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## Introduction

Dear Colleagues,

The balance in our schools between 'relational' approaches and more traditional disciplinary 'tough love' is a complicated one. It has been at the front of my mind this week. Those of you who were at our 'advancing equity unlocking potential' conference in February will recall the imperative of establishing a warm and sincere relationship with our Priority Pupils and their families. This is all captured by our language of belonging and commitment to nurture.

I met with my colleagues, Debbie Coker, Louise O'Rourke and Natalie Wilcox, this week to check that we had all our language fully understood and pointing in the same direction. It is our strong belief that the relationship between relational approaches and high behaviour expectations and consistency is not a zero-sum game. A point on relational does not take a point off tight expectations. For all children and young people, high standards and clear boundaries helps their socialisation and enjoyment of school but when things go wrong, as they will, we need to be concerned, curious and loving in our response. This is often summed up in the glorious phrase, Warm/Strict. As Natalie often says, that is simple but not easy.

We have made big advances, especially in our secondary schools, in tightening up our expectations and raising standards while also developing our culture of nurture. Indeed, I think that our practice is actually better than the reading of our Schools' Behaviour Policies would have us think. We won't be rewriting those immediately, but I have asked Natalie, Debbie and Louise to develop a clear vision and values statement to frame our approach and we will then ask schools to fit that to their own school contexts and cultures.

With best wishes,

*Gary Lewis*

*Chief Executive*



## Revised LSP Geography Curriculum for Tranche 1 Primary Schools

We are really excited to let you know that the revised primary phase Geography curriculum is now complete and ready to be viewed on/downloaded from the [LSP Primary Curriculum Share Point](#).

On **Wednesday 1 October** and **Wednesday 8 October** we will deliver online training to all schools that have signed up to begin delivering this curriculum from Term 2.

Please note that if your school is signed up you will need to attend both sessions as it is a two-part training session.

It is really important that your staff can access these materials during the training session so please can you make sure they have been downloaded onto your school's file storage system and you have communicated their location to your staff so that they can make the most of the time in this session.

These sessions will be delivered online from 3.00-5.00pm (please see the webinar links below). It is for School Leaders to decide if staff will log in to training as a school, in teams or as individuals - please could you make sure that staff have been given the link for the webinar well before the meeting as they will need to sign up to receive the link.

- To sign up for the webinar on Wednesday 1 October [click here](#).
- To sign up for the webinar on Wednesday 8 October [click here](#).

As a reminder:

- The existing materials are still on the LSP Primary Curriculum SharePoint but have been placed into a newly created 'archive' folder for schools to continue using until they adopt the updated materials.
- EYFS materials have been out into the EYFS folder as well as the individual Geography folder uploaded as and when they are produced across the year as we are preparing these for use from September 2025.
- Please **do not** begin using the new materials until your school has received training but please let your staff know that resources are there to view before the training.
- All schools have communicated when they would like to receive training. If at any point you need to change your slot simply let me know.
- Training and support will be provided through in-person sessions across the year including how to get the most from the subject leader toolkit materials. Please make sure that your geography leader has signed up to these.

If you have any questions please [get in touch](#)!

*Neil Lankester, Director of Primary Education*

## Operational Team Meeting - Monday 22 September

For those who were unable to attend the SBM/OM Operational Team Meeting on Monday 22 September, please click below for a link to the meeting recording:

[Business Managers/Office Managers Meeting](#) - Monday 22 September

## Upcoming Headteachers' Meeting

The next LSP Headteachers' Meeting is taking place on Thursday 2 October from 8.30am at Nailsea Baptist Church (BS48 2DS).

We recommend car sharing with other headteachers where possible, and parking (responsibly) on surrounding roads. Parking is available in the Nailsea town centre car parks but you could find that charges are now in place.

The agenda and diary invitation will be circulated shortly.

## Update: LSP welcome sessions for new staff

As mentioned in the [bulletin a few weeks ago](#) we can confirm that new colleagues who have joined the Trust since June 2025 have been directly emailed inviting them to attend a LSP welcome session. The sessions will cover a range of topics about us as an organisation including our vision and values and CPD opportunities.

These are being held on:

- Thursday 2 October from 4.00pm at Fishponds Primary (The Old Library) (Bristol Hub)
- Monday 6 October from 4.00pm at Gordano School (Gordano Hub)
- Monday 13 October from 4.00pm at Churchill Academy and Sixth Form (Churchill Hub)
- Tuesday 14 October from 4.00pm at Backwell School (Backwell Hub)
- Tuesday 21 October from 4.00pm at Chew Valley School (Chew Valley Hub)

Please do encourage new colleagues to attend to these sessions (RSVP deadline is Tuesday 30 September) and support their attendance where possible.

## How to access the National Curriculum Assessments Portal

This [updated guidance](#) (with a video) supports schools to access the NCAP. All schools need to do this to access primary assessments (including pupils who have moved to KS3).

## HR UPDATES

### Payroll Schedule

Neo People have issued an updated payroll schedule, following feedback from schools. This allows School Business Manager's and Finance Teams (for SLA schools) a longer period of time to carry out payroll checks. The new schedule will be effective for October payroll dates.

Please note that this has brought forward the payroll deadline date and the date when trial reports are available. Schools can download the new schedule from iTrent, or [Sharepoint here](#).



## Reminder: Meter Read Required

As outlined in the bulletin a few weeks ago our electricity contract will change to British Gas at the end of September with ESOS still validating the invoices and sending them on.

To support the change of supplier, all sites need to ensure that meter reads are taken on **Monday 29 or Tuesday 30 September 2025** to provide a final reading. If you can add these on to the task that already exists on iAM we will use these to finalise the accounts.

If you have any questions about invoicing for utilities, you can contact the ESOS team on [support@esos-energy.com](mailto:support@esos-energy.com)

## Utility providers and invoicing

Our electricity contract will be moving to British Gas from the Wednesday 1 October and gas will remain with Crown Gas & Power. Due to some issues with prompt payment of invoicing, we will be moving back to DD for both utilities. The invoicing will still be validated via ESOS to confirm correct readings and charges. Please ensure you post invoices to the purchase ledger, NOT the nominal ledger. The DD will appear on your 9316 account to be allocated against the invoice on the purchase ledger account.

*Steph Franklin, Hub Estates & Sustainability Lead*

## NFER discount code

We're pleased to confirm that we have secured **15% discount** for the 2025/26 academic year from NFER. Schools can use the 15% discount code **LIGHTHOUSE15**.

Please see screenshot below showing where to apply the code on our website ([NFER Resources Shop | NFER](#)) at the Basket/Checkout stage. Add your school **opening dates** in the *Delivery Notes* section to help ensure delivery is well-timed.

**The discount code is valid until midnight on 30th June 2026, and can be used up to three times per school** (once per term). Applies to **all NFER Assessments**, excluding delivery fees

If you have any questions, please contact the NFER School Support team on **01753 637007**. Or email Nichola Giles at [n.giles@nfer.ac.uk](mailto:n.giles@nfer.ac.uk) and [products@nfer.ac.uk](mailto:products@nfer.ac.uk).

Total	£37.00
VAT	£0.00
Total (including VAT)	£37.00

School to enter their discount code here at the basket stage

Voucher code

Apply

Checkout

## Census Day - Thursday 2 October 2025

Following the success of the Census Day initiatives last year, we're heading to the Wild West for a Lucky Pot Rodeo Lunch for the first Census Day on **Thursday 2 October**.

All primary children can have lunch for **FREE** on this date and children who receive one of the 'Lucky Pots' will be entered into a prize draw to win a new bike!

Full details and posters regarding the day have already been emailed to School Business Managers and Office Managers but please [contact Trust Services](#) or Aspens if there are any queries.

You can [view the poster \(right\) here](#).

Your support in making this lunchtime event a success is much appreciated and can have a considerable impact on the funding your school receives.

Please can all primary schools ensure their families are fully aware of the event and information is emailed out and included in newsletters. In the last few days prior to the event, please check Select to see which families may need additional reminders to ensure their orders are placed.

## Sustainability Event - Free to attend

To support schools with developing their Climate Actions Plans (CAP), and offer wider support to schools, Climate Ambassadors are offering a free event dedicated to those who might have a lead or responsibility around sustainability.

The event is run in collaboration with Buoyant Impact and Lighthouse Schools Partnership, and will give you additional ideas and skills to develop your CAPs within your school.

**Date:** Thursday 6 November 2025

**Time:** 9:00am - 1:00pm

To book, [please use the link here](#).

For further information, please contact [Steph Franklin](#).



## LSP Clerks' Forum

The first Clerks Forum for 2025/26 will take place on Thursday 25 September, 6pm at the LSP Offices, Gordano School.

Please be aware, it is Gordano Schools Open Evening on the same night from 4pm-7:30pm. The school carpark will be busy, you are welcome to park on the road or in the gravel area by the courts (coach turning area).

On arrival to the Gordano School Site (BS20 7QR), Sarah will meet you by the Gordano School sign, under the building overhang, directly as you enter the site.

## LSP Chairs' Forum

A reminder that the first Chairs Forum for 2025/26 will take place on Tuesday 30 September, 6:30pm at Backwell School.

