

AUTUMN TERM 2023

NORTHUMBERLAND SCHOOL GOVERNORS NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

Hi all, and welcome to the 2023/24 academic year! Despite the typical British weather, we hope you have had a restful Summer holiday.

It is with great pleasure we announce that Vicki welcomed her beautiful daughter, Ella on the 16th of June and both are doing fantastic. The team and I would also like to thank our interim line manager, Damian Burke, for all of his support over the Summer term. Some schools may already be familiar with Damian as a School Improvement Partner. We are so lucky to have been provided with such wonderful support from Damian, who has a wealth of knowledge in education.

All of the team have enjoyed a rest over the holidays and are now refreshed and ready to start the new academic year. We are so pleased to welcome back many schools who continue to use our services year-on-year for which we are very grateful. We have also welcomed many new schools to our services, including some as far as Cumbria, which is very exciting!

As most of you will know, Autumn term is always a long and busy term for schools, so please make sure to check in with your Headteachers and school staff to see how they are doing, and as always, myself and the team are here to provide you with any support you may need. We look forward to working and supporting you all, both old and new, in the 2023/24 academic year.

Let the fun commence!

Wallis Bath



CHAIRS & VICE CHAIRS BRIEFING

**OUR LATEST BRIEFING
TOOK PLACE ON 26th
SEPTEMBER 2023**

If you forgot to sign up or would like a link to the documents and recording of this briefing, please click [here](#) to access via our Governance webpage

USEFUL CONTACTS

DAMIAN BURKE
ACTING SCHOOL GOVERNANCE
AND DATA PROTECTION
MANAGER (MON- FRI)
07973 600170

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE AND DATA PROTECTION OFFICERS (SGDPOs)

LOUISE GILMOUR (MON-FRI)
07890 052730

WALLIS BATH (MON-FRI)
07952 270187

KAREN CARNAFFIN (MON-FRI)
07355 021921

HELEN PYE (MON-WED)
07890 052742

MARGARET ARKSEY (TUES-
THUR) 07890 052734

IAN HAMPSON (WED-THUR)
07890 052748

LINDA PAPAIOANNOU (WED-
FRI) 07890 052741

NEWS & UPDATES

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023

The DfE's 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' 2023 statutory guidance document came into force on 1st September. All updates from the previous guidance can be located in '*Annex F: Table of substantive changes from September 2023*'.

The KCSIE states that all trustees and governors should receive safeguarding training and keep this up-to-date. If you have not received refresher training in over a year, let either your Headteacher or SGDPO know and this can be arranged.

New suspensions and exclusions guidance in place from September 2023

Governing boards should be aware that schools need to now allow remote access to independent review panel meetings and can also be fully remote in the event of unforeseen circumstances. The DfE has also tightened rules around the cancellation of suspensions or exclusions to protect pupils from off-rolling.

When the governing board is considering the reinstatement of a pupil, the new guidance states that a clerk should be present to record the discussion and decisions. Get in touch with your SGDPO should you need to arrange this (subject to their availability).

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework September 2023 updates

Governors should be aware of the following small changes to the framework:

- The minimum staff to child ratio for 2-year-olds is now one staff member per five children.
- 'Adequate supervision' whilst children are eating has been further clarified - children must be within sight and hearing of an adult.

NORTHUMBERLAND EDUCATION WEB PAGE

Make sure you visit our website for all things Education. From here you can view the e-courier, a weekly bulletin board for schools. There is even a dedicated site for governors.

www.northumberlandeducation.co.uk