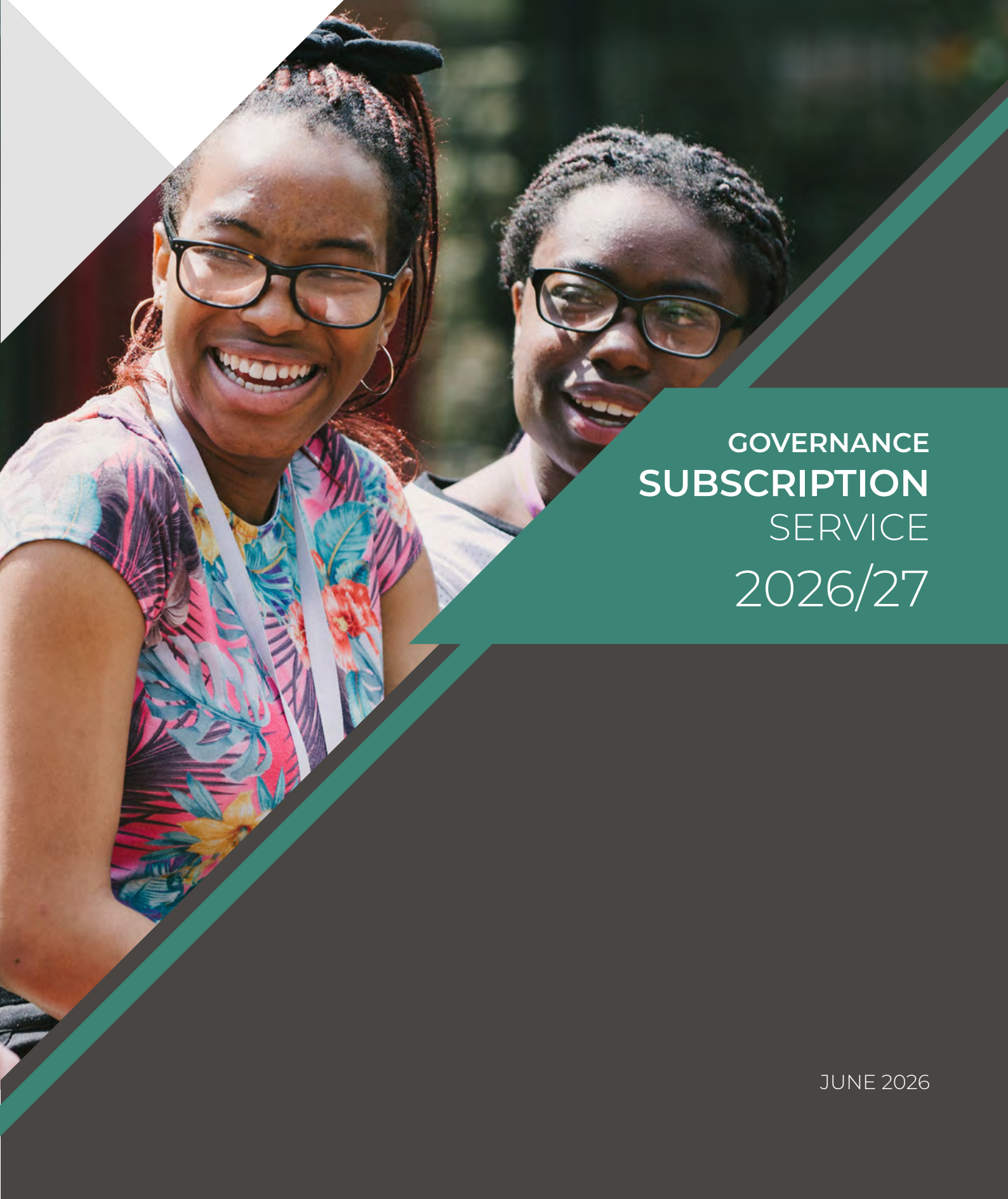




GOVERNANCE
SUBSCRIPTION
SERVICE
2026/27

JUNE 2026

Governance Subscription Service

Contents

- 3 Feedback from schools and trusts
- 4 Offer 1
- 6 Offer 2 - all the benefits included in Offer 1,
plus meeting support
- 7 Meet the Governance Team
- 8 Develop governance in your school with our
comprehensive training programme
- 12 Our trainers
- 14 Supplementary services
- 19 Additional services

Introduction

The quality of school governance has never been as important as it is now. Having effective governance is crucial to ensuring that schools and trusts are successful in achieving the best outcomes for children and young people, and in providing a great place to work for all their staff.

