



School Governors' Update



The spring term is drawing to a close, after a particularly busy time in the school governance calendar. Budgets have been reviewed and forecasts prepared for approval at the start of the summer term, as well as receiving reports on data, benchmarking, performance management, external accountability e.g. diocesan visits or School Improvement visits and maybe even an Ofsted visit! We are sure you are looking forward to the break.

We continue to provide support and keep you informed of forthcoming activities and events delivered by the LA's Schools Governance Service as well as highlighting some of the recent issues impacting education and governance.

Upcoming events - summer term

Ofsted Inspection Updates for School Governors - Tuesday 12 May 2026 at 6pm

[Book here](#)

This online training will explain the recently introduced Ofsted report card framework, offering practical guidance for governors. It will share the experiences of other schools in Hillingdon who have recently been inspected.

School Governors In-Person Networking Event - Wednesday 10 June 2026 at 6pm

[Book here](#)

This in-person event at the Civic Centre, enables governors/trustees and clerks from across Hillingdon's schools to meet face-to-face, providing the opportunity to chat all things governance. The aim of the evening is to discuss key issues that are currently affecting school governance as well as sharing knowledge and best practice.

An Introduction to Understanding the Use of AI in Schools for School Governors - Monday 22 June 2026 at 6pm [Book here](#)

This online training will explore how AI is currently being used within schools and the impact this is having in classrooms. It will look at how governors can use AI tools to support and enhance their role.

Thank you to all the governors and clerks who attended our training, events and briefings over the last term as part of our commitment to support governing boards in Hillingdon schools. We hope you found them useful and can apply the training to your work.

Details of all previous events can be found here:

[LA Training for School Governors - Leap](#)

DfE Prevent in Education: training for governors and trustees in schools - Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 5pm [Register](#)

This training package has been designed by the Department for Education for school governors to understand their responsibilities and the importance of the Prevent duty.

National School Governors Awareness Day

This event took place last month with Governors for Schools providing sessions on a range of subjects, from strategic leadership and safeguarding, to trustee recruitment, wellbeing, and governance impact. Each session was designed to provide practical insight, informed perspective and meaningful takeaways that boards can apply immediately. If you missed a session, want to revisit key insights, or share content with your board, please click the link below to access the full session recordings. [National School Governors Awareness Day](#)

Supporting children from military families

Hillingdon has the largest cohort of service children in London, with more than 400 pupils across 46 schools. This specific cohort is one that many of you will be aware of within your schools. Thanks to funding from The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, there are now two Stronger Schools Officers working to provide dedicated support to them, their families, schools and the professionals working with them

Continued

across the borough. The officers are working to raise the profile of this often hidden group by supporting schools with delivering targeted academic, attendance, SEND and wellbeing support. If as governors you have any queries regarding the support available for this group of children, contact hdent@hillington.gov.uk

Next month, the Ministry of Defence (MOD) celebrates the 'Month of the Military Child' and further details can be found at [Month of the Military Child - GOV.UK](#)

National agenda for governance

SEND and inclusion

A copy of the long awaited Schools' White Paper which was published recently can be found here: [Every child achieving and thriving - GOV.UK](#)

Further details from the government will be shared and the key areas covered by the White Paper include:

- overall ambitions for pupils
- SEND system reform
- support for disadvantaged pupils
- formal collaboration and Multi Academy Trusts
- parental collaboration and engagement
- an improved complaints process
- exclusions and behaviour.

There is lots of information in response to the publications, including blogs and summary documents and links to some of these can be found below:

[Specialist SEND support in every school and community - GOV.UK](#)

[SEND reform: putting children and young people first - GOV.UK](#)

[Sir Kevan Collins appointed as Delivery Adviser to the Secretary of State for Education - GOV.UK](#)

The National Governance Association (NGA) have produced a short three-page summary of the key points of the White Paper: [NGA Summary](#)

The government also published the SEND reform: [putting children and young people first - GOV.UK](#)

This contains information about the consultation on the proposed changes to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND, including: early, local and fair support, effectively grounded in evidence, and with shared accountabilities across local partners. The consultation **closes on 18 May 2026**.

Ofsted

With the inspections underway and six schools within the borough having been inspected, we are gathering a clearer picture of how judgements are being made across the nine areas. With many schools awaiting

their inspections, to further prepare yourself, Ofsted are now publishing recordings of their inspector training materials. This is part of its commitment to being a more open and transparent organisation. Please note the Underpinning Skills Programme (USP) modules have the most videos and the full list can be accessed by clicking on 'load more'. There are detailed recordings about the use of the Inspection Data Summary Reports (IDSR), early years, strong foundations, alternative provision, case sampling, inclusion and much more. To view these, visit [Ofsted Academy - GOV.UK](#)

Child Poverty Strategy

The government has published a child-friendly version of its strategy to help parents, teachers and schools discuss poverty with children in a clear and age-appropriate way. The resource aims to reduce stigma and support understanding, recognising that around one in three children grow up in poverty. Find out more here [New tool for families and schools to cut stigma of child poverty - GOV.UK](#)

Growing up in the online world: a national consultation

The [Online Safety Act 2023](#) looked to establish the UK as one of the strongest systems in the world for protecting children from illegal and harmful content online. The government has launched a consultation to consider the broader impact of technology on children's everyday lives and whether there is a need for additional measures to ensure their experiences online are safe and enriching. The government wishes to understand how technology impacts children's wellbeing, and what more can be done to help families. To find out more, read [Growing up in the online world: a national consultation - GOV.UK](#)

The consultation **closes on 26 May 2026**.

Safeguarding – Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) consultation

The DfE is seeking views on proposed changes to the statutory guidance on KCSIE with a view to making changes for September 2026. The consultation **closes on 22 April 2026**. Have your say at [Keeping children safe in education: 2026 consultation](#)

As schools break up for the Easter holidays we would like to thank you for all the work you have done this term to support schools and improve the lives of children in Hillingdon.

LA Schools' Governance Service

Children's Services, Hillingdon Council,
Civic Centre, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW

Email: schoolgovernance@hillington.gov.uk

Please access education information via [LEAP](#)