

## News from the Leadership & Governance Team

### Managing Allegations Training

### February 2011



#### Communication

Can you please help us to keep all governors informed by cascading this newsletter or directing them to the governor pages on the county council website

[www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/schoolgovernors](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/schoolgovernors)  
if you need any help or advice please  
contact us on 01604 655087 or e-mail:  
governors@northamptonshire.gov.uk

#### Managing Allegations training

Following the article in the January edition of The Northamptonshire Governor – “Governors’ Compliance Checklist” we have received many requests for “Managing Allegations” training.

Within Part 4 of the Compliance Checklist is the section for governors to complete:

- a) Procedures are in place for dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff and volunteers, that comply with Local Authority guidance and LSCBN procedures
- b) Head Teacher/Chair of Governors accessed ‘Managing Allegations’ training

Historically, the training has been advertised to school staff, encouraging them to attend with their Chair of Governors, however, now, due to demand, we are hosting two separate training sessions.

#### Two available training courses:

The Leadership & Governance team are hosting two alternative courses that you can access. The first course runs during the working day and is open to Head Teachers and Chairs of Governors, the second is an evening course and is open to Chairs of Governors.

**Course code:** CP02C/10

**Course title:** Managing Allegations of Abuse Against Staff

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011, 1pm-4pm

**Location:** Britannia House, Northampton

**Cost:** £90 per delegate

**To book:** e-mail [cpd@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:cpd@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

**Course summary:** To increase the awareness and confidence of Head Teachers and Chair of Governing Bodies when dealing with allegations of abuse against staff.

- To increase awareness of the correct procedures to follow.
- To enhance inter-agency working.

This course is designed for Head Teachers and Chair of Governing Bodies. It is recognised that allegations against members of the school staff are extremely difficult to deal with. The guidance and documentation regarding allegations against school staff will be explored. Representatives from a range of agencies will be invited to contribute to discussion around the issues and anxieties that participants may have.

Delegates are asked to read chapter 5.2 of LSCBN Inter Agency Procedures, [www.lscbnorthamptonshire.org.uk](http://www.lscbnorthamptonshire.org.uk) prior to the course.

## OR

**Course code:** GS26B

**Course title:** Managing Allegations

**Date:** Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2011, 7pm-9pm

**Location:** Britannia House, Northampton

**Cost:** £50 per delegate

**To book:** e-mail [cpd@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:cpd@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

**Course summary:** To increase the awareness and confidence of Chair of Governing Bodies when dealing with allegations of abuse against staff.

- To increase awareness of the correct procedures to follow.
- To enhance inter-agency working.

This course is designed for Chairs of Governing Bodies. It is recognised that allegations against members of the school staff are extremely difficult to deal with. The guidance and

documentation regarding allegations against school staff will be explored. Representatives from a range of agencies will be invited to contribute to discussion around the issues and anxieties that participants may have.

Delegates are asked to read chapter 5.2 of LSCBN Inter Agency Procedures, [www.lscbnorthamptonshire.org.uk](http://www.lscbnorthamptonshire.org.uk) prior to the course.

## **Responsibilities**

The procedure for handling allegations and concerns brought by children against staff is an important element of safeguarding and protecting children whilst protecting staff from mistaken or false allegations.

Schools have a statutory responsibility to safeguard the welfare of children under S175 of the Education Act 2002; this duty came into effect in September 2004.

It is recognised that due to professional relationships with pupils, staff are vulnerable to allegations of abuse or misconduct and in some cases these allegations may be false or made as a result of either the young person misinterpreting the staff member's words or actions, or a means of seeking attention.

Sometimes this can even be a deliberate response to the professional staff member's legitimate exercise of discipline.