## New Chairs' Training

### New Chairs Welcome

We look forward to seeing as many New Chairs as we can ahead of the Chairs Forum next Thursday 30 September, 5:45pm Backwell School.

### New Chairs Training Tuesday 7 October, 6:30pm-8pm

The first specific training session for all New Chairs will take place on Tuesday 7 October. This will be a chance for some basic training plus lots of sharing of experience and time for asking questions. As we plan the material for this evening our important question to you is: what do you want to cover? If there is anything that is particularly unclear or you are not sure about - [please let us know](#). More details will follow.

*Sarah Cran, Lead on Governance*

## Cyber-attacks in schools

New analysis of cyber-attacks in schools has found that more than half are caused by students, with a third enabled by them guessing weak passwords or finding them written down. The ICO has advised that schools should regularly refresh GDPR training to raise standards and awareness of the need to protect access to school systems. Please can you make sure you have completed your GDPR training every 3 years. Further information on the LSP Governance CPD offer, including statutory training information can be found on the link below:

[Lighthouse Schools Partnership - LSP CPD for Trustees and Governors](#)

## Annual Safeguarding Declaration for Governors and Trustees

A reminder that all Governors and Trustees need to have undertaken the required refresher training and [read the relevant documents](#) before signing the [Annual Safeguarding Declaration](#) by Friday 3 October 2025.

For those Governors/Trustees who missed the annual safeguarding refresher update in your first board meeting of the year they can access the [required training via this YouTube link](#).

This is statutory requirement, and the information will need to be updated onto the school's Single Central Record, we will share more information on this process in due course.

If there are any questions please email [Sarah Cran, Lead on Governance](#).

## National Governance Association (NGA)

All clerks should now have administration rights on the NGA website to add governors and ensure access. The NGA gives clerks and governors expert advice and high-quality training to make governance easier and more effective. It offers practical tools, networking opportunities, and tailored support – helping boards stay compliant, confident, and focused on improving outcomes for children.

[For Schools & Trusts | National Governance Association](#)



Pupil Premium Webinar - Thursday 2 October



# **GOVERNANCE CPD: LSP PUPIL PREMIUM STRATEGY & THE ROLE OF GOVERNORS**

**THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER 2025**

**5.00-5.45PM**

**ONLINE: MS TEAMS WEBINAR**

Open to all LSP Governors and Trustees (all phases)

Delivered by: Natalie Wilcox, Director of Education  
including Pupil Premium

This session will cover

- Why is this important?
- How does this fit with the Trust Priority Pupils' Strategy?

[Sign up for this webinar by clicking here.](#)

Any questions email [lighthouselearning@lsp.org.uk](mailto:lighthouselearning@lsp.org.uk)

## CPD Update

We have had a great start to CPD this year with networks starting and our new Flourishing ECF offer for primary ECTs. We are hoping to share more about the Flourishing Teachers and Flourishing Leaders programmes next week which we know will support you in the PDP process with your staff.

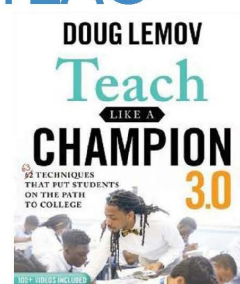
We have also have three participants who have successfully qualified to be part of the third cohort of the W100 programme. They have just returned from the first residential and we will share more from them during the year.

Our CPD offer has been updated to include an important update for our continued work with Doug Lemov and the TLAC team. Building on our Equity conference last year we are working with Doug to look at developing pedagogy through the following structure:

## Developing Pedagogy: LSP and TLAC

We are excited to continue our work with Doug Lemov and Hannah Solomon this year, building on both our trust INSET and the pedagogy framework used across all our schools. Working with both school leaders and teaching staff, our focus this year will be around:

- Active observations
- Checking for Understanding
- Show call
- Means of participation/ task design



TLAC costs will be funded by our traded income - schools will only have to fund £35pp to cover venue costs at the leaders' conference. Please book via the QR code or link below to secure your school's places at the conference (limited to 60 in total).



[Request for Places](#)

Term 2	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	TBC
Thursday 13 November 8:30am - 3:00pm Ashton Gate Stadium	Wednesday 19 November 3:45 - 5:00pm Online	Wednesday 4 February 3:45 - 5:00pm Online	Wednesday 25 March 3:45 - 5:00pm Online	
School Leaders Conference	Continued input and review at HTs and Leaders meetings and networks			
Pre teaching and deep dive into learning for the year.	Active Observations	CFU through questioning	Show call	Means of participation / task design
Collect and curate LSP videos of strong practice to exemplify aspects of our pedagogy framework				

## School Leaders Conference with Doug Lemov (in-person)

This conference on **Thursday 13 November** is for Headteachers and T&L leads and will pre-teach them the Checking For Understanding (CFU) units that we will be delivering in twilights in the year. This will allow leaders to deepen their understand of these strategies and consider what it will look like in their school and how to implement PD in this area.

Please use the QR code (above) to let us know how many places you want for your school by Friday 26 September.

We are using generated funding to cover the costs of this CPD but will need schools to cover the delegate costs at the conference venue.

## Whole School Staff CPD

These online twilight sessions are for all staff to access. Each will cover a distinct area around CFU and adaptive teaching. Schools can join in groups to take part in these interactive sessions.

We will ask for more details of how you are organising this in your school towards the end of this term.

## White Rose Maths Primary INSET - Monday 3 November

We are hosting this INSET day for schools who did not attend the WRM INSETs last year. It is suitable for teachers and support staff who deliver WRM lessons. There will be a focus on developing an understanding of the WRM materials and how to adapt these to perfectly meet the needs of your class.

Whiteoak are kindly hosting and we will provide lunch. Please can you [fill in this form](#) by Wednesday 1 October to let us know if your school would like to attend this INSET day and how many staff will be attending.



## Upcoming Lighthouse Learning Sessions and CPD Networks

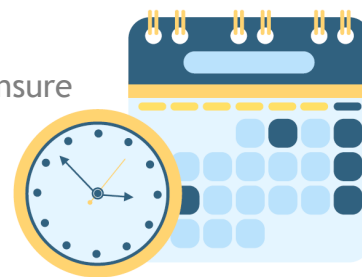
Please email [Lighthouse Learning](#) if you have any questions about the below events. Agendas, Teams links (if required) and other resources will be emailed one week in advance of each network.

The full programme of Lighthouse Learning CPD on offer for 2025-26 can be found on the [LSP website](#).

DATE	EVENT	AUDIENCE
Thursday 24 September 6.00-7.00pm	<b>Clerks' Forum</b> @ Gordano School	Clerks
Monday 29 September 3.30-4.45pm	<b>Primary English Network</b> Online via Teams	Primary English Leads
Tuesday 30 September 6.30-8.00pm	<b>Chairs' Forum</b> @ Backwell School	Chairs of LGBs
Wednesday 1 October 3.30-4.30pm	<b>Secondary Curriculum/T&amp;L Network</b> Online via Teams	Secondary Curriculum/T&L Leads
Thursday 2 October 5.00-5.45pm	<b>Pupil Premium Strategy and Role of Governors</b> <a href="#">Click here to sign up for this webinar.</a>	Clerks, Chairs and Governors
Monday 6 October 8.30-11.30am	<b>Early Years Network</b> @ St Peter's Primary Portishead	Early Years Leads
Monday 6 October 1.00-4.00pm	<b>Primary Assistant/Deputy Head Network</b> @ St Peter's Primary Portishead	Primary AHTs & DHTs
Tuesday 7 October 6.30-8.00pm	<b>New Chairs' Forum</b> @ LSP Central Team Offices at Gordano School	New Chairs of LGBs
Monday 13 October 3.30-4.45pm	<b>Primary Maths Network</b> Online via Teams	Primary Maths Leads

# KEY DATES, DEADLINES & REMINDERS

These reminders do not replace the LSP Annual Planner so please ensure you are checking this regularly (link on next page).



## Key Dates

DATE	INFORMATION	FAO
Friday 26 September 2025	Deadline for all staff to complete Annual Safeguarding Declaration (and Child Care Deceleration for Primary staff) on ESS.	All
Tuesday 30 September 2025	Deadline for Upper Pay Scale (UPS) applications to be received by Headteachers.	Heads, SBMs & HR Leads
Friday 3 October 2025	Final deadline for all Governors and Trustees to complete <a href="#">Online Annual Safeguarding Declaration</a> .	Clerks & Chairs
Wednesday 15 October	Deadline for feedback and responses to Finance, Reserves and Pay Policy consultations.	All
Friday 24 October 2025	Deadline for Teacher and Leadership Performance Development (Appraisals) to be completed.	Heads & SBMs
Friday 31 October 2025	Deadline for Support Staff Appraisals to be completed.	Heads & SBMs
Friday 7 November 2025, 10:00 am	Deadline for schools to return teaching and leadership pay progression spreadsheets to the HR Secure Team channel.	Heads, SBMs & HR Leads

## KEY LINKS

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 2025/26

Click to view the Annual Planner for next academic year (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



## SHARE WITH US

Don't forget, you can submit your school news stories to be shared in our newsletters and on our social media.

Email your stories to: [newsletter@lsp.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@lsp.org.uk)