

Learning Link modules

Our 60+ e-learning modules are tailored for specifically for governance. For each subject we clearly outline what the responsibilities are, how they differ between setting and role, and what is expected of you – whether you govern in a maintained school or an academy trust. Our 10 collections cover:



Governance induction

A suite of seven modules covering key governance areas, perfect for those new to governance or those looking for a refresher.

Modules	Duration
FREE! <u>An introduction to the English education system</u>	30 mins
<u>Understanding the expectations of governance in your setting</u>	1 hr
<u>Essential safeguarding</u> Updated 1st September 2026	30 mins - 1 hr 30 mins
<u>An introduction to the strategic role of governance</u>	1 hr
<u>How to complete monitoring visits</u>	30 mins
<u>An introduction to compliance</u>	30 mins
<u>The recipe for effective governance</u>	45 mins



Structures, roles and responsibilities

These modules will help you to understand school and trust structures, and what is expected of you as a governor or trustee.

Modules	Duration
<u>Taking the chair</u>	5 units - 15 mins each
<u>Stakeholder engagement: the governance role</u>	15 mins
<u>Effective MAT governance</u>	1 hr 15 mins
<u>Introduction to local governance</u>	20 mins
<u>Getting it right as a staff governor</u> Currently offline while being updated	1 hr



Vision, ethos and strategic direction

Covering risk management, evaluating effectiveness and your role in school improvement, these modules will help you shape your school or trust's strategic direction.

Modules	Duration
FREE! <u>Equality, diversity and inclusion programme</u>	4 units - 20 mins each
<u>Creating a new vision for your school or trust</u>	15 mins



Good governance

These modules aim to help you improve the effectiveness of your governing board, including visiting your school or schools, Ofsted inspections and succession planning.

Modules	Duration
<u>Handling difficult situations</u>	55 mins
<u>Ofsted and the Education Inspection Framework 2025</u>	1 hr
<u>Succession planning</u>	40 mins
<u>Governance monitoring: a tool to help drive improvement</u>	10 mins
<u>Holding to account: how to question and challenge</u>	15 mins
<u>Holding to account: how to conduct a courageous conversation</u>	15 mins
<u>Ethical Leadership: a planning tool</u>	Up to 45 mins
<u>Interactive NGA skills audit</u>	Up to 60 mins
<u>Environmental sustainability: the governance role</u>	30 mins



Pupil success and wellbeing

These modules focus on the core purpose of your schools or trust – the quality of education it should be providing to pupils.

Modules	Duration
FREE! <u>Arts, culture and creativity: improving your school or trust and its curriculum</u>	45 mins
<u>Monitoring performance data and targets</u>	50 mins
<u>The governance of SEND</u>	30 mins
<u>Minimising exclusions</u>	15 mins
<u>Panel work programme</u>	3 hrs
<u>Pupil premium</u> Currently offline while being updated	55 mins
<u>Understanding Early Years Education</u>	1 hr



Staffing

These modules cover the key stages in the lead executive recruitment process and the critical role the board has in holding executive leaders to account through effective headteacher appraisal.

Modules	Duration
<u>Executive leader performance management</u>	30 mins
<u>Recruiting a senior executive leader</u>	2 units - 30 mins each
<u>Management of workload and wellbeing: the governance role</u>	15 mins



Finance

These modules will provide you with the tools and approaches for developing financial efficiency in your school or trust.

Modules	Duration
<u>Effective financial governance in schools and trusts</u>	1 hr
<u>Using Integrated Curriculum and Financial Planning (ICFP)</u>	15 mins



Compliance

Covering key areas of compliance such as safeguarding, health and safety and admissions, these modules will make you aware of the most important points from legislation and guidance.

Modules	Duration
<u>Essential safeguarding</u> Updated 1st September 2026	30 mins - 1 hr 30 mins
NEW! <u>The Prevent Duty in Practice</u>	1 hr
<u>Safer recruitment</u>	3 units - 25 mins each
<u>Handling complaints in schools and trusts</u>	45 mins
FREE! <u>A whole-school approach to food</u>	4 units - 20 mins each
<u>Cyber security and governance</u>	30 mins
NEW! <u>Health & Safety</u>	30 minutes



Clerking

These modules will help new and experienced clerks to get a better understanding of their role and how to carry it out well.

Modules	Duration
<u>Panel work: an introduction</u>	25 mins
<u>How to: review suspensions and exclusions</u>	45 mins
<u>How to: run an effective admissions appeal panel</u>	45 mins
<u>How to: run an effective HR review panel</u>	45 mins
<u>How to: run an effective complaints review panel</u>	45 mins
<u>Introduction to clerking programme</u>	10 mins
<u>What does the governance professional do?</u>	40 mins
FREE! <u>How governance works</u>	40 mins
<u>How to: clerk in different types of school organisation</u>	20 mins
<u>How to: find and use key sources for governance</u>	30 mins
<u>How to: arrange meetings</u>	20 mins
<u>How to minute a meeting effectively</u>	40 mins
<u>How to: manage information and documents</u>	20 mins
<u>How to: support the membership of the board</u>	30 mins
<u>Clerking in new contexts: MAT local governance tier</u>	2 hours
<u>Clerking in new contexts: LA maintained governing board</u>	2 hours
<u>Clerking in new contexts: academy trust boards</u>	2 hours
<u>How to: support the development of the board</u>	30 mins
<u>How to: become a trusted advisor</u>	30 mins
<u>How to: clerk courageously</u>	30 mins