

# News Bulletin



LIGHTHOUSE  
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Issue 18: 31 January 2024



*In this week's edition...*

ANNOUNCEMENTS, INFO & UPDATES	AUDIENCE	TASK
Introduction	All	Info
Caution with sending children home	All	Info
Reminder: Final Operational Review Session for Heads, Chairs and Governors	Heads, SBMs, Chairs & LGBs	Info
Reminder: Headteacher vacancies	All	Info
Term Dates Consultations for 2025-26	All	Info
Trust Internal Auditors	All	Info
Purgo Cleaning Contract	All	Info
iAM Compliant Update	SBMs	Action
Short Survey - Length of your school week	Headteachers	Action
National Measles Outbreak	Headteachers & SBMs	Action
Tesco Stronger Starts Grant	All	Info
Final sign up: LSP Business Breakfast	All	Info
Creative Writing Showcase Poster	All	Info
CPD UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES	AUDIENCE	TASK
Governors OFSTED Training Session	Governors	Info
Secondary Assessment Data Webinar	Clerks & Chairs (secondary)	Info
KEY LINKS, DATES AND DEADLINES		



**LIGHTHOUSE**  
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

## Introduction

Dear Colleagues

In some ways January seems to drag on forever but I have just had the delightful realisation that next week is the last of the term. The end of term for me is also marking a change in mood. Recent weeks have been dominated by some rather heavy themes, and the weightiest of those has been the Operational Review which is both complicated and rather daunting.

On Monday, however, I attended the Churchill Young Musicians' Competition at Churchill Parish Church. What an uplifting evening that was, full of the talent and charm of young people doing extraordinary things. I also have an invitation to Backwell School's production of West Side Story to look forward to in the coming week as well. It is literally good for the soul to spend time amongst the energy and optimism of our students' artistic endeavours.

I have also been reflecting on a very wise remark made by one of our Trustees at a committee meeting earlier this week; while praising the diligence and efforts that we have expended in addressing our budgetary challenges, she reminded us that the Trust's mission also lies in adding to the high points as well as mitigating the lows....and she is absolutely right. We have already been looking at areas where we can help schools take that step further together in extra-curricular, for example, our Sixth Form Leaders have recently drawn up a programme for a greater post-16 offer for LSP schools. If anyone can see an area where a modest investment might deliver a significant bonus, please get in touch. I can see a new chapter in our next Strategic Plan emerging.

*Gary Lewis*  
*Chief Executive*

## Caution with sending children home

A recent complaint has reminded me of the importance of being absolutely scrupulous in keeping the line on when a child is sent home from school at the direction of the Headteacher. If a child is dysregulated or behaves in an unacceptable way, the only circumstance when they can be sent home is under a suspension or exclusion. Any other situation would be likely to be deemed an illegal exclusion. If anyone needs advice, please [contact the Central Team](#) and we will be able to extend support and help.

*Gary Lewis*

## Reminder: Final Operational Review Session for Heads, Chairs and Governors

A reminder that as part of the Organisation Review Consultation we have one final face-to-face sessions that Heads, Chairs and Governors can attend:

Session	Stakeholders	Venue
Tuesday 6 February 6.00-7.15pm	Heads, Chairs and Governors	Gordano School

To sign up for this session [please click here](#) as soon as possible and by 9.00am on Tuesday 6 February at the latest.

The deadline for comments and feedback on both the Operational Review and Core Services Charge consultations is 5.00pm on Friday 9 February.



## Reminder: Headteacher vacancies

Last week, we shared the details of the internal round of applications for the roles below, before going to external advert. Please feel free to contact [Gary Lewis](#) regarding any post, or [Neil Lankester](#) (for Portishead Primary School and Bishop Sutton/Stanton Drew) or [Janine Ashman](#) (for Whiteoak Academies) if you would like to arrange a visit or discuss the school context. The deadline for internal applicants is **9.00am on Tuesday 6 February**.

- [Click here for Portishead vacancy](#)
- [Click here for Whiteoak Academies vacancy](#)
- [Click here for Bishop Sutton & Stanton Drew vacancy](#)

As these vacancies are internal only, applicants will need to select the option confirming that they are a current employee of LSP. They will then need to use their current Employee Self Service (ESS) log in credentials.

## Term Dates Consultations for 2025-26

Both  [North Somerset Council](#) and  [Bath and North East Somerset Council](#) are currently running consultations on the proposed term dates for 2025-26 academic year.

The Central Team have reviewed the dates, and as both proposed academic years line up and are well balanced, we do not have any alternatives or feedbacks to provide.

Therefore we propose that LSP schools will operate on the suggested terms for 2025-26.

A reminder that we confirmed the Term Dates and INSET Days for 2024-25 in the bulletin [published on Wednesday 6 December](#).

## Trust Internal Auditors

Following our recent tender process we are pleased to inform you that the Internal Audit contract has been awarded to Westcotts. Westcotts submitted a very detailed and comprehensive tender and we look forward to working with them.

A proposed programme of audits will be presented to Trustees at the Audit and Risk meeting in March and, once approved, shared with schools.

## Purgo Cleaning Contract

Following on from some recent enquiries we would like to remind schools that the cleaning contract specification only includes the emptying of waste bins, **it does not** include the emptying of recycling bins.

Also, should any carpets be soiled (vomit etc.) resulting in a carpet clean being requested, this may result in an additional charge.

Carpet cleaning is only carried out once a year as part of any deep cleaning hours.

## iAM Compliant Update

A few updates relating to iAM Compliant:

- Location Managers should now only have visibility of Users from their location (plus a few central colleagues) rather than the whole trust, the other issues are still being worked on (visibility of management actions and training across the trust)
- Safeguarding training modules are ready to deploy and are currently being 'rubberstamped' by the iAM IOSH consultant
- The 'one size fits all' Health and Safety course is still being created and is not likely to be available until April 2024.
- Please ensure that the 'Health Scorecard' for your school is being reviewed in the relevant local governing body meeting. The Trust Dashboard report should also be included but you will need to request this from your Hub Estates Lead when you are putting together the papers for Governors. In the future you will also be asked to provide an update on completion of Management Actions resulting from audits. We will send out instructions for running this report as soon as it is available

If you would like any help or support with iAM please do not hesitate to [contact me](#).

*Beth Watts, Trust Services*

## Short Survey - Length of your school week

As you will be aware, from September 2024, the DfE guidance is that schools deliver a school week of at least 32.5 hours: *"In the [Schools White Paper \(published in March 2022\)](#), the government announced that in order to give every pupil the opportunity to achieve their full academic potential, all mainstream, state-funded schools would be expected to deliver a minimum school week of 32.5 hours."*

We know that many LSP schools already offer a school week of at least 32.5 hours, but just want to gather the exact details from across the Trust.

Please take just a few moments to complete the details for your school on [this short online form](#). Please complete this by 9.00am on Friday 9 February (last day of Term 3).

## National Measles Outbreak

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has reported an increase in measles across the country and is encouraging people to check that they and their children have had two doses of the MMR vaccine. Currently, there are no cases in North Somerset, but North Somerset Council have requested the following information be shared to our schools, staff, and parents/carers, in order to protect our communities and limit the impact on educational services.

For further health information on measles visit [nhs.uk/measles](https://nhs.uk/measles). The post ["What to do if you think your child has measles and when to keep them off school?"](#) on the DfE Education Hub may also be useful.

Please disseminate the [communications material here](#) to parents and staff.

## Tesco Stronger Starts Grant

Schools are highly eligible to apply for the Tesco Stronger Starts grant, of up to £1,500. The grant could be used for a range of activities to improve health and wellbeing of children and young people.

To apply for the grant, all you need to do is fill out an online application form. Details of the application are here: [Apply for a grant - Tesco Stronger Starts](#). Schools can reapply once the grant is used, and a completion form has been submitted.

The grant is quarterly and has a rolling deadline. Here is a file explaining the application process: [Quick info on Tesco Stronger Starts Grant.pdf](#)

## Final sign up: LSP Business Breakfast

Thursday 8 February - Gordano School - 7.30am—9.00am

This event is completely **FREE** and includes a complimentary buffet breakfast.

**Guest Speaker:** Mohammed Saddiq, Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset.

This is an excellent opportunity to network with local business leaders and meet some of our exceptional students.

**Don't forget - [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up by 9.00am on Friday 2 February 2024.**

Sign up is required to ensure catering and other logistics are correct.