Sheffield has high ambitions for its schools, trusts, and their governance. Learn Sheffield's School Governance Improvement Service (SGIS) aims to play a key role in delivering those ambitions.

Learn Sheffield prides itself on providing a responsive service tailored to the needs of trusts and governing boards. We want to ensure that your governing board or trust has access to the latest information about good governance and guidance, what is expected of them, and have support in dealing with the range of issues faced by governors and trustees.

Working closely with Learn Sheffield's experienced team of Learn Sheffield Improvement Partners and other services, one of the key features of the School Governance Improvement Service is the ability to offer a fully joined up approach to support governors and school and trust leaders.

Feedback from schools and trusts

We're always pleased to hear feedback from schools and trusts – it's great to hear when you think we've done a good job and any feedback helps us to make sure we're improving and developing the service to better support your governors and trustees.

Here are a few comments we've received from colleagues in schools and trusts this year:

"We really value our partnership with Learn Sheffield Governance Service which has developed every year. Highlights this year include the development of a bespoke induction and training package for our Trust and work to support governors at individual schools."

Steve Davies- CEO, St Clare CMAT

"As a new headteacher, the support I have received from Learn Sheffield has been invaluable. It has been a pleasure to work with Susanna Bradbury, who visited our school and worked alongside me to organise governance systems, structure meetings effectively, and make best use of GovernorHub in a way that suits our board. The guidance has been practical, responsive, and thoughtfully tailored to our context. I have particularly appreciated how promptly Susanna and the team respond to queries. I remain grateful for their ongoing support."

Louise Bullen- Headteacher, Nook Lane Junior School

"Learn Sheffield is a valued and valuable support system, whether for assisting with short-term emergencies, supporting governance business, or preparing for strategic education challenges looming on the horizon."

Professor Katherine Oglesby OBE- Chair, Dobcroft Junior School

"We have greatly valued the guidance and support provided to us as a governing body. It has been clear, practical, and well-tailored to our role, helping us to feel more confident in fulfilling our responsibilities and providing effective oversight. Communication has always been professional and responsive, and we have felt well supported at every stage. This partnership has played an important role in strengthening our governance, and we would highly recommend the service to other schools."

Taoufik Marah- Co-Chair, Netherthorpe Primary School

"Learn Sheffield provides a high-quality, responsive service that effectively supports our governance and clerking needs. The training offer is well-structured, relevant, and accessible, helping to build the confidence and expertise of both new and experienced governors. The sessions have a strong practical focus and reflect a clear understanding of the local context, making them highly valuable for our governor volunteers in practice."

Claire Hogg- PA to CEO & Governance Officer, Mercia Learning Trust

Offer 1 - Core

This service ensures that your governing board or trust board has access to the latest information about good governance and what is expected of them.

Learn Sheffield prides itself on providing a service that is proactive and responsive, tailored to your needs. This support can be via our telephone helpline, email, or via online or face-to-face meetings where needed.

Working closely with Learn Sheffield's experienced team of Learn Sheffield Improvement Partners, one of the key features of the service is the ability to offer a fully-joined-up approach to support governors and school leaders.

Offer 1 is:

- £2,072 per board
- £1,524 per board (MATs subscribing all schools)

The Core Support & Advice Offer includes:

- ✓ Comprehensive support and advice from our experienced team
- ✓ Half-termly Governance Briefings, governance chairs and governance professionals' networks
- ✓ Annual Learn Sheffield Governance Conference
- ✓ Support for boards with governor and chair recruitment
- ✓ Half-termly Learn Sheffield Governance Newsletters
- ✓ Annual business planner to help boards plan termly agendas
- ✓ GovernorHub Knowledge for all board members, including GovernorHub training – see page 18
- ✓ Board and trust management support via the secure online portal and resources available through GovernorHub
- ✓ Standard membership of The National Governance Association (NGA), including full access to NGA resources and NGA Learning Link (gold membership available as an option) – see page 17
- ✓ Learn Sheffield Governance Training see pages 8 to 11

Advice
helpline for
Governors

Advice helpline for governors – by phone, email, face to face or video call.

All boards will be provided with GovernorHub - a dedicated and secure online portal for all your governing board or trust's needs - including document storage, calendar, information about your board, board effectiveness tools and much more. ***This includes GovernorHub Knowledge – see page 18 for details***

Full
GovernorHub
subscription

Standard
National Governance
Association
membership

The Core Support and Advice Offer includes standard membership of the **National Governance Association (NGA)**. Includes:

- Online access to practical resources including guidance, templates, checklists and insights
- Digital copies of 'Governing Matters' magazine, plus weekly e-newsletter
- Free access to NGA conferences and events, leadership forums, webinars and podcasts

Unlimited access to [**NGA Learning Link**](#), a suite of 60+ online courses covering a wide range of topics relevant to the roles and issues faced by governors and trustees. Governors are able to access training at a time and place to suit them.

Online training
via Learning Link

Governance
Training &
Briefings

Governance training includes:

- Live training sessions, either face to face or via video conference
- Half termly governance briefings followed by an annual governance conference
- For non-subscribers, governance training can be purchased on a pay as you go basis or for £649 per year per board.

See pages 8 - 11 for details.

Regular email
communications
& half-termly
newsletters

Support with governor, trustee and chair recruitment – Learn Sheffield works with local and national partners to provide a joined up local service to support boards with the recruitment of new members.

Recruitment
support
for boards

Half-termly Sheffield Governance Newsletter and regular email communications.

Board
and Trust Business
Planner

Annual Governing Board Business Planner – helping Boards to make the most of their termly meetings.

Offer 2 - All the benefits included in Offer 1, plus meeting support

This service level includes everything contained within Offer 1, but also includes meeting support which means that you have everything you need in order to have an efficient and effective governing board:

- A well-trained and dedicated governance professional to offer support and advice within your meetings, who is backed up by an experienced office team to ensure that the business of the board is properly conducted
- 6 hours worth of regular meeting support from a trained and dedicated governance clerk per year. Additional meeting hours beyond the 6 hours are charged at an hourly rate – see page 14
- We also provide experienced clerking and meeting support for special meetings and panels, such as Governor Disciplinary Panels and Complaints. For hourly rates see page 14
- The service provides reassurance that the business of the governing board and committees is carried out efficiently and effectively, thereby demonstrating that the board is fulfilling its core functions
- Support with business planning and agenda setting where required
- Where appropriate, you will be provided with, or signposted towards, specialist advice needed by boards

Offer 2 is:

- £2,492 per board
- £1,944 per board (MATs subscribing all schools)
- Discounted price for MATs who purchase a package for every Governing Board within the Trust.

Meet the Governance Team

Our Learn Sheffield Governance Team are listed below.



Andy Wynne
Governance Lead



Susanna Bradbury
Governance Manager



Andrew Bingham
*Manager for Finance
and Governance*



Jane Smith
Governance Officer



Chris Powell
*Governance and Data Support
Officer*



Rebekah Rowan-Robinson
*Governance Support
Officer*

Develop governance in your school with our comprehensive training programme

About the training

Our training programme is designed to support Governors and Governing Boards to be effective in their roles. Whether they're a new governor looking for introductory knowledge or an experienced governor looking to keep up to date with new policies or expand their knowledge to take on a specialist role, our programme provides a range of courses to help them do this.

