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Introduction

Dear Colleagues,

The last week of term is always hectic so I'm going to keep this short.

As I said in last week's bulletin, despite this having been a tough year, it has been a good year. We have made a big difference in our schools and communities. That almost always comes down to leadership. Thank you for what you have done in governance and leadership this year and for all the decisions you have taken, particularly when it would have been easier to go one way but you deliberately chose the harder path knowing that it was the right one.

I've been visiting our Bristol schools over the last few days and I have heard, multiple times, the message about the slow but satisfying burn of school improvement. Our staff in all those schools have faced fast change but are now seeing the benefits and their patience has been rewarded. Yesterday I visited Interim Headteacher Jo Trickett and her deputies at Horfield. Jo has been with us for a relatively short contract and is now handing the school over to Carl Hornsby, who takes up post in September. She has done a great job and has built successfully on the work done by Richard Riordan earlier in the year; thank you so much Jo.

I also attended the LSP Research Community Poster Conference at Bristol University in the late afternoon. It was fantastic to see all of their findings on display which is the culmination of hard work and deep thinking from colleagues, from across LSP, who choose to undertake a research project this year. Well done to them all!

To everyone taking a break over the summer, I hope that you get the rest that you need and have an enjoyable holiday.

Thank you all for your work this academic year. What we do is so important and I trust that you feel the same fulfilment working in education and in public service that I do.

See you in September.

With best wishes as ever,

Gary Lewis, Chief Executive



Policy Publications: Code of Conduct and Attendance

We appreciate it is a busy time of year in regards to policies and we are trying to be as clear as possible with communication relating to these. Here are a few important updates for you:

- The Code of Conduct Policy has been reviewed and updated. A copy can be found on the LSP website. All staff will be directed to read this as part of the Annual Safeguarding Declaration in September.
- The Attendance Policy, and template letters, has also been ratified and updated. This need to be personalised for your school and published on your website and the letters need to be shared with relevant colleagues in your school. You can [find a copy of this here](#).

Policies coming soon....

- The Template Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy will be ratified by Trustees shortly and will then be shared with you all for September.
- Trust Services will also share the draft Allergy Safety Policy with you all very shortly, so you can see what sort of things it will contain. This will be finalized and approved in the Autumn Term.

Insight Assessment Guidance Document

Josh Needs, a colleague based at Whiteoak Academies, has kindly pulled together a comprehensive guidance document that covers the use of Insight for every assessment linked activity across the academic year.

Please see [a copy for the guidance here](#).

Please share this with your Assessment Lead and all those involved with uploading assessment data onto Insight.

We are aware that there may be gaps. If that is the case, please do flag them to [Chris Chamberlain](#), Senior Primary Advisor and we will update the guidance document appropriately.

A huge thank you from all of us to Josh!



2026-27 3-Year Budget

Thank you for all your hard work in producing your 2026-27 3-year budgets. The Central Team has reviewed your budget plans and the feedback from these quality assurance checks can be found [on Foldr](#):

School Business Managers - Trust Wide - Information for 2026-27 budgets - Budget Checks 2026-27 for feedback - based on V3 of Approved budget

Please enter your LA and DfE number to find the information for your school. Please note that although we are thorough and carry out checks for reasonableness, we do not have sufficient information to determine whether your budget plans are completely accurate or not. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the [Central Finance Team](#).

You will be aware that the final budget approved by the Board of Trustees on Wednesday 15 July was version 4 of the Approved Budget, which included the latest estimates of pay awards, SBSG 26 funding, reduction in GAG funding for the decrease in TPS Employers' pension contributions and a change to the core services charge. As outlined in [last week's bulletin](#), it is important that this new version of the approved budget is shared with your LBG as this will be the budget used as a comparator for forecasting next year. However, please ensure that this quality assurance feedback is also shared - although the in-year position will have changed, the feedback will still be relevant to this revised version.

