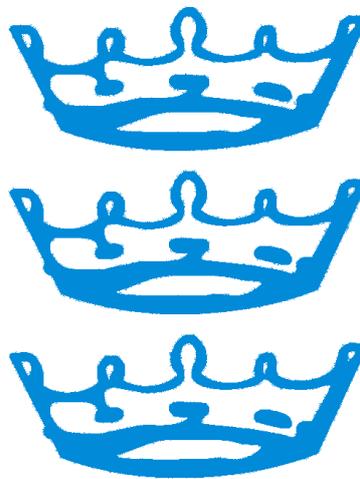


**Diocese of Bristol
Board of Education**



**Training for
Church School Governors**

Diocese of Bristol

Training for Church School Governors

The Diocesan Board of Education is committed to prioritising good governance within all of its schools. All Governors within Church Schools are, therefore, encouraged to engage in regular training to keep their knowledge and skills up-to-date and to enable them to make a valuable contribution to modern School governance. Schools are encouraged to support the training of their Governors by ensuring that budgetary provision is made for Governor training and development.

The role of Governor in a Church School is a high calling. Follow this link for further information: <http://www.bristol.anglican.org/i/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/2016-Foundation-Governors-Policy-1.pdf>. It is recommended that Schools follow an induction procedure for all new Governors which not only benefits the new Governor, but refreshes the knowledge of existing Governors. The local Parish Priest will have been involved in the recruitment of a Foundation Governor, and has an on-going responsibility for their induction and training.

It is important that all Foundation Governors take responsibility for their own development by exposing themselves to both Diocesan and LA training in order to expand their skills and understanding.

It is important to remember that a strong Clerk is fundamental to the effective running of a Governing body, and a point of liaison between the Governing body and the Diocese. As with Governors, training for Clerks is vital and should be incorporated into School CPD plans. Clerks should be strongly encouraged to undertake appropriate and regular training and development to maintain their knowledge and improve practice. Training specifically for Clerks would be found through the appropriate LA or the NGA (links to these are listed below).

FAQs

What training should I look to receive?

All Foundation Governors need to understand the issues around the Christian Ethos of a Church School, the provision of effective Collective Worship as well as the skill set of any other Governor; finance, health and safety, subject specialism, safeguarding and so forth.

Where do I find what training is available?

The Diocesan Board of Education offers training specifically relating to the role of Foundation Governor http://www.bristol.anglican.org/pdf_monthly/2016/Education.pdf. Additional training can be found on the website of the LAs, depending on the location of the School.

- <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/governors>
Bristol LA governors' information
- <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schoolseducationandlearning/schoolsandcolleges/schoolgovernors.htm>
Wiltshire LA governors' information
- <https://www.sgsts.org.uk/governor/SitePages/Home.aspx>
South Gloucestershire LA governors' information
- <http://schoolsonline.swindon.gov.uk/sm/governors/Pages/support.aspx>
Swindon LA governors' information

Other agencies also provide training, such as the Regional and National Governors Associations
<http://www.nga.org.uk/Home.aspx>

Who pays for my training?

There should be adequate provision in your School's budget for Governor training. Please discuss this with your Chair of Governors or Clerk.

I've been a Governor before, so why do I need to go on a training course?

The criteria within both the OFSTED and SIAMS frameworks are continually developing, and it is crucial that all Governors are as up-to-date as possible on their obligations within the School's leadership and management. Additionally, it will be expected that, over time, all Governors will take on further responsibilities within sub-committees of the Governing Body or with specific subject leads.