In addition to our live face-to-face and virtual training sessions, our package also includes access to two e-Learning packages:

1. NGA Learning Link - 60+ courses and modules covering all areas of governance
2. GovernorHub Knowledge e-learning courses - GovernorHub is increasing its training offer; this is available via GovernorHub Knowledge

Key features of our training

- Accessible sessions: Our sessions are primarily online to support ease of attendance and timed to maximise opportunities for attendance
- Expert Trainers: learn from leaders and specialists who bring years of experience and practical insights
- Customised Content: tailored modules to meet the needs and objectives of governing boards, ensuring maximum relevance and impact
- Networking Opportunities: link with peers and mentors, expanding your connections
- When you attend our live training sessions, our team will update your governor training records on GovernorHub so that your governing board/trust training records are kept up-to-date

Here is some of the feedback on our 2025/26 offer:

"Well structured and a really knowledgeable trainer"

"One of the best remote training courses I have ever done, and that is down to the presenter who was excellent"

"The training was delivered online. It was engaging and was a good balance of statutory rules combined with examples of applying the information in a range of contexts"

"Very knowledgeable trainers"

"The training was very thorough and comprehensive. I learned a lot about being a governor and the responsibilities involved in the role"

"Very well delivered"

"Engaging and to the point. Very accessible and straightforward"

"Great hosts with all the relevant and very specialised up-to-date information"

Who would benefit

This training is ideal for:

- New governors and trustees looking to get up to speed with their role
- Experienced individuals with specific training needs or to address specific gaps in the knowledge represented on their board
- Governors and trustees looking to keep up to date with the latest policies and issues raised by schools
- Aspiring vice chairs and chairs looking to develop leadership skills
- Governors and trustees with specific roles, to understand their area of oversight
- School leaders and senior staff wishing to expand their understanding of the strategic role of governance

Topics covered

Our [programme](#) covers a wide range of topics:

- Attendance Training for Governors & Trustees- Helen Lane
- Fundamentals of MAT Governance- Chasca Twyman
- GDPR for Governors & Trustees- Andy Wynne
- Headteacher Performance Management- Bev Nicholson and Susanna Bradbury
- Health & Safety for Governors- Peter Sharp
- Holding School Leaders to Account- Mark Coppel
- Know Your Role: A refresher for experienced governors- Susanna Bradbury
- Leading Your Board: New & Aspiring Chairs- Chasca Twyman
- Ofsted Guidance for Governors- Diane Stokes
- Online Safety for Governors- Sue Finnigan
- Permanent Exclusions - Sheffield-focused- Sheffield City Council
- Public Sector Equality Duty Training for Governors- Sai Patel
- Racial Equality- Homaira Ibrahim
- Responding to Complaints: The Role of Governors- Chasca Twyman
- Reviewing Board Effectiveness- Chasca Twyman
- Safer Recruitment for Governors & School Leaders- Sai Patel and Susanna Bradbury
- Safer Recruitment Refresher Training for Governors & School Leaders- Sai Patel and Susanna Bradbury
- Suspensions & Exclusions- Malcolm Leigh

- The Role of the Safeguarding Governor- Sai Patel
- The Role of the SEND Governor- Rebecca Molson
- Understanding how to fulfil the financial oversight role (academy trust)- David Werry
- Understanding how to fulfil the financial oversight role (maintained school governance)- David Werry
- Understanding Primary Data & Raising Attainment- Learn Sheffield Improvement Partner
- Understanding Secondary Data & Raising Attainment- Learn Sheffield Improvement Partner
- Vision Setting, School Ethos & Strategic Direction- Mark Coppel

Bespoke sessions

Learn Sheffield can also provide bespoke training for governors, trustees or clerks in schools and academies. This can include organising a session from our existing offer to be delivered in person or online, or designing and delivering a bespoke session to meet your specific training needs. This bespoke training is not part of the subscription offer and would therefore carry an additional cost, with the price being dependent on the delivery required. Learn Sheffield can also offer mentorship or consultancy packages to support the development of governance.