North Somerset Council - FSM voucher income

Please be aware that North Somerset Council's reimbursement for Free School Meal (FSM) vouchers is now being sent out under the title of 'NSC Crisis and Resilience' rather than FSM vouchers. This is to reflect the introduction of the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF) replacing the Household Support Fund from April 2026.



Invoice Fraud

Invoice fraud can affect anyone, including individuals, families, businesses and organisations across all sectors. To help raise awareness, NatWest has partnered with the National Crime Agency (NCA) to produce a useful "Stop, Think Fraud" poster. This provides practical guidance and serves as an important reminder of the measures we should all take to protect ourselves and the organisation from invoice fraud.

The poster can be accessed here: [NCA in Partnership with NatWest - Invoice Fraud Awareness](#).

Please circulate this information to all finance and administrative staff and, where appropriate, display the poster within your offices and administrative areas.

Support Fund

Following on from [last week's bulletin](#), we have now been in contact with all schools that have been initially considered for funding under categories 1 and 2 of the support fund for 2026-27 and 2027-28.

I am very grateful to Chris Hildrew, Head at Churchill Academy and Sixth Form, and Richard Riordan, Head at Golden Valley Primary School who have kindly agreed to sit on the support fund assessment panel, along with myself, Neil Lankester and Natalie Wilcox.

We have also created an online application form to allow colleagues to make a category 3 application to the support fund for innovation, collaboration and good practice sharing.

[Click here to access the application form](#). It is also directly linked on the [LSP Headteachers' SharePoint](#):



More details about the criteria and process are in [the operation of the support fund guidance](#). Any applications received by Friday 4 September 2026 will be assessed at the panels first meeting on Monday 14 September.

Louise Malik, Chief Financial and Operating Officer



Risk Management Policy

Further to [last week's bulletin](#), whilst the Risk Management Policy itself requires no further action, there will be some work for schools to do on the revised template referred to within it. Further information and guidance will be shared in the Autumn Term on how and when to use the new template.

Waste Collection Suspensions During Holidays - Hills Contract

You will likely have done this already but just in case, **don't forget you can suspend all or some of your services if you don't want your waste collected for the whole holiday period.** You can find a copy of the suspension form in the Waste and Recycling Contract folder in Foldr (*SBM\Trust Wide\Waste & Recycling Contract*) or you can email them at key.accounts@hills-group.co.uk:

There is no requirement to suspend services, it is just an option that is available and could reduce your costs if you don't need the collections during a certain holiday period. For any school who usually has collections on a Friday or a Monday, please bear in mind cancelling these for the August Bank Holiday Monday. Especially if you have early collections, as last year we had a couple of neighbours contact schools after being woken by the vehicles on the bank holidays.

Spare EpiPens for schools

As detailed in the email to [Headteachers and SBMs/OMs on 15 July](#), to comply with the latest Allergy Safety in Schools statutory guidance, schools must have the following spare Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAls - aka EpiPens):

School type	AAls for children under age 6 years (150 micrograms) e.g. EpiPen Junior	AAls for individuals over age 6 years (300 micrograms) e.g. EpiPen
Primary school	One pair of 'spare' AAls (i.e. 2 pens)	One pair of 'spare' AAls (i.e. 2 pens)
Secondary school	n/a	Two pairs of 'spare' AAls (i.e. 4 pens)

A **discount of 19%** is available with **voucher code THEALLERGYTEAM** when purchasing EpiPens from [Simply Online Pharmacy](#).

The 15 July email includes instructions for ordering, and a template Headteacher letter that must accompany any order. If you have any queries, please contact [the Central Trust Services team](#).



iAm Compliant Allergy Training for Staff

The new [Allergy Safety in Schools](#) statutory guidance states that schools will set out within their Allergy Policy how staff will be trained in allergy awareness and emergency response. As you know, we have access to a suite of training courses in iAM compliant at no extra cost.

