



In this week's edition...

ANNOUNCEMENTS, INFO & UPDATES	AUDIENCE	TASK
Introduction	All	Info
Consultation Outcome: December Pay Date	All	Action
Policy consultation: Menopause Policy	All	Action
Supporting Schools and LGBs to review policies	All	Info
Updated 2026-27 Primary Assessment Calendar	Primary Heads	Info
Upcoming Information: Free School Meals	All	Info
Farewell to Lou Carey	All	Info
ESTATES & TRUST SERVICES	AUDIENCE	TASK
Bromcom - Free School Meal Changes	SBMs/OMs	Info
Microsoft Licences Renewals	SBMs/OMs	Info
Risk Register Review	Heads & SBMs/OMs	Action
GOVERNANCE UPDATES	AUDIENCE	TASK
Thank You to All New Governors	Chairs & Clerks	Info
NGA Annual Governance Survey	Chairs, Clerks & Trustees	Info
CPD UPDATES & OPPORTUNITIES	AUDIENCE	TASK
Upcoming Lighthouse Learning Sessions and CPD Networks	All	Info
KEY LINKS, DATES & DEADLINES		



Introduction

Dear colleagues,

We are currently involved with a series of ‘round tables’ with the DfE exploring how the partners in education - DfE, LAs, Trusts, Dioceses etc - can work better together. They seem to be really listening and we saw some hints in last year’s White Paper that the current government is awake to the dysfunction of the status quo. It is already evident that some small Trusts are struggling to add value to their schools and to also be a proper partner to their LAs in the delivery of education. A related issue is that some larger Trusts have a single or isolated number of schools away from their heartland and therefore don’t fully participate in the life of a locality.

Many of you will have heard me talk about my belief that LSP needs to be ‘fully in the room’ in all our partnerships. I sincerely hope that B&NES, North Somerset and the Diocese of Bath and Wells would say that we are and always have been. In the last 18 months I have been prioritising developing our partnership with both the City and Diocese of Bristol. I am very proud indeed that LSP is now a partner in Bristol’s story. This is a responsibility and a privilege, and I trust that everyone will see that we have thrown our all into this. We are working incredibly hard and spending very freely with our four Bristol schools, all of whom had previously experienced a rough deal. I believe that the point of impact and success is not far away.

Being fully invested in an area includes a dimension of scale. To really make a positive difference in Bristol and also to provide the same level of benefit to our own Bristol schools we would need to have a degree more presence. That is one of the reasons why St Mary Redcliffe and Temple School’s decision to join us is of such significance (the other reason of course is that SMRT is a wonderful school and will bring much to our Trust). I am very glad to tell you that we are now working in a strong partnership with the DfE, Bristol City Council and the Diocese of Bristol to support the transfer. That we are able to build this alliance is partly because we turn up and do the work.

With best wishes as ever,

Gary Lewis, Chief Executive



Consultation Outcome: December Pay Date

You will recall that we recently ran an all-staff consultation on whether our December pay date should:

- Be paid earlier than other months (approx. 16-18 December each year). This is the current arrangement.
- Move and be paid at the end of December (approx. 30-31 December) as is the case across the rest of the year.

69% of respondents have asked that it is moved until the end of December, in line with other pay days across the year.

The Central HR Team will now action this with our payroll provider and this will begin from December 2026. This means that the pay date for December this year will be: Thursday 31 December 2026. Any subsequent changes payroll processing deadlines will be confirmed in due course.

Leaders - Please can you update staff of this outcome in staff meetings, so they are aware. It will also be mentioned in the staff edition of The Beacon at the end of this term.

Policy consultation: Menopause Policy

From Spring 2027 all large organisations are expected to have an action plan to support staff with menopause.

A policy for LSP has been drafted, and is now in consultation for feedback and comments. [Click here to view the draft policy and action plan.](#)

Please email and comments or feedback to enquiries@lsp.org.uk by Friday 3 July 2026.

Please feel free to share this with your wider staff body - same deadline and contact details apply for any feedback they may have.



Supporting Schools and LGBs to review policies

As you are aware the Department for Education stipulates that individual schools and trusts, must have certain policies in place and these should be regularly reviewed and updated.

We do appreciate that keeping on top of reviewing policies can be time consuming however when policies are not published or reviewed a school/Trust is not complying with DfE expectations, and the DfE will write to schools to hold them accountable for this.

To support you with this the Central Team have the following in place:

- The [LSP Policies Register](#) outlines policies that are required, where they sit within the Trust (at trust board level or school) and the review timescales for them.
 - You will see that the vast majority of policies are within Central Team responsibilities and we are working on providing more model policies to support schools.
- The Central Admin Team have put together a policy tracker template for your school, and have begun filling this in for you so you can see which policies need a swift focus. These will be sent directly to Headteachers with Clerks copied in over the next week or so. We recommend these are saved somewhere on the school system where they can be accessed by the Headteacher, Clerk and SBM/OM to make collaboration easier.
- As we approach the end of this academic year, and begin planning for 2026-27, we will be asking Clerks (at next Clerk's Network) to identify which policies should be brought to your LGB meetings for approval. Undertaking this work in Term 6 will allow School SLTs to review and update policies in time for the relevant LGB meeting to ensure the school remains compliant.

We will continue to keep you updated around policy requirements, including templates, through the bulletin. If you have any questions relating to policies please reach out to the [Central Admin Team](#) who can offer further advice.



Updated 2026-27 Primary Assessment Calendar

In [last week's bulletin](#), we shared the 2026-27 primary assessment calendar. There has since been an adjustment made to the Early Years Calendar. Please [click here to see the updated Primary Assessment Calendar for 26-27](#).

Please share the updated calendar with your wider teaching, support and admin team.

Upcoming Information: Free Schools Meals

You will recall, as outlined [last month in the bulletin](#), that the process and eligibility for Free Schools Meals (FSM) is changing from September 2026.

We have received some further information and guidance from our Local Authorities and hope to be able to provide some comprehensive information to schools in a special bulletin next week. Please keep an eye out!

Farewell to Lou Carey

We are sad to be saying goodbye to HR Assistant Lou Carey, who will be leaving the trust at the end of June. We would like to thank Lou for all her support over the past 8 years and wish her all the very best in her future endeavours.





Bromcom - Free School Meal Changes

We have spoken with Bromcom and can confirm that they are working on a system update that will enable schools to be able to select the new options for Free School Meal eligibility. We don't have a timescale for this currently but have been told it will be issued well ahead of the October 2026 census, along with full guidance.

Microsoft Licences Renewals

If schools receive any reminders from Microsoft regarding licence renewal, please disregard these as this is organised centrally.

Risk Register Review

As outlined in the Annual Planner, please ensure that the date of the Term 4/5 review of the risk register is entered on the table at the bottom of the register no later than **Wednesday 17 June**. This information is required for reporting to trustees at the next Audit & Risk committee meeting. Formal and effective risk management forms part of the assurances that we provide to the Education and Skills Funding Agency, hence the importance of this request.





Thank You to All New Governors

Thank you to all new governors who attended last week's drop-in sessions. It was great to meet you and begin building the relationships that will support your work on your local governing body.

Your engagement, questions, and enthusiasm were very much appreciated. Stepping into governance is a significant commitment, and your willingness to get involved is already making a positive impact.

As promised, the following documents are provided to support you in your role:

- [Education Acronyms Guide](#)
- [Governor Link Role Descriptors](#)

These resources will help you become more familiar with key terminology and the responsibilities linked to specific governance roles.

If you need further support or have any questions, please feel free to get in touch with [Sarah Cran, Lead on Governance](#).

NGA Annual Governance Survey

The National Governance Association's Annual Schools and Trust Governance Survey is now open. The survey is an important opportunity for governors, trustees and chairs to share their experience of school governance, what effective governance looks like, and the challenges facing the sector.

The survey closes on **Tuesday 30 June**. You can [access the survey here](#).

Please share this with colleagues across your LGB.



Upcoming Lighthouse Learning Sessions and CPD Networks

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

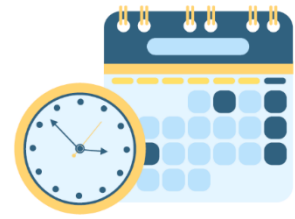
DATE	EVENT	AUDIENCE
Term 6		
Monday 15 June 8.30-11.30am	Primary English Network In Person @ English Hub, St Peter's Primary	Primary English Leads
Monday 15 June 1.00-4.00pm	Church Schools Network In Person @ English Hub, St Peter's Primary	Church School Leaders
Wednesday 17 June 3.30-5.00pm	An Introduction to Maximising the Impact of Learning Partners with Sally Franklin Online Webinar via MS Teams	All teachers & SLT in schools moving to Learning Partners in September 2026
Thursday 18 June	LSP Governance Conference In person at Backwell School	Chairs, Governors, Trustees and Clerks
Monday 22 June 3.30-4.30pm	Primary Priority Pupils Network Online via MS Teams	Primary Priority Pupil Leads
Wednesday 24 June 3.30-5.00pm	Practical Strategies for Maximising the impact of Learning Partners with Suzy Divine Online Webinar via MS Teams	All teachers & SLT in schools moving to Learning Partners in September 2026
Wednesday 24 June 3.30-4.30pm	Secondary Priority Pupils Network Online via MS Teams	Primary Priority Pupil Leads
Wednesday 24 June 3.30-5.00pm	Secondary Maths and MFL Networks Online (link to be circulated by Natalie Wilcox)	Secondary Maths and MFL Leads

The rest of the Term 6 events will follow in due course.

KEY LINKS, DATES & DEADLINES



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



DATE	INFORMATION	FAO
Thursday 11 June from 8.30am	LSP Headteachers' Meeting at Nailsea Baptist Church	Headteachers
12noon on Friday 12 June	Deadline to confirm attendance at LSP Operational Away Day (Thursday 9 July)	SBMs/OMs, Estates Leads and Central Team
3.00pm on Friday 19 June	Deadline to confirm Learning Partners attendance at INSET training (Friday 4 September)	Primary Headteachers/SENDCOs





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



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP