

Training and Development Governor Update: 01/02/21

Effective governance requires a board with a range of skills, together with a diversity of experience, backgrounds, characteristics and perspectives. These skills, experiences and knowledge enable governors to ask the right questions about the right things at the right time.

Skills Audit findings

Thank you to everyone who has completed the skills audit.

6 out of the 8 on the governing board have completed the Audit. The findings so far are encouraging with good levels of experience and knowledge across most areas. The two areas where there is less experience/knowledge are:

- Financial planning and efficiency (benchmarking)
- Experience of chairing boards or committees/being a governor in another school.

The first can be address through training available from RoSIS and by building up experience.

The second is something we will need to address as part of succession planning, for example, by different people taking turns to chair meetings.

Training and development available

There is a wealth of training available online and free on the National Governors Association (NGA) Learning Link. Rotherham School Improvement Service are also running training courses online and Andrew recently sent out a link to the prospectus.

Development is not just about attending courses or doing online training – attending governor meetings, presentations at governor meetings, virtual visits etc are all ways we can develop our knowledge and skills.

I would like us all to take responsibility for our own training and development, to reflect on what we have learned, to share what we learn with each other and to put it into practice. Developing our knowledge, skills and behaviour will help us deliver our role as governors effectively and to make a positive difference to the children of Meadow View.

Suggested training and development priorities for 2020/21

Do you agree with these priorities or are there others we should include?

New governors to attend New to Governance training.

All governors to complete safeguarding training on Safeguard.

All governors to identify at least one module on Learning Link or training course related to their individual responsibilities and to complete it.

Safeguarding Governor to undertake any safeguarding training available.

At least two governors to attend RoSIS finance training.

All governors to have an awareness of changes following conversion to academy.

Chair to undertake Development for Chairs programme.

Training and development undertaken so far 2020/21

New to Governance (Maaria)

Appraisal and Pay Progression (Trisha)

RoSIS Governance Forums (Janet and Trisha)

Budget setting and 3 Year Forecasts (Trisha and Jenni)

Presentations to governor meetings:

Joining JMAT (JMAT CEO Oct 2020)

PFI and Engie role (Engie Nov 2020)

Finance – post Conversion and 3-year planning (JMAT Chief Finance Officer)

Anything else?

Patricia White

Training and Development Governor/Chair