There are two Allergy related courses in iAM Compliant:

1. **AAIs (EpiPen) Use & Severe Allergy Response** (30 mins)
2. **Allergy Awareness** (30 mins)

The first course covers all areas outlined in the new guidance, so we will be including it in the training matrix going forward. **This course will need to be completed by all staff in September** (or on induction) and annually going forward. We have a legal duty to do this. It includes a wide range of subjects; what are allergies, what to do in an emergency, what our responsibilities are, and how we manage the risk in school.

The second course goes into more detail about the specific food allergens and may be useful as additional training for certain staff, dependent on role (e.g people who handle food, first aiders).

If you are yet to assign allergy training, please assign **AAIs (EpiPen) Use & Severe Allergy Response** to all staff. There are also some downloadable documents in iAM Compliant that may be of use.

If you have any queries, please contact the [Central Trust Services Team](#).





Thank you Governors

As another academic year comes to a close, Trustees would like to thank all our Governors and Local Governance Professionals (Clerks) for their dedication, support, and hard work throughout the year. Your commitment plays a vital role in helping our schools succeed.

Trustees would also like to offer a special thank you to those governors who are leaving us this year. We are incredibly grateful for your service and the positive impact you have made, and we wish you all the very best for the future.

We hope you all enjoy a well-deserved, restful summer break and return refreshed for the year ahead.

Thank you once again for all that you do.

Updated Governance Code of Conduct

We have introduced a new standalone Governance Code of Conduct, previously included within the Terms of Reference. [This document can be found here](#), and it will form part of the Annual Declaration for Governors from September onwards. Your acknowledgement helps us maintain strong, transparent governance across the board.

Clerks - Please share with all Governors.





Bath and Wells Diocese Training and Events 2026-27

Please [see here](#) the details of Training and Events for 2026-27 for Bath and Wells Diocese Schools.



Diocese of Bath and Wells education training & events 2026/27

The Diocese of Bath and Wells organises a range of training throughout the academic year.

Are you a...

- School Leader?
- Governor?
- RE Lead?
- Collective Worship Lead?
- Trustee?
- Clerk?
- Member?
- Parish Partner?



Sign up now

If so, there is something on offer for you...



bathandwells.org.uk/schools-training-and-events



Bristol Diocese Governor Events 2026-27

Please [see here](#) the details of Governor training events for 2026-27 for Bristol Diocese Schools.



These courses are free for all Governors of church schools, MAT Trustee Boards and local board members in Bristol Diocese.

All course are online and run 6-7.30pm with plenty of time for discussion and questions.

Session 1: Introduction to Church School Governance

Tuesday 22 September 2026 (for LAMs) and
Tuesday 29 September 2026 (LGBs)

Session 2: Vision and SIAMS

Thursday 3rd December 2026

Session 3: Collective Worship and Spirituality

Thursday 14th January 2027

Session 4: Monitoring and evaluating RE

Thursday 11th March 2027

Session 5: The Church and School Partnership Award

Thursday 29th April 2027

Book your place on our [EventBrite page](#)



Upcoming CPD Updates and Opportunities

DATE	EVENT	AUDIENCE
2026-27		
Friday 4 September	INSET Day for Learning Partners Backwell School	Learning Partners

Reminder: Learning Partner Training Day - 4 September 2026

Last week, attendees will have been sent an email regarding the Learning Partner Training Day taking place on Friday 4 September at Backwell School. In the email, you will find all of the arrangements for the day, including the timetable for the day and practical arrangements.

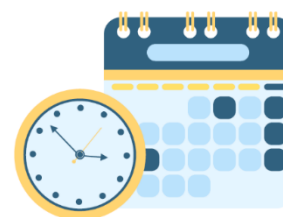
If you have any questions at all about the Training Day, please do contact [Lighthouse Learning](#).



KEY LINKS, DATES & DEADLINES



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



DATE	INFORMATION	FAO
Tuesday 21 July	Final weekly news bulletin circulated for 2025-26	All
Wednesday 22 July	Final Day of Term 6	All

Our 'quick link buttons' are being redesigned/redirected over the coming weeks, so they are correct for September onwards (due to the closure of Foldr).

If you are looking for something please email enquiries@lsp.org.uk



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



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SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP