

# THE WILTSHIRE GOVERNOR

Newsletter

June 2019

*Wiltshire School Governance Team – helping governors and trustees become more effective*

## Performance management of the senior executive leader

The performance management and development of the headteacher, including effective appraisal, is fundamental to school improvement. **It is suggested that the annual appraisal meetings should take place as soon as possible after the start of the autumn term.** This is so that the objectives for the head teacher can feed into other senior leaders and staff performance objectives; also, it gives a full three terms to meet the objectives set. This means that governing boards should be planning for this now.

For further information about how governors can prepare for performance please see the following training opportunities:

Mon 14/10/19	Headteacher Performance Management	Diocesan Centre, Wilton	10.00 – 12.00	1019-T004
Mon 11/11/19	Headteacher Performance Management	Chippenham Golf Club	13.00 – 15.30	1119-T005

Other training opportunities for the new academic year have also been released on the Right Choice website. Your clerks have a list of the Autumn 2019 training courses to share with you.

## DfE confirm funding for PE and sports premium in 2019/20

The PE and sports premium is funding given to schools with pupils in years one to six, or pupils aged between five and ten. It can be used to fund sporting or PE activities beyond what the school already offers, and is meant to allow schools to put in place sustainable improvements to their PE and sport provision.

While allocation details are yet to be confirmed, in 2018/19, schools with 16 or less pupils received £1,000 per pupil, whereas schools with 17 or more pupils received a lump sum of £16,000 and an additional £10 per pupil.

The DfE have issued a web link to enable schools to identify their individual 2018-19 funding, which you may find useful.

<https://skillsfunding.service.gov.uk/pe-sport-premium/2018-2019>

In addition, the DfE have also re-issued the guidance for the use of the PE & Sports Premium, including information relating to how the premium should be spent. Please use the link below to access the guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pe-and-sport-premium-for-primary-schools>

## Governor Training Evaluations

We have been looking at the way we receive feedback from delegates attending governor courses. While the Right Choice system was new to schools and those of us administering the events it was decided to carry on with hard copy evaluations as well as the online option to give delegates the choice of either one. However, from the start of the new academic year in September, hardcopies will no longer be used.

Once the register has been marked, a link to the feedback form is sent direct to delegates (attended only) and submitted straight back into Right Choice. There is no need for delegates to log-in to the site.

## MOD Education Support Fund 2020

The Secretary of State for Defence announced that there would be an extension of the Education Support Fund (ESF) for an additional two years.

The fund consisted of £3 million in 2018/19 and the 2020 ESF bidding round has £2 million to award.

The ESF is open to Local Authority maintained schools, Academies and Free Schools in the UK which are attended by Service children whose parents are subject to frequent mobility and/or deployment. There are several criteria that you will need to meet should you wish to apply to the ESF and these can be found within the grant application pack, a link to which can be found below

Bids opened on Monday 3rd June and close at 12pm on Monday 30th September, the application form can also be found within the grant application pack.

If you require any further information about the background to the ESF, eligibility criteria for applying or guidance on completing the application form, please refer to the link below:

[MOD Support Fund](#)

## Department for Education encourages schools to produce long-term pupil premium strategies

The Department for Education (DfE) has published [updated guidance](#) on pupil premium allocations, spending and monitoring. In an attempt to better align pupil premium spending with school improvement strategies, those governing and school leaders are now being encouraged to produce “multi-year” rather than annual pupil premium strategies, over a three-year period for instance. The strategy will still need to be set out in an annual pupil premium statement, as this is a requirement for all maintained schools and most academies.

The updated guidance also includes a useful set of [frequently asked questions](#) and outlines that the governing boards have a key role to play in “checking the school’s pupil premium planning and, where appropriate, challenging the senior leadership over its use. Governors should champion evidence-based practice and consider the rationale in all pupil premium-related decisions”.

The DfE's updated guidance includes references to the Education Endowment Foundation's recently published [pupil premium guide](#). The guide includes myth-busting, case studies, and an exemplar approach to pupil premium spending. Key messages included the importance of rooting a school's pupil premium strategy within its wider whole school strategy. The guide also stressed that high-quality interventions are often only one part of a successful pupil premium strategy, with spending on improving staffing and tackling "wider barriers to learning, such as attendance and behaviour" also being important.

For those governing, the updated DfE guidance, and the EEF guide, combine to highlight the vital role of governors and trustees in relation to pupil premium, and provide accessible resources to support them in carrying out this role.

## Safeguarding - Section 128 checks

### Prohibition from management checks (also referred to Section 128 checks)

For clarification:

- Section 128 checks were introduced in August 2015.
- To date, there are only 4 individuals who are prohibited from management nationally.
- They affect both maintained schools and academies/independent schools but in different ways.

### Who needs a Section 128 check?

**Academies and independent schools:** any person taking up a management position, this may include:

- members of the proprietor body
- Headteacher
- any teaching positions on the senior leadership team and
- any teaching positions which carry a department headship.

**Maintained schools:** a person holding office as a governor, this include teacher governors.

### How can schools ensure the checks have been completed?

*For new recruits:*

A DBS with barred list check includes a Section 128 if "children's workforce independent schools" is included in the parameters on the application. Record on SCR that the check was completed.

*For existing staff/volunteers to whom the check applies (as above)*

- Schools can carry out a quick, free retrospective Section 128 check on the TRA website
- Record on the SCR the check was carried out in respect of individuals to whom this requirement applies, who started at the school/academy from August 2015.

Please also refer to KCSiE 2018. Contact your Safeguarding Effectiveness Adviser/HR representative if you have any questions.

### How to carry out the check retrospectively:

For details on how to do the check on the TRA website, please refer to the notes on the SCR template.

**Schools using the Wiltshire template SCR (Nov 2018) are advised to make small amendments to their SCR to ensure the S128 check is recorded in relation to teacher governors. The April 2019 template includes notes advising of the changes.**

**This is a minor but important amendment to the SCR; schools will not need to update their entire spreadsheet.**

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**The Governor Services Team**



[Right Choice for Your School](#)