained Appreciative Inquiry Facilitator and a Glass Half-Full Governance and Leadership Professional. Su is regularly asked to speak at conferences about her appreciative and child-centred leadership approach and how this can help to improve outcomes.



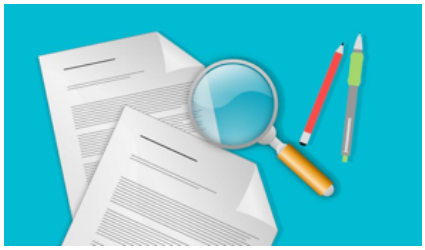
An appreciative leadership approach really can unlock the full potential of your team! The power of positivity, collaboration, and strengths-based leadership should not be underestimated.

Why?

- **Positive Impact:** Inspire and motivate your team through positive framing, changing the conversation and a focus on strengths.
- **Collaborative Culture:** Foster a culture of open dialogue, shared goals, and continuous learning.
- **Empowerment and Resilience:** Empower your team and turn challenges into opportunities for growth

Su states;

"When I first set up Shaping Governance, one of the key drivers for me was demonstrating to my clients, how being appreciative can have a hugely positive impact within any setting. All Shaping Governance training and consultative approaches have been designed with this in mind building on the good work that we all do as governors.
There is nothing better than working with a Governing Board and seeing the realisation hit, that just through changing the conversation into a more positive, appreciative one, the impact can be huge. Positive relationships and communication are essential to deliver effective governance and I am proud to now lead a team of Governance Professionals who are all of the same mindset and great ambassadors for shaping stronger and more effective governance."



How we support schools - Change the conversation!

"If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change!"
Wayne Dyer

The Shaping Governance team provide a range of training courses, which not only enhance the skills of your Governing Board, but can change the approach to improve effectiveness. Many of the courses can be delivered in a 2 hour online session, making them more accessible to busy volunteers but providing maximum impact.

Some of the modules offered are listed below;

- Governor Induction
- Migration to a MAT - Evolving Governance
- Understanding core roles
- Child-centred Governance
- Being Strategic - not Operational!
- Holding Senior Leaders to account
- Practical Chairing
- Improving challenge and being CURIOUS
- Being Appreciative - Improving Governance through an Appreciative Lens.

Further details can be found on our website here Shaping Governance - Training

“ Shaping Governance was the driver to improve the effectiveness of governance - I am now challenged in a supportive way!”

Shaping Governance - here to help

Interested in finding out more about how we can help you improve your governance - get in touch using the button below

Contact us

