

March 2018

FREE Upcoming Opportunity

Finance for Governors

Wednesday 20th June 2018, 9am – 12pm
Irish World Heritage Centre

Finance committee chairs and headteachers are invited to attend this session looking at the roles and responsibilities of governors in relation to finance, financial good practice, how a governor ensures that reports given reflect the actual, building confidence and knowledge to ask the intelligent questions, expectations of the headteacher and what information governors can expect headteachers to provide and how the chair of the finance committee works with the headteacher.

The session will be run by Neil Charlton-Jones, an experienced education finance practitioner who has delivered training to individuals, schools, local authorities and multi-academy trusts on a range of topics from financial planning to the roles and responsibilities of governors. Neil also undertakes the internal audit role for a primary academy providing assurances to the governing body on the internal controls and financial management



of public resources, he is also a member of the finance committee in a maintained school and chair of the finance committee in an academy.

This is a FREE session for MSA member schools. Places are limited and so are initially restricted to 2 places per school available only by booking in advance via Lisa Jones at admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk.

Working towards Excellent Governance

On Saturday 3rd March, 45 governors braved the snow and ice to attend our 'Working towards Excellent Governance' session with Allan Torr. Allan, a former headteacher and HMI up until recently, delivered 2 sessions during the half day session at Chancellors.



The first session focussed on getting ready for Ofsted and what to expect. Allan summarised to the governors what inspectors will expect governors to know such as improvements done since the last report, what the current area for improvements are, what the impact is of teaching, learning & assessment is on pupil progress and around the statutory duties. The second session was titled 'towards excellence' and covered what governors do in 'excellent' schools from the point of view of the inspector in relation to areas such as Pupil Premium, SEN/D and equality. Throughout both sessions, Allan invited governors to reflect on their own practice as well as discuss and compare with governors from other schools.

Feedback from the session was extremely positive with many governors agreeing that Allan's clear and knowledgeable presentation was useful, relevant and thought-provoking. The time to reflect and discuss with other governors was also highlighted on the feedback as a valuable opportunity. The presentation was shared with all governors that attended to digest and use to feedback to their governing bodies.

Resilient pupils...resilient parents...resilient schools

Jean Gross presented 'Resilient pupils...resilient parents...resilient schools' at Hough End on the 23rd of January to a mix of 41 senior leaders, SENCOs, inclusion leads and teachers. She looked at what makes some of us able to overcome difficulties or disadvantage and succeed in school and life, explored the place of resilience in the Ofsted framework and made links to the hot topic of children's mental health.

Jean also considered what can be done in school to develop staff self-efficacy and wellbeing in challenging times as well as focussing on building parent's resilience and engaging disadvantaged and other 'harder to reach' groups. Feedback following the session has suggested Jean was inspiring and the sharing of different strategies had given lots of ideas to take back to school.



Headteacher Well-being

The very relevant issue of headteacher well-being has been raised at a number of different forums over the last few months. A sub-group has been formed to look at the issues, review the existing practice already in the city and look at the potential for a Manchester strategy. At the first meeting some ideas were discussed such as an 'introduction to Manchester' for new heads, a mentoring system, city-wide headteacher events and the continuation of the 24/7 support line currently funded by the LA.

The group would like to invite any headteachers who are interested in driving this forward and/or feel they have something to contribute this to attend the next meeting on **Tuesday 17th April 2018**, 2 - 3.30pm venue TBC. If you would like to join the group, please confirm your attendance by contacting Lisa Jones at admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk.



Primary EAL Network

The first Manchester Primary EAL Network took place on the 8th of March. EAL Leads and teachers from across the city met to discuss 'meeting the needs of new arrivals.' There was lots of discussion and great ideas shared. Some members of the group highlighted challenges to which other members offered advice and strategies they have used in the past. The group ranged from those that have worked with EAL pupils for many years to those who are relatively new to it which offered a great balance. The group agreed that there is no one fits all solution to this but went away with lots of different ideas to try out. The session finished with the group agreeing to meet termly. If you are interested in joining this network, the next meeting is on **Thursday 14th June 2018**, 4.15 - 5.15pm at St Barnabas CofE Academy, Openshaw. The focus of the session will be assessment for bilingual pupils.

Safeguarding Strategy Group

The Safeguarding Strategy Group continues to meet termly. At the meeting, there is lots of sharing of particular resources/ organisations that schools have found useful in the promotion of safeguarding within school. The MSA agreed to allocate a particular area of its website to upload this information so that all schools can access this. This can be found [here](#). If you have anything that you have found useful and would be willing to share this with other schools, please contact Lisa Jones at;

admin@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk

Supporting pupil mental health



This programme builds on our successful pilot programme funded by Health Education England and has been clinically quality assured by Manchester CAMHS. It was developed and is delivered by expert school-based practitioners from mainstream and specialist provision throughout the 5-19 age range; successfully combining theory, practical support and resources to enable you to train and support staff in your own setting.

This programme will explore how:

- **mental health needs can manifest in a classroom environment and how these may change over time**
- **pupils with neurodevelopmental difficulties such as ASC, may express their mental health needs**
- **specific support and interventions can be evaluated and accessed**
- **to action plan towards a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing and building capacity within your school team**

Audience: this course is suitable for SENDCOs, Senior Leaders with responsibility for mental health, link governors for mental health.

Date: Tuesday 12th June 2018 (full day; lunch will be provided) *and* Tuesday 26th June 2018 (1pm-4pm)

Venue: Bowker Vale Primary School,
Middleton Road, Higher Crumpsall

Cost: £320 per person (to be invoiced by Bowker Vale)

Presenters: This course will be led by [Kate Allely](#) and colleagues

To book: Contact Rachel Eppy on 0161 226 1773 /
rachel.eppy@teachmanchester.com

Supporting suddenly bereaved children and young people

Dates

Manchester, Thursday 21 June 2018

Birmingham, Thursday 28 June 2018

London, Thursday 5 July 2018

Cardiff, Thursday 22 November 2018

This not-for-profit seminar is an essential event for anyone caring for children and young people who have been suddenly bereaved, including **teachers, health professionals, police, chaplains, early years educators, child carers and bereavement and family workers**. It provides a common-sense approach to helping children, young people and families deal with the horrendous shock of the sudden death of someone close to them such as a parent or sibling.

The seminar is led by practitioners and academics who specialise in sudden bereavement. This event will help practitioners to provide long-term empathetic support and discusses some of the issues facing practitioners in providing effective support to families.

For further information and to book your place at one of these events

call **01484 559909**

email jkushner@brake.org.uk

or visit www.suddendeath.org

Delegate fee
only

£71 +VAT