



Learning Link modules

With over 50 governance modules aligned to NGA's Knowledge Centre, our suite of 10 collections cover:

Core modules

A suite of 8 modules covering key governance areas, perfect for those new to governance or those looking for a refresher. (These modules are included within each of the categories above).

Modules	Duration
<u>Governance: Your role, your responsibilities, your organisation</u>	2 hours
<u>Your organisation: Understanding school structures and what children should learn</u>	2 hours
<u>Strategy: Living your values, reaching your vision, managing the risk</u>	2 hours
<u>Progress and attainment: using data to improve educational outcomes</u>	2 hours
<u>Finance: Making the most of what you've got</u>	2 hours
<u>Working Together: Building the team and improving the organisation</u>	1 hour 30 minutes
<u>Compliance: Assuring your organisation, keeping it safe, secure and solvent</u>	1 hour 30 minutes
<u>Effectiveness: Governance making an impact, changing lives</u>	1 hour 30 minutes

Structures, roles and responsibilities

These modules will help you to understand school and trust structures, and what is expected of you as a governor or trustee.

Modules	Duration
<u>Governance: Your role, your responsibilities, your organisation</u>	2 hours
<u>Getting it right as a staff governor</u>	50 minutes
<u>Key Functions of the governing board</u>	55 minutes
<u>The constitution of the governing board</u>	55 minutes
<u>Governance of a church school</u>	45 minutes
<u>Different Models of Governance</u>	55 minutes



Good governance

These modules aim to help you improve the effectiveness of your governing board, including visiting your school or schools, Ofsted inspections and succession planning.

Modules	Duration
Effectiveness: Governance making an impact, changing lives	1 hour 30 minutes
Working Together: Building the team and improving the organisation	1 hour 30 minutes
Handling difficult situations	55 minutes
Ofsted and the new inspection framework	45 minutes
Governance visits to schools	10 minutes
Succession Planning	40 minutes
Governance monitoring: A tool to help drive improvement	10 minutes
Holding to account: How to question and challenge	15 minutes
Holding to account: How to conduct a courageous conversation	15 minutes
NEW Ethical Leadership: A planning tool	Up to 45 minutes

Vision, ethos and strategic direction

Covering risk management, evaluating effectiveness and your role in school improvement, these modules will help you shape your school or trust's strategic direction.

Modules	Duration
Strategy: Living your values, reaching your vision, managing the risk	2 hours
Monitoring and evaluation	55 minutes
Creating a new vision for your school or trust	15 minutes



Pupil success and wellbeing

These modules focus on the core purpose of your schools or trust – the quality of education it should be providing to pupils.

Modules	Duration
Your organisation: Understanding school structures and what children should learn	2 hours
Progress and attainment: using data to improve educational outcomes	2 hours
Arts & Cultural Education: Improving your school and its curriculum	45 minutes
Early Years Education	1 hour
Monitoring performance data and targets	50 minutes
The role of the SEND governor	55 minutes
Looked after children	55 minutes
Exclusions	55 minutes
Pupil Premium	55 minutes
Minimising exclusions	15 minutes
NEW Panel work: An introduction	25 minutes
NEW How to run an effective exclusion review panel	45 minutes

Executive leaders

These modules cover the key stages in the lead executive recruitment process and the critical role the board has in holding executive leaders to account through effective headteacher appraisal.

Modules	Duration
Headteacher recruitment - succession planning	55 minutes
Headteacher appraisal and capability	55 minutes
Setting performance objectives for executive leaders	15 minutes
Recruiting a senior executive leader	1 hour



Stakeholder engagement

Find out about key partners and stakeholders, how to develop relationships with them, and how engagement with stakeholders can lead to better outcomes for pupils.

Modules	Duration
NEW Stakeholder engagement: The governance role	15 minutes

The best use of resources

These modules will provide you with the tools and approaches for developing financial efficiency in your school or trust.

Modules	Duration
Finance: Making the most of what you've got	2 hours
Understanding schools finance	1 hour
Managing Academy Finance	1 hour 15 minutes
Using Integrated Curriculum and Financial Planning (ICFP)	15 minutes
NEW Managing staff workload and wellbeing: The governance role	15 minutes

Compliance

Covering key areas of compliance such as safeguarding, health and safety and admissions, these modules will make you aware of the most important points from legislation and guidance.

Modules	Duration
Compliance: Assuring your organisation, keeping it safe, secure and solvent	1 hour 30 minutes
Equality and Diversity: A practical guide for governors and trustees	1 hour
Getting to know the law	55 minutes
Governing board duties on compliance	1 hour
Safeguarding: the governor's role	1 hour 30 minutes
Health and Safety	1 hour



Clerking

These modules will help new and experienced clerks to get a better understanding of their role and how to carry it out well.

Modules	Duration
Clerking a trust or an academy committee	55 minutes
Introduction to Clerking Academies	55 minutes
Introduction to clerking maintained schools	1 hour
The clerk as co-ordinator of continuing professional development	55 minutes
Supporting the governing board in raising school standards	55 minutes
Recording a meeting	1 hour 15 minutes
NEW Panel work: An introduction	25 minutes
NEW How to run an effective exclusion review panel	45 minutes

MATs

This module explores key challenges for multi academy trusts, common pitfalls, and what effective MAT governance looks like.

Modules	Duration
Effective MAT Governance	1 hour 15 minutes

Bitesize modules

A selection of modules in easily digestible bite-sized chunks that take between 5 and 15 minutes to complete.

- Minimising exclusions
- Governance monitoring: A tool to help drive improvement
- Governance visits to schools
- Setting performance objectives for executive leaders
- Creating a new vision for your school or trust
- Holding to account: How to conduct a courageous conversation
- Holding to account: How to question and challenge
- Using Integrated Curriculum and Financial Planning (ICFP) to resource the best curriculum for your pupils
- Staff workload
- Stakeholder engagement



Hot topics

A range of resources covering current governance-related issues for you to download and keep.

- Executive Pay
- GDPR: An overview for governors
- Governor Recruitment
- Improving School Accountability
- Mentally Healthy Schools

Further online modules

Included in the NGA learning Link offer are a range of modules developed by Virtual College for a wider audience, which provide useful background information on a range of topics with relevance to governance such as important aspects of safeguarding and health and safety.