

# Governance Alert

Issue  
13

Information for governors, trustees & clerks Autumn term issue 13  
DES Governance Consultancy Team Week ending: 13.12.24

Helpline: (01392) 287314

Email: [schoolgovernance@devon.gov.uk](mailto:schoolgovernance@devon.gov.uk)

<p><b>Ofsted to research AI in schools</b></p> <p>The DfE has asked Ofsted to independently review how schools use AI, looking at support for teaching and admin. The potential benefits and challenges will be considered, barriers faced, along with how AI use should be governed.</p>	<p><b>For all governors and trustees</b></p> <p><a href="#">Independent review</a> into artificial intelligence (AI) in schools</p>
<p><b>Institute of Fiscal Studies SEND report</b></p> <p>This new report states '<i>Spending on special educational needs (SEND) is becoming unsustainable due to the rise in high needs. Reform to SEND funding and provision is needed.</i>' The report highlights that the number of pupils with EHCP's has risen by 71% between 2018 &amp; 2024 and notes that rises in ASD, ADHD and mental health needs appears to be a global issue across high-income countries.</p>	<p><b>For all governors and trustees</b></p> <p><a href="#">Read the key findings and download the full report</a></p>
<p><b>OAIP – video resources for schools</b></p> <p>Devon's Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision (OAIP) framework is published on the Devon website. Some video resources have now been added, including an introduction to OAIP which board members may find helpful.</p>	<p><b>For all governors and trustees</b></p> <p><a href="#">Introduction to OAIP video</a></p>
<p><b>Free anti-racism training</b></p> <p>The "Anti-racism in Devon Schools" training programme has been delivered to 20 schools across Devon, reaching around 1600 school staff and governors. There are still a few places for sessions before the programme ends on 31 March 2025.</p>	<p><b>For all governors and trustees</b></p> <p>For more information please email the Migration and Resettlement Team: <a href="mailto:ESOL@devon.gov.uk">ESOL@devon.gov.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Improving support for children missing education</b></p> <p>Government response to the consultation including a commitment to update 'electively home educated' guidance</p>	<p><b>For all governors and trustees</b></p> <p><a href="#">Read the response</a></p>
<p><b>Ofsted annual report published</b></p> <p>Absence rates remain higher than before the coronavirus pandemic, and schools are struggling to recruit and retain skilled staff.</p>	<p><b>For all governors and trustees</b></p> <p><a href="#">Press release</a> <a href="#">Annual report</a> Ofsted also reaffirms that at the start of 2025, it will formally consult on a renewed inspection framework</p>
<p><b>New Q-card (question card)</b></p> <p>No 36 – Governing in the special school context. Updated since last week with additional questions.</p>	<p><b>For all special school governors and trustees</b></p> <p><a href="#">Q-cards</a> Our grateful thanks to Pathfield School!</p>
<p><b>Clerking vacancies</b></p> <p>West Hill Primary School Seaton Primary School</p>	<p><b>For all interested parties</b></p> <p><a href="#">Further information and apply</a> <a href="#">Further information and apply</a></p>
<p><b>Training opportunities</b></p> <p><b>The governance of safeguarding</b> 14 Jan, 10-11.30 <b>Introduction to governance (maintained)</b> 15 Jan, 5.30-7.30 <b>Clerks briefings</b> 21 Jan, 10-12, Future Skills Centre, Exeter; 22 Jan, 10.30-12 online and 23 Jan 17.00-18.30, online <b>Special Educational Needs and Disabilities</b> 22 Jan, 10.-11.30 <b>Governance updates</b> 4 Feb, 12.30-1.30; 5 Feb, 4.00-5.00pm</p>	<p><b>For all governors, trustees and clerks</b></p> <p>Search by date for further information and bookings: <a href="#">Training, conferences and professional development</a> <a href="http://DES.devoneducationservices.co.uk">  DES (devoneducationservices.co.uk)</a></p>

