

BARNSELY GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION REPORT FOR SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

1 Aim of the Report

To update governors on the work of the Barnsley Governors Association.

2 Main Points

The Barnsley Governors Association has been in existence since 2010 with the first AGM being held in 2011. The BGA is an independent, democratic and non-political association of school governing bodies in Barnsley. It makes no distinction between the Academy sector or maintained schools. The primary aim of the Association is to support, promote and improve school governance. As an organisation we aim to be inclusive and transparent and welcome feedback from our members and others and encourage active participation in our work.

Entering our 10th year, we remain committed to these aims. Given the changing face of governance and the greater challenge facing schools of all kinds, we believe this work to be as important as ever.

All member organisations are entitled to nominate potential candidates for membership of the BGA Executive. We would encourage people to do this as we wish to promote diversity and inclusivity. Please consider nomination to the Executive Committee and share your experience.

We continue to organise and provide **training courses** for governors in conjunction with the Local Authority. We try to provide value added training to supplement the core offer from the Local Authority and plan to do this in the new academic year. Please visit our website at www.barnsleyga.org to look at what is available currently and to book your place.

The training courses planned for the coming Academic Year include: Solving Problems; How Governors can Support and Challenge their School; Finance for Governors of Maintained Schools and Academies and Safeguarding.

In addition to formal professional training, less formal professional themed Forum Meetings were developed as an alternative delivery model for governor training and they appear to have been successful, therefore we will continue to build on this in the coming year. These Forums, in partnership with BMBC, are open to all governors. **Forum Meetings will take place at Greenacre School on 10th December 2019; 10th March 2020 and 19th May 2020 starting at 6pm.**

Governors and governing boards are encouraged to contact us if there is a topic that they would like addressed at a Forum Meeting.

An Autumn Conference and AGM is to be held on Tuesday 22nd October 2019 from 6pm – 8.30pm at the Holiday Inn in Dodworth. Please put this date in your diary and plan to attend. The conference will deal with business such as: resolutions; changes to the constitution and membership of the executive committee and this will

be followed by a huge debate and discussion about the new OFSTED Framework which takes effect in September 2019. We would like as many as possible to join in this discussion, so please [Book your place online](#).

The theme for much of our work in academic year 2018-19 has been emotional and mental health in an education setting, and the importance of an inclusive education setting and the challenges inherent in providing the same.

We would like to remind governors of the existence of the **role of the Local Leaders of Governance programme**. These people will be experienced governors in the district who would like to mentor other governors. We want to see these numbers grow. Full details of the programme are on our website.

If you would like to receive details of our conferences, forum meetings, training sessions and any other events, along with a regular e-newsletter, please let us have your email address, or register on the home page of our [website](#).

Officer: Stephen Gallagher - Chair of BGA

Contact: 07770 742312

Email: admin@barnsleyga.org