Examples of Bespoke Training:

- Ofsted preparation
- Induction training tailored to your trust
- Governance refresher for experienced boards
- Performance Management / Appraisal
- Understanding your data
- Safer Recruitment
- Board effectiveness
- The role of the clerk/governance professional
- Consultancy session
- Succession planning
- Support for Chairs Package... mentorship package or 1:1 consultancy session
- Support for Clerks Package... mentorship package or bespoke training packages

We can also support clerks employed directly by your school or trust through our half-termly programme of CPD, skills audits and coaching at a cost of £249 for the year.

Accessibility

Our sessions are hosted online and timed to support maximum attendance. Sessions vary in length from 1 to 2 hours. Supporting materials are shared with attendees.

Sessions are booked via Eventbrite and can be accessed through the [Learn Sheffield website](#).

If a session is fully booked, please contact the team at governance@learnsheffield.co.uk so that we can put you on a waiting list.

Why choose us?

- A comprehensive programme responsive to the current landscape of education
- An accessible offer to meet the needs of governors at all levels of experience
- Commitment to Excellence: We are dedicated to the success and growth of your board
- A team of trainers bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience



Our trainers

Our Learn Sheffield Governance Training Team are listed below and more information can be found out about each of them on our [website](#).



Susanna Bradbury
Governance Manager



Mark Coppel
Education Governance Specialist



Sue Finnigan
*Lead Education Consultant,
Learn Sheffield*



Sarah Hubbard
*Learn Sheffield Improvement Partner
(Primary/Secondary)*



Homaira Ibrahim
*Race Equality Manager,
Learn Sheffield*



Helen Lane
*Learn Sheffield Improvement Partner
(Primary/Secondary)*



Malcolm Leigh
*Education Consultant (Primary/
Secondary)*



Bev Nicholson
*Learn Sheffield Improvement Partner
(Primary)*



Sai Patel
*Learn Sheffield Improvement Partner
(Secondary/Safeguarding Specialist)*



Peter Sharp

NGA Consultant



Diane Stokes

*Learn Sheffield Improvement Partner
(Primary)*



Dr Chasca Twyman

NGA Consultant



David Werry

NGA Consultant



Nick Whittaker

*Learn Sheffield Improvement Partner
(Special/SEND Specialist)*



Andy Wynne

Governance Lead

Supplementary Services

Meeting Support

Activity	Price
Clerking of Regular Meetings	£74 per meeting hour
Schools can purchase extra clerking support in addition to the 6 hours included in Offer 2. This covers meetings such as extra Full Governing Board meetings, regular committee meetings etc and includes administration.	
Extraordinary Meetings	£95 per hour
Our pool of experienced clerks can provide support for a range of more complex meetings such as Suspension and Exclusion hearings, complaints panels, HR meetings, grievances and appeals. Support covers coordination through the Governance Team, attendance at pre-meetings to support the panel, minute-taking and guidance during the meeting, advice and note-taking through deliberations, and support to draft outcome letters. Clerks attend regular training and briefings to ensure they are abreast of the most recent guidance.	

Please contact us for rates for non-subscribing boards.

Complaints Procedures

We can offer a bespoke service to support schools in the handling of complaints. The cost for this service is dependent on the nature of the complaint and the extent of the support required, ranging from clerking and administration to full investigations by trained members of our team. Please contact the Governance Team for further information.

For services not listed, please contact us.

Please contact us for rates for non-subscribing boards.

Governor Reviews (stand-alone package)

See pages 16.

Activity	Price
Basic Compliance Check	£300
An in-depth review including the basic compliance check alongside interviews with governors and observations of meetings. This will result in a full written report with recommendations for development.	
Full Governance Review	£1725
An in-depth review including the basic compliance check alongside interviews with governors and observations of meetings. This will result in a full written report with recommendations for development.	

Governor Training (stand-alone package)

See pages 8 - 11, or visit our [website](#).

Activity	Price
Governance Training (stand alone package)	£649 per board per annum
Non-subscribing governing boards can purchase the governor training package as a stand alone service.	

All prices in this document are exclusive of VAT and may be subject to change.

Contact Us

Have questions? Reach out to our friendly support team for more information:

Information can also be accessed via the Learn Sheffield website, by phone (0114 250 7417) or by email (governance@learnsheffield.co.uk).

NEW FOR 2026/27

STRENGTHEN YOUR SCHOOL'S GOVERNANCE

PROFESSIONAL GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

Effective governance drives school improvement. Our Governance Review Service provides governing boards with an external, expert evaluation to ensure strong leadership, full compliance, and strategic impact.

REVIEW OPTION 1: BASIC COMPLIANCE CHECK

A one-day review by the Governance Manager. Perfect for boards seeking reassurance that statutory and regulatory requirements are fully met.

Includes:

- Review of governance documentation
- Website and Get Information About Schools compliance check
- GovernorHub review (if used)
- Review of board structure
- Comprehensive compliance report

Cost: £300

REVIEW OPTION 2: FULL GOVERNANCE REVIEW

A 1.5-day in-depth review by the Governance Manager and Learn Sheffield Improvement Partner.

Includes everything in the Basic Compliance Check plus:

- Governance survey to all board members
- Interviews with the Chair, Headteacher and governors
- Observation of a full board meeting
- Verbal feedback session for the board
- Detailed written report with next steps

Cost: £1725

- Optional: 360-degree appraisal for the Chair
- Optional: half-day follow-up visit to evaluate progress.

Add Value.
Increase Confidence.
Strengthen Impact.

Our Governance Review Service provides boards with clear insights, practical recommendations, and the assurance that governance is effective, compliant, and aligned with strategic priorities.

Both review levels consider:

- Vision & ethos
- Constitution
- Terms of Reference
- Code of Conduct
- Attendance
- Meeting schedule
- Minutes
- Skills audits
- Training logs
- Policy reviews

Full reviews also consider:

- Risk management
- Safeguarding & SEND link reports
- Link governor visits
- Stakeholder voice
- Finance reports & budget information
- Headteacher reports
- Schools Financial Value Standard

GET IN TOUCH TO
BOOK A REVIEW OR
FIND OUT MORE

📍 governance@learnsheffield.co.uk

📞 0114 250 7417

🌐 www.learnsheffield.co.uk



Stronger Governance Starts Here

Empowering school and trust governance through expert support, trusted resources and advocacy.

Start strengthening your governance

Your board may already have access to NGA Membership and/or Learning Link – now's the time to make the most of it.

Log in to access your dashboard and membership benefits: nga.org.uk/profile



NGA Membership



Everything you need for effective governance

- ⇒ Governance resources and publications
- ⇒ Webinars, events, networking and development opportunities
- ⇒ Expert governance support when you need it*
- ⇒ Weekly governance updates and termly member magazine
- ⇒ Digital tools for smarter working
- ⇒ A national voice representing governance

*Access varies by school or trust – please check your membership.

NGA Learning Link



Your fast track to better governance

- ⇒ 50+ hours of on-demand learning
- ⇒ Learn at your own pace
- ⇒ Build knowledge and confidence quickly

Popular modules

- Safer recruitment
- Essential safeguarding 2026
- The new Ofsted Inspection Framework

Coming soon

- GDPR
- Prevent Duty
- Allergies in Schools
- Health and Safety

Need Help and Support?

0121 237 3780 (option 3)

nga.org.uk/contact (FAQs and support)



80,000+
members
benefit from NGA
resources



130,000+
governance roles
supported by NGA



100,000+
learners
subscribe to NGA
e-learning



70%
of schools and trusts
in England access NGA
services

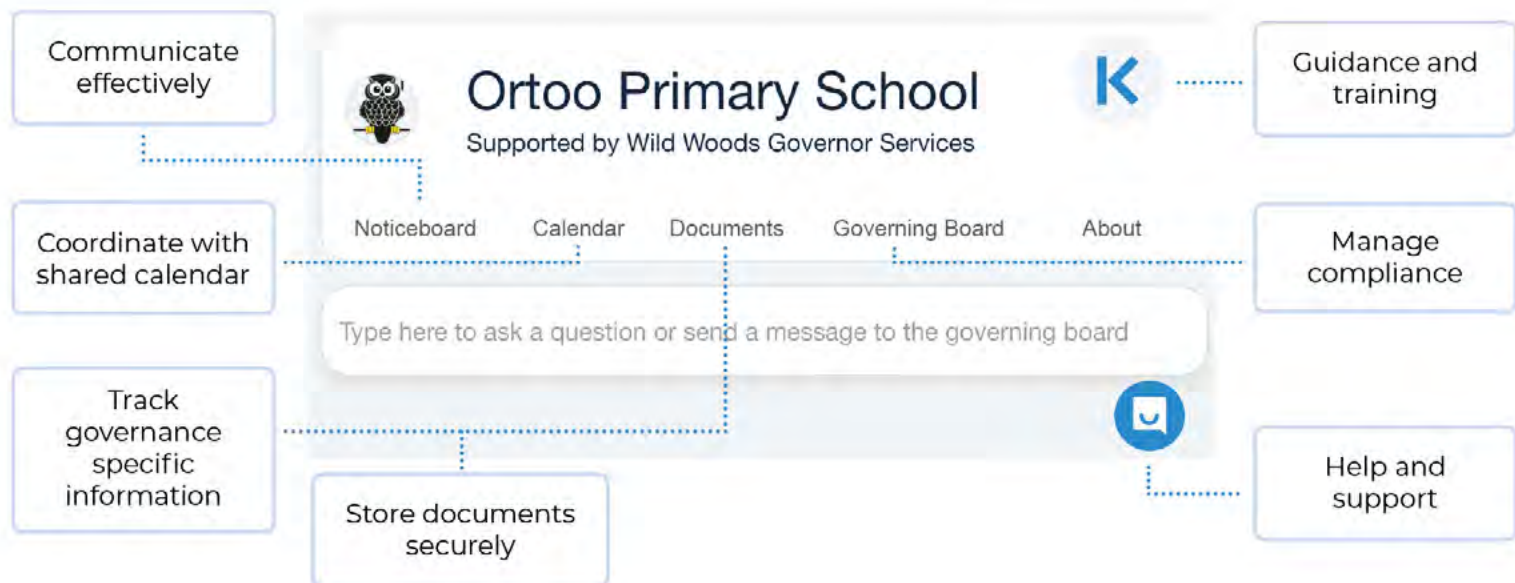


Excellence | Efficiency | Ease of use

Support great governance at your school

GovernorHub provides board tools, advice, training and guidance for your governing board.

Our aim is to support volunteers and professionals so they can focus on what matters most: ensuring the best possible educational outcomes for children and young people.



"After years of trying to find information and resources in many different places, finally there is a place where it all seems to be!"



Additional Services

Learn Sheffield continues to have a range of additional services. These services are listed below with links to our website for further information.

LS Education School Improvement

Our school improvement subscription packages have changed. There are tiered packages for individual settings or MATs and groups of settings. Each package contains access to the three education services that we provide; Consultancy (LSIP days), Training (now focused on 'supporting the whole team') and our new Digital offer.

More information about governance subscriptions and services can be found [online](#) or by contacting enquiries@learnsheffield.co.uk.

LS Education GDPR

We can help your school to become, and remain, compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation (also known as the Data Protection Act 2018). We provide a range of support activities and include the provision of a named Data Protection Officer (DPO).

More information about the GDPR Service can be found [online](#) or by contacting enquiries@learnsheffield.co.uk.



Phone: 0114 250 7417

Email: enquiries@learnsheffield.co.uk

Address: Learn Sheffield,
Suite 6, Albion House,
Savile Street,
Sheffield, S4 7UD

WWW.LEARNSHEFFIELD.CO.UK



Learn Sheffield is a not for profit company
limited by guarantee, of which 80% is owned by
schools and colleges and 20% by Sheffield City Council.