

Shaping Governance - Newsletter

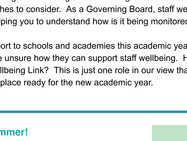
Welcome to our regular newsletter bringing you news, hints and tips from across the sectors that we work with, and some of our own news. Want these direct into your inbox, use the link below and sign up on our home page.

We're also excited to be at this year's NAHT Inspiring Leadership conference later this week. If you're there - come and say hi - find out where we are later in this newsletter.

Warmest regards,

The Shaping Governance Team

Newsletter signup



Interesting Governance news from across the sectors

According to a recent article in Schools Week, What is the next Government inheriting? the next Government will inherit a mixed legacy and increasing challenges within education. For many, focus during the build up to 4th July will be on what each party is proposing to do in order to improve education. The full report can be accessed here.

Put down to pick up!
This week, one Headteacher of a Primary School has explained why he is asking parents to put their phones away when picking up their children - to resurrect the joy of conversation back into the community

Read how one school is fighting retention issues by banning after-work meetings and introducing a 1:40pm finish on a Friday - Boosting staff wellbeing.

How is your school ensuring the wellbeing of staff? It might not be through early finishes, but there are many approaches to consider. As a Governing Board, staff wellbeing should feature within every meeting helping you to understand how is it being monitored and addressed?

Research from our support to schools and academies this academic year shows that in over half of boards, governors are unsure how they can support staff wellbeing. Have you nominated a Governor the role of Wellbeing Link? This is just one role in our view that you need to consider and ensure you have in place ready for the new academic year.

Get in shape for summer!

Summer term is a busy time for schools and Governors alike.

For Governance, it is a time for both reflection and planning.

In addition to holding the last FGB Meeting of the year, and approving / reviewing next year's budget, it is important to step back and reflect on what the Board has achieved in the Academic Year.

It is viewed as good practice to produce an impact statement. This is something you can then use internally, as well as to send out to your stakeholders and wider community, giving an insight into your work and maybe even attracting some new volunteers to the role.

It is also important to start planning your meetings and objectives for next year at this stage. In order to ensure maximum attendance at meetings, the more notice you can give your volunteers, the better. Whether it is the LA or an Academy Trust that dictates your timescales, it is crucial to follow up as soon as you can by setting out dates for your Board meetings.

If you don't have an internal Governance Professional, now is also the time to ensure you engage with a service provider who will meet all your requirements and deliver a robust and effective function.

The benefits of Shaping Governance Professional Clerking Service

High-quality professional governance support and clerking are crucial to the effective functioning of a governing board. The role is not only about effective organisation and administration but also, more importantly, about helping the board understand its role, functions, and legal duties and supporting the chair to enable and facilitate strategic debate and decision-making.

The role is crucial in helping the board exercise its functions efficiently and confidently and stay focused on its core functions.

Shaping Governance has a growing team of Associate Governance Professionals providing governance support, clerking and other services to schools across England. We have a long history of providing clerking services to schools, and an excellent reputation.

With Shaping Governance Clerking Services, you can be assured that our Governance Professionals will:

- Respect the effectiveness of your Board;
- Work with you and develop a sound working relationship with the Chair;
- Systematically organise the administration for your Board;
- Provide confident challenge to steer the Board towards their core priorities;
- Maintain the confidentiality of the Board.

To find out more about our clerking services please click here

Once you have set out your schedule, it is important to ensure you will still have enough members with the relevant skills and experience, to deliver a robust Governance system. Define roles, aligned with the School Development Plan, and ensure every member of your team is confident in being able to provide strategic oversight. From previous skills analysis, evaluate as a team how confident your are moving forward in the next year. If additional, underked or clerked meetings are required at the beginning of the year, make sure you get them booked in.

Maybe, as a board, you would benefit from some assistance in setting your direction and priorities. If so, perhaps our unique Shaping Governance Programme would be benefical.

How we support schools - The Award-Winning Shaping Governance Programme

The Shaping Governance Programme involves a structured two-hour self-reflection session, usually delivered online, with the added benefit of external challenge from Su, our CEO and the knowledge that she has gained from what works in governance across schools in England over the last seven years.

Our proven approach helps all governors to:

- Learn, share, benchmark and improve across nine key governance areas, including core roles, Ofsted framework, safeguarding, etc.
- Improve their knowledge of the school, governor responsibilities and how governors can work together as a team - great for Ofsted Preparation too.
- Create their own improvement plan, which we then hold them to account for the implementing.

Benefits cited by our clients include:

- **Improved Governor Induction and training**
- **Ofsted Awareness and Preparation**
- **Improved Challenge and Support**
- **Improved teamwork and Succession**
- **Comprehensive Improvement Planning**

Further details can be found on our website, by clicking the button below

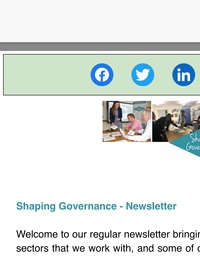
More information on Shaping Governance

" 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



NAHT Inspiring Leadership Conference

If you are planning on attending the Inspiring Leadership Conference this week, please pop along and see us on stand 43 to talk all things Governance!

We are passionate about our child centred, appreciative approach to Governance, and would love to tell you more about how we can help you through Shaping your Governance to deliver robust strategic oversight.

We support governance improvement from many angles - our support makes a positive impact in all schools that we work with.

DYNAMIC : PROVEN : EFFECTIVE

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