## Creative Writing Showcase Poster

[Click here](#) for a copy of the poster below to print and share in your school

### Showcase your creative writing ability with Somerset Anne Frank Youth Awards!

Nominations Open  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Nominations Close  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February

Awards Ceremony  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March

Venue  
Wells Cathedral

Author  
Wafa' Tarnowska

We welcome all 9-18 year olds in Somerset to submit a piece of creative writing based on the chosen quote. Poetry, prose, diary entry or short story, all entries must be a maximum of 500 words and submitted online.

Award categories from Upper KS2-KS5. All shortlisted entrants will receive a copy of 'The Diary of a Young Girl - Anne Frank' and a certificate of recognition.

Prizes in each age category are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> place: £75 in book tokens.

2<sup>nd</sup> place £50 in book tokens.

3<sup>rd</sup> place £25 in book tokens.

To check out our website for more information, just scan the QR code, or visit us at [www.safya.org.uk](http://www.safya.org.uk)



**“We can’t control  
our destiny, but  
we can control  
who we become.”**

**- Anne Frank**



## Upcoming Lighthouse Learning Sessions and CPD Networks

Please email [Lighthouse Learning](mailto:info@lighthouselearning.co.uk) if you have any questions about the below events.

Date	Event	Audience
<b>Term 3</b>		
Monday 5 February	<b>Early Years Network @ St Peter's Primary, Portishead.</b>  Details will be emailed directly to attendees.	Early Years Leads
Thursday 8 February 6:30 - 7:30pm	<b>Pupil Premium Training. Online.</b>  As part of their role governors should understand how Pupil Premium is spent in their school, why and how the impact of this is monitored.  <a href="#">Click here</a> to register for this webinar.	All Governors (PP links)
Tuesday 27 February 7.00-8.30pm  <i>and</i> Wednesday 28 February 10.30am-12.00noon	<b>LSP New Governor Training Session.</b> An introduction to Governance within the LSP: for new governors and current governors looking to refresh their skills.  Session led by Chair of Trustees.  The sessions are duplicates of each other so those who wish to attend only need to come to one of the two (not both).  Please ask your Clerk for the online link to attend.	Governors
Wednesday 6 March 2024  5:30 - 6:30pm	<b>NEW: Secondary Assessment Data</b>  Led by Director of Secondary Education A chance to learn more about Progress 8 and Attainment 8 including how to analyse and challenge the data.  <a href="#">Click here</a> to register for this webinar.	Secondary Governors





## Governors OFSTED Training Session

Thank you to all of the governors who attended the OFSTED preparation training session, run by Neil Lankester, on Thursday 18 January.

[Please click here](#) to view the slides from the session.

## Secondary Assessment Data Webinar

On **Wednesday 6 March 2024** from 5:30 - 6:30pm, Natalie Wilcox, Director of Secondary Education will be running a webinar on Secondary Assessment Data.

The online session will be a chance to learn more about Progress 8 and Attainment 8 including how to analyse and challenge the data.

Please share this with your Governors.

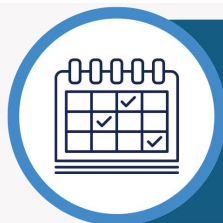
[Click here](#) to register for this webinar.



# KEY LINKS, DATES AND DEADLINES

These reminders do not replace the Annual Planner so please ensure you are checking this regularly.

*Please note the following links will only work for those who already have access to the relevant site or folder. If you feel you need to be given permission to access something please [let us know](#).*



## Annual Planner

Click to view the Annual Planner  
(Via Sharepoint)

## Bulletin Index

Click to access an index of  
previous bulletin articles



## Previous Bulletins

Click to access previous editions of the  
LSP Weekly News Bulletin

## The Beacon

Click to read the latest edition of the  
LSP Newsletter: The Beacon



DATE	KEY DATE OR DEADLINE	FAO
9.00am on Tuesday 6 February	Deadline for internal Headteacher vacancies via iTrent.	School Leaders
Thursday 8 February 7.30-9.00am	LSP Business Breakfast <a href="#">Click here to sign up by Friday 2 February.</a>	Heads, SBMs and Governors
5.00pm on Friday 9 February	Deadline for feedback on Operational Review and Core Services Charge Consultations.	Heads, Governors and SBMs