

School and Governor Support Service

Autumn Term Governor Training & Development Programme 2026

Managing a Financial Crisis (face to face)

This course will aim to provide governors and Trustees with a greater understanding of the context and challenges in which schools and academies are working given the current financial climate and provide strategies in order to help them achieve efficiencies. The course will look at how schools and academies are funded, structures of governance, the national funding formula and how to focus on the real money situation. Working in the current climate is increasingly difficult for schools and governors and Trustees will be armed with strategies to help see them through difficult times. The course aims to make finance fun and will be interactive allowing attendees to get their hands on the national funding formula! A course not to miss!

Date: Thursday, 1 October 2026 **Time:** 4.30 pm – 6.00 pm
Tutor: Wendy Pattison – Chief Financial Officer
Venue: Room A, EDC, Stockton Sixth Form College (face to face)

Artificial Intelligence Training (webinars)

Through the NEN, we are pleased to offer some webinars in relation to Artificial Intelligence. A flyer is enclosed with dates and times, and you can register using the following link (free of charge).

[NEN - The Education Network Launches AI Webinar Series for Education Professionals](#)

Suggested webinars of interest are as follows.

Introductory Webinar	Tuesday, 6 October 2026	3.30 – 4.45 pm
Governance & Leadership	Wednesday, 7 October 2026	3.30 – 4.45 pm

Governor Safeguarding Training (virtual)

This session aims to clarify the statutory functions for Governing Bodies in relation to safeguarding and promote the welfare of children considering revised statutory guidance. It will also allow governors the opportunity to consider how they hold senior leaders and the workforce to account in this regard.

Date: Thursday, 8 October 2026 **Time:** 5.00 – 7.00 pm
Tutor: Emma Milburn, General Adviser 0-11
Venue: Virtual via TEAMS

Restrictive Physical Intervention (face to face)

This session will explore legislation and duties of schools and governors with regards to the use of physical and nonphysical intervention including the use of restraint and reasonable force. It will include duties and good practice listed in recent 2026 DFE guidance. It will include discussion on risk assessments and recording of incidents"

Date: Tuesday, 3 November 2026 **Time:** 1.00 – 3.00 pm
Tutor: Claire Tiffany, Service Lead Alternative Provision
Venue: Room A, EDC, Stockton Sixth Form College (face to face)

The New Ofsted Education Inspection Framework (virtual)

The new Ofsted Education Inspection Framework was introduced in September 2025. This session is an opportunity to learn more about the framework, what happens during an inspection and how governors will be involved. As well as helping you to prepare for an inspection, the session should also support you to consider how you are working with your school and the contribution you are making to school leadership.

Date: Thursday, 5 November 2026 **Time:** 5.00 – 7.00 pm
Tutor: Emma Milburn, General Adviser 0-11
Venue: Virtual session via TEAMS

Governor Induction Training

The two courses form part of the induction programme for new governors. The modules consider issues from basic concepts through to the governor's role in supporting school improvement. These sessions are for all governors in maintained schools and academies.

Module 1 – Getting Started (virtual)

This session aims to help governors understand their role in the education partnership. Following this session governors will be able to understand:

- the developing legal framework
- their relationship with the school
- their role as a member of the governing body team and its structure
- their responsibilities - focusing on governance/management issues.

Date: Thursday, 12 November 2026 **Time:** 10.00 - 11.00 am
Tutor: Lucy Duncan - Manager, School and Governor Support Service
Venue: Virtual session via TEAMS

Module 2 – Making it Happen (virtual)

Following this session governors will:

- be able to make effective contact with their school
- be effective in meetings
- be given an insight into the information received at meetings
- understand their role in School Improvement Planning
- be able to monitor and evaluate school performance
- know how to ensure accountability.

Date: Thursday, 19 November 2026 **Time:** 10.00 – 11.00 am
Tutor: Lucy Duncan – Manager, School and Governor Support Service
Venue: Virtual session via TEAMS

Pupil Premium Challenge and Support (virtual)

This session will aim to:

- reinforce/increase understanding of governors' statutory responsibilities in relation to Pupil Premium
- clarify governors' role in monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the use of Pupil Premium funding.

- reinforce/increase governors' understanding of the Pupil Premium Toolkit.

Date: Thursday, 12 November 2026 **Time:** 5.00 – 7.00 pm
Tutor: Emma Milburn – General Adviser 0-11
Venue: Virtual via TEAMS

SEND- Governor Support & Challenge (face to face)

The session will provide an overview of Stockton Borough Council's SEND systems, how school's access support and the role of a SEND governor. This will include the Inclusive Education Framework, the role of ARPs (Additionally Resourced Provision) and SEND Units and the key areas SEND governors may wish to ask.

Date: Wednesday, 25 November 2026 **Time:** 10.00 – 12.30 pm
Tutor: Ellie Hopwood - Service Lead - SEND Assessments & Review
Venue: Room C, EDC, Stockton Sixth Form College (face to face)

Effective Governor Visits (virtual)

The governance handbook states that governors must know their school if accountability is going to be robust and their vision for the school is to be achieved. A keyway for governors to do this is through school visits. This new course will guide governors through how to ensure their visits are purposeful and focused and what to do before, during and afterwards.

Date: Wednesday, 2 December 2026 **Time:** 5.00 – 6.00 pm
Tutor: Lucy Duncan – Manager, School and Governor Support Service
Venue: Virtual session via TEAMS

Safer Recruitment (National Safer Recruitment Consortium Course)

Governors can access on-line training through the NSPCC. This will be charged at approximately £35 per person. You can access the course via the following link – <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/training/schools/safer-recruitment-in-education-training/>.

Governor Briefing Sessions (suitable for Governors from Maintained Schools and Academies) - Virtual

As part of the School and Governor Support Service, a half termly virtual Governor Briefing session will be held. All governors will receive an invitation to attend the session, if you are unable to please forward to another member of the Governing Body/Board to ensure you are represented. The dates for the summer term academic year are as follows - **commencing at 5pm for 1 hour:**

- **Autumn Term 2026** – Tuesday, 15 September 2026
- **Spring Term 2027** – Tuesday, 12 January 2027
- **Summer Term 2027** – Tuesday, 29 April 2027

As part of the School and Governor Support Service packages, each Governing Body could be entitled to a bespoke individual governing body training session. In some cases, Governing Bodies choose to group together for a joint session as they consider this to be advantageous in sharing best practice, discussing issues and networking with other governors.

Some of the areas that can be covered are:

- Roles and Responsibilities
- Induction to the Governing Body and Mentoring
- Governors' Visits
- Ofsted Framework
- Self-Evaluation

Additional Support Provided to Further Develop Governance

In order to continue to support and develop governance across the Borough the Service can also provide help on

- Sharing Best Practice
- Chairs' Mentoring
- New Governor Mentoring
- Induction to Governance
- Chairing meetings.

Have you ever considered a Governing Body Health Check? To find out more information please liaise with your School and Governor Support Officer.

BOOKING FORM

Autumn Term 2026

Governor Training and Development Programme

Course	Date	Time	Tick on the course to attend
Managing a Financial Crisis	Thursday, 1 October 2026 (face to face)	4.30 – 6.00 pm	☐
Artificial Intelligence (webinars)	Tuesday, 6 October 2026 (webinar) Wednesday, 7 October 2026 (webinar)	3.30 – 4.45 pm 3.30 – 4.45 pm	Register on-line
Governor Safeguarding	Thursday, 8 October 2026 (virtual)	5.00 – 7.00 pm	☐
Restrictive Physical Intervention	Tuesday, 3 November 2026 (face to face)	1.00 – 3.00 pm	☐
The New Ofsted Education Framework	Thursday, 5 November 2026 (virtual)	5.00 – 7.00 pm	☐
Induction Training for New Governors Module 1 – Getting Started	Thursday, 12 November 2026 (virtual)	10.00 – 11.00 am	

Module 2 – Making it Happen	Thursday, 19 November 2026 (virtual)	10.00 – 11.00 am	☐ ☐
Pupil Premium Challenge & Support	Thursday, 12 November 2026 (virtual)	5.00 – 7.00 pm	☐
SEND	Wednesday, 25 November 2026 (face to face)	10.00 – 12.30 pm	☐
Effective Governor Visits	Wednesday, 2 December 2026 (virtual)	5.00 – 6.00 pm	☐

Please reserve me a place on the above session(s)

Name:

Governing Body/Trust Board:

Tel No:

Email:

Please send completed application form to:

Janette Ferreira janette.ferreira@stockton.gov.uk Tel: 07833 233998

Education Improvement Service, Stockton Sixth Form College,

Block B – Education Development Centre, Bishopton Road West, Stockton on Tees TS19 0QD

Suggestions for future training sessions: (please indicate below)

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Data Protection By completing and returning this form, you are giving School and Governor Support Services clear consent to process your data for the sole purpose of attending these training courses.