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| **BESST - Buckinghamshire Education School Support & Training** |
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| **NEW Development Sessions for all Buckinghamshire Governors in the Spring Term**  The BESST training for governors is delivered by **local experts** with a focus on the needs of **Buckinghamshire schools**. The one-hour sessions concentrate on the **key issues** and will allow plenty of time for ‘what if?’ **scenarios discussions** to ensure the training meets your needs and answers pressing questions.  **Governor Priorities – Spring Term Agendas with BASG**  **Date:** Wednesday 19th January 2022  **Time:** 6.30-7.30pm  **Led by:** Paul Randall & Anne Sheddick  **Via:** TEAMs  **Cost:** **FREE**  This is a free session for governors to review their priorities for the Spring term. The session will include information updates from the DfE, NGA and the LA priorities to help Boards set their agenda items and tasks for the Spring term.  Led by Paul Randall and Anne Sheddick from the Buckinghamshire Association of School Governors, this session will also include signposting to key areas to support Boards in the second term of this academic year. Click [**HERE**](https://commercial.buckscc.gov.uk/our-services/besst/governor-support-training/besst-governor-training/) to book your place.  **Preparing for an Ofsted Inspection – a guide for governors**  **Date:** Thursday 20th January 2022  **Time:** 6.30-7.30pm  **Led by:** Georgina Masefield & Naureen Kausar  **Via:** TEAMs  **Cost:** £25  Naureen Kausar and Georgina Masefield, Buckinghamshire Council School Improvement Advisers, will use insights from the latest Ofsted framework, our discussions with our local HMI and our experience of Ofsted inspections across Buckinghamshire this academic year to help you to be prepared for an inspection.  A training session for governors to understand their role and responsibilities in planning for and during an Ofsted inspection. This session will help governors to understand what the inspectors will be looking for, how to identify potential issues in advance, plan effectively and be prepared on the day. This is a repeat of the session held in the Autumn term. Click [**HERE**](https://commercial.buckscc.gov.uk/our-services/besst/governor-support-training/besst-governor-training/) to book your place.  **Financial Accountability for Governors**  **Date:** Wednesday 26th January 2022  **Time:** 6.30 – 8.00pm  **Led by:** Michael Frost  **Via:** TEAMs  **Cost:** £25  A key requirement for all governing boards is to ensure that it makes sufficiently informed and effective decisions on the use of resources and allocation of funds to improve outcomes for children and young people. The governing board also needs to ensure that public money is utilised efficiently and in the best interest of the organisation.  This course, delivered by Michael Frost, Audit and Anti-fraud Manager, will support you to ensure that you provide effective internal scrutiny and accountability for financial decisions.  It will cover the importance of setting and agreeing a viable financial strategy and plan which ensures sustainability and solvency and enable you to effectively review your schools process for resource allocation. Click [**HERE**](https://commercial.buckscc.gov.uk/our-services/besst/governor-support-training/besst-governor-training/) to book your place.  **The Role of the Chair and Succession Planning**  **Date:** Wednesday 2nd February 2022  **Time:** 6.30-7.30pm  **Led by:** Paul Randall & Anne Sheddick  **Via:** TEAMs  **Cost:** £25  Being a chair of governors is a key role in the leadership and management of schools. It is a role which is demanding, complex and multi-faceted.  A well as leader of the board, the chair is at times a confidante, a manager, a critical friend, a cheerleader, an ambassador, an arbitrator, and possibly a mentor and coach.  To be effective, you need a good understanding of the role and its responsibilities so that your school gains maximum benefit from the work that you do, be able to lead the governing board to ensure that it fulfils its functions well, ensure that the board’s focus is on the strategic and works with effectively with the school leaders.  This course, led by Paul Randall and Anne Sheddick of the Buckinghamshire Association of School Governors both highly experienced Chairs of Governors in Buckinghamshire schools, will provide both statutory guidance and practical advice and examples to support your development.  A very useful opportunity for new chairs of governors to understand their role and for established chair to reflect on their future development. Click [**HERE**](https://commercial.buckscc.gov.uk/our-services/besst/governor-support-training/besst-governor-training/) to book your place.  **The Role of the PSHE Governor**  **Date:** Thursday 3rd February 2022  **Time:** 6.30-7.30pm  **Led by:** Carol Sottor  **Via:** TEAMs  **Cost:** £25  An opportunity for Buckinghamshire Governors to hear details of the statutory provision of RSE and PSHE in the curriculum. The session will be led by Carol Stottor, Public Health PSHE Lead and is suitable for primary and secondary schools. Click [**HERE**](https://commercial.buckscc.gov.uk/our-services/besst/governor-support-training/besst-governor-training/) to book your place.  **Promoting Pupil Wellbeing**  **Date:** Tuesday 8th February 2022  **Time:** 6.30-7.30pm  **Led by:** Tim Jones  **Via:** TEAMs  **Cost:** £25  Taking a coordinated and evidence-informed approach to mental health and wellbeing in schools and colleges leads to improved pupil and student emotional health and wellbeing which can help readiness to learn.  Wellbeing governors champion mental health and wellbeing for the whole school.  The role creates a connection between the governing board and the wider school. It’s the wellbeing governor’s job to support the school to embed its mental health and wellbeing provision across the entire school and keep mental health and wellbeing on the agenda by asking questions about the school’s provision and support.  This training session, led by Dr Tim Jones, Principal Educational Psychologist, will explore how governors can take a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing, addressing the needs of all pupils and staff from their strategic perspective. The session will also explore how this whole-school approach can be sustained and become firmly entrenched in the school’s culture. Click [**HERE**](https://commercial.buckscc.gov.uk/our-services/besst/governor-support-training/besst-governor-training/) to book your place.  **Embedding Equality and Diversity in Your School**  **Date:** Wednesday 17th February 2022  **Time:** 6.30-7.30pm  **Led by:** Yvette Thomas  **Via:** TEAMs  **Cost** £25  This training session will provide Equality Governors with the most recent guidance for schools.  The course is led by Yvette Thomas, Equality and School Improvement Manager at Buckinghamshire Council.  Buckinghamshire Council, promoting equality and avoiding discrimination, supports the key educational agenda of improving attainment and progression for all pupils, opening up opportunities and increasing the chance of a successful life for every child.  The session will provide Equality Governors with the most recent guidance for schools.  • Develop your understanding of the most recent equalities guidance for schools  • Enhance your confidence in promoting equality and eliminating discrimination  • Be signposted to a range of useful and practical resources  Click [**HERE**](https://commercial.buckscc.gov.uk/our-services/besst/governor-support-training/besst-governor-training/) to book your place.  **NEW Development Sessions for all Buckinghamshire Governors in the Spring Term**  We are currently planning the sessions to offer in March 2022, so look out for updates from the BESST team in your inbox and on Governor Times. | |
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| **Positive feedback**  **Thank you for completing evaluation forms, we do greatly appreciate your thoughts and suggestions and these help us with future planning.** |
| **About BESST**  BESST is the new traded school improvement and governor support service from Buckinghamshire Council. Led by our experienced team, BESST services will enable school leaders to keep up to date and support the implementation of best practice across Buckinghamshire. Our services will continue to develop in the coming months based on feedback from school leaders and governors.  Please see [BESST](https://commercial.buckscc.gov.uk/our-services/besst/) online for more details of our training and services this year.  Kind regards,  The BESST Team |
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