

News from Leadership & Governance: Training - September 2011

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New Year, New Name!

As you will be aware the county council has undergone some reorganisation. From the beginning of the academic year, the team formerly known as Learning, Achievement and School Improvement (LASI) will now be referred to as the School Effectiveness team within Learning, Skills and Education (LSE) and sits in the new directorate of Customers, Communities & Learning (CCL). The Leadership & Governance Team is still part of the overall school effectiveness team within LSE. Our service to you will not change.

Aspire will still be the name we use to refer to the traded side of our work. Well over half of Northamptonshire County Council schools have joined us as Aspire members and we have new members joining us every week! Our promise is that in partnership we will work together on your school improvement priorities at a discounted rate and in the style that works for you.

We have had many interesting requests for bespoke projects directly from school leadership teams and governing bodies and we are delighted to say that we have been able to propose solutions for all of them. Please do not hesitate to contact any of our staff to discuss your ideas or needs. We are more than happy to make suggestions around your priorities or to tailor a programme of support around your explicit requests, and will work in your school with your staff, governors or both following your agenda as agreed beforehand. We can also organise cluster or partnership development activities.

Call 01604 365000 to discuss next steps in accessing our services.

Governor Briefings

Since we ceased to offer specific “Chair” and “Link Governor” Briefings around the county, we have listened carefully to feedback from governors and have worked hard to provide an effective replacement. Therefore we’ve launched new “Governor Briefings” sessions. These will be open to one governor from each governing body. Numbers will be limited, so its advisable to book early, please note, this is a great opportunity for your Link Governor to attend these briefing sessions, but attendance is open to any serving governor.

Schools who have Aspire membership will be able to send one governor at no charge, any additional governors attending from each member school will be charged at £35 per head. Attendees from schools who are not members of Aspire will be charged £35 per delegate.

The first of the new Governor Briefings was held on 14th September and we were disappointed that only one school governor attended. Therefore we’ve arranged two further briefing sessions but should we find that attendance is still low we will have to consider the financial viability of offering face to face sessions, due to the cost of resources and booking venues.

Therefore the next session will be on **Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th September, 6pm – 7.30pm.** It will not be necessary for you or a fellow governor to attend both, simply choose which date is most convenient. The briefings will be delivered in the Heroes Suite at Northampton Saints rugby ground, Franklin’s Gardens, Weedon Rd, Northampton NN5 5BG.

Draft agenda for Governor briefings – 28/ 29 September 2011

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) National context
 - Education bill update
 - Performance Management regulations update
 - Public sector strike action
 - DfE latest news
- 3) Local Context
 - NCC Customer, Communities and Learning Directorate overview
 - Learning, Skills and Education Risk Management of Schools update
 - School changes in Northamptonshire
 - Governor training opportunities
- 4) School Context
 - Agenda items for Autumn Term
- 5) Governor Development
 - Understanding New Models of Leadership - Partnerships, Collaborations, Federations, Amalgamations, Trusts, Academies, Academy Chains
- 6) Question and Answer/ Feedback/ Discussion (if time allows)

To book

Booking is simple, click on: www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/cpd or e-mail: cpd@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Governor Training Dates

All scheduled governor training will be held in the Management Development Centre at the Marriott Hotel, Eagle Drive, Northampton NN4 7HW. For a map and directions, click on www.marriott.co.uk

September

GB2/11: Governor Induction Part 2 – The Governor As A Critical Friend/Monitoring & Evaluation
21st September 6.30pm – 8.30pm **This course is available at no charge to Aspire members.**

GF2/11: Managing Allegations – 21st September 6.30pm – 8.30pm

SGL02/11: Safer Recruitment in Education – 23rd September 9.30am – 4.30pm

October

GL3/11: Dealing with Complaints – 17th October 6.30pm – 8.30pm **A new course for 2011/2012**

GH1/11: Performance Management – 19th October 6.30pm – 8.30pm

GP2/11: Taking the Chair –Working with the Head Teacher - 19th October 6.30pm – 8.30pm **This course is available at no charge to Aspire members.**

New Governor Induction Training

Since April, we have offered free training for new School Governors who have been in post since September 2010, in Aspire member schools.

To date, this new initiative has proved to be extremely popular and new governors have found the three 2-hour sessions helpful and informative and governing bodies as a whole have viewed the programme as excellent value for money and a great opportunity of getting their new governors up to speed with their roles and responsibilities.

If you are an Aspire member, please encourage your new governors to take advantage of this no-cost training now.

SFVS Training

The Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS) has been launched by the DfE. It is aimed primarily at governors and maintained schools are required to complete the SFVS once a year.

Schools which never attained FMSiS will be expected to complete and submit the SFVS to Northamptonshire County Council by 31 March 2012. For all other maintained schools, the first run through is required by March 2013 with an annual review required after that. SFVS will not be externally assessed like FMSiS.

In order to brief Northamptonshire governors on the new financial requirement, the Leadership & Governance team are working in conjunction with the Schools Finance team to prepare a new training course. Details of the dates of these new sessions will be published soon and will be available to book via CPD.

Head Teacher Recruitment for Chairs of Governors Training

Please note that the training course scheduled for 10th October 6.30pm – 8.00pm has been cancelled due to low numbers. The governors that had booked on this training will instead be offered the advice and support directly to take them through the Head Teacher Recruitment process.

Clerks' Accreditation

This will be a nine month programme of supervision and training against the key competencies of effective clerking for 21st century schools.

Each school will be charged as follows for the whole programme:

- £292 for schools who paid into Early Bird as Aspire members
- £311 for schools who are Aspire members
- £389 for non-Aspire members

This programme offers excellent value and support for your Clerk, especially when compared to the price of a one day course, for instance.

CK13/11: Cohort 2: All Clerks in Northamptonshire schools: 5th October 6.00pm-8.00pm at the Management Development Centre, Marriott Hotel, Eagle Drive, Northampton NN4 7HW. For a map and directions, click on www.marriott.co.uk

National Training Programme for Clerks

CK14/11: National Training Programme for Clerks Part 1: 27th September 10.00am – 1.00pm

CK15/11: National Training Programme for Clerks Part 2: 27th September 1.30pm – 4.30pm

This training will be delivered at the Northampton Saints rugby ground, Franklin's Gardens, Weedon Rd, Northampton NN5 5BG.

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 Don't forget to make full use of the hyperlinks within the newsletter to access more information.

Leadership & Governance team

Support and assistance is just a phone call away. The Leadership & Governance team is available to help from 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday.

Call on 01604 365087

e-mail: governors@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Rose Kinley: Principal Improvement Manager- Leadership & Governance

Martin Lawrence: School Governance Advisor

Esther Bushell: School Governance & Workforce Development Advisor

Teresa Elkin: Governor Training Co-ordinator

Diane Woliter: Recruitment, Retention & Trainee Teacher Advisor

Lesley Eldridge: NQT, AST & Lead Teacher Co-ordinator

Mark Pevy: Governor Trainer

Vicki Snook: Senior Administrator
Jane Hall: Governance Administrator
Sally Holmes: Clerking Administrator

Training courses and bookings: cpd@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Please Note

Information contained in this issue of The Northamptonshire Governor was correct at the time of publication. Please be aware that things are currently changing on a frequent basis.

Editorial team

The Northamptonshire Governor is published by the Leadership & Governance team at Northamptonshire County Council and edited by Teresa Elkin and colleagues in the team. The editorial team reserve the right to edit any submitted material. The articles printed and views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Leadership & Governance team. Items are accurate to the best of our knowledge but we do not take responsibility for any errors in information provided to us for inclusion. Unless specially stated, all the contents of this newsletter are copyright to the Customers, Communities and Learning Directorate.