

Cumbria County Council

People ▪ Education and Skills ▪ Learning Improvement Service
2nd Floor ▪ Cumbria House ▪ 117 Botchergate ▪ CARLISLE ▪ Cumbria ▪ CA1 1RD
T: 07785 659539 ▪ E: lindsey.slater@cumbria.gov.uk

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To: Headteacher, All LA Maintained Schools and Academies

Dear Colleague

NGA Learning Link: E-learning for school governors, trustees, chairs and clerks

The Learning Improvement Service continues to be committed to serving schools in the county and working together in partnership with all stakeholders. In addition to our core school improvement offer to schools, we are now offering unlimited access to E-learning for governors and trustees for the next 12 months. This offer is **free of charge** to schools.

The pandemic has highlighted the demand for online training and the Governor Support Team have responded by delivering core and bespoke governor training remotely. However, following requests from boards for further training, the Learning Improvement Service are funding all schools to have unlimited access to the National Governance Association (NGA) Learning Link. This offer is for 12 months only and will 'go live' from 19th April 2021.

NGA have teamed up with Virtual College to deliver over 50 accessible, engaging and convenient e-learning modules to help governors, trustees, chairs and clerks develop their governance skills and knowledge. The attached flyer details the suite of modules on offer.

This significant financial investment into our governing boards is in recognition of the challenges boards have faced during the pandemic. School governors play a vital role in the education of all children in Cumbria, and now more than ever, our boards need support in carrying out their roles and responsibilities.

Further details about this offer, including how to sign up and log in, will be shared before the Easter break.

Thank you to all our governors and trustees who have continued to support our schools and communities during this pandemic. We hope this offer demonstrates how much as a service we value your contribution.

Yours sincerely



Dale Hill
Senior Manager – Learning Improvement

Together we can achieve the best for every child, young person and their family in Cumbria

Serving the people of Cumbria

cumbria.gov.uk





E-LEARNING ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

GOVERNORS | TRUSTEES | CHAIRS | CLERKS

INTERACTIVE
FLEXIBLE
AFFORDABLE
ESSENTIAL



learninglink Start your learning journey today



Over 9,000 school organisations registered



Over 50 modules to engage with



98% of learners recommend our new modules



Over 65 local authority partners



Over 30,000 learners



10 diverse learning collections to choose from



E-learning to help you every step of the way with your professional development

The National Governance Association (NGA) has teamed up with Virtual College, one of the UK's top e-learning providers, to deliver accessible, engaging and convenient e-learning.

NGA Learning Link offers flexible e-learning to help governors, trustees, chairs and clerks develop their governance skills and knowledge.

Whether you're looking for individual training or to develop your board or organisation, our online training modules make it quick and easy for you to be ready for whatever your organisation demands.



Why choose Learning Link

Benefit from our unrivalled expert knowledge of best governance practice and learner requirements with:

- over 50 e-learning modules
- CPD accreditation for all core modules and many others
- a selection of bitesize modules
- a certificate of achievement with every module
- secure access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- multi-device access – on desktops, tablets and smartphones
- tracked learning – revisit content, take a break or pick up where you left off
- a dedicated support service

Develop your governance skills and knowledge

Modules are interactive, using relevant scenarios to make learning effective and engaging, and are designed to cover the key areas of governance.



With over 50 governance modules aligned to NGA's Knowledge Centre, our suite of 10 collections cover:

1 Structures, roles and responsibilities

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

2 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.

3 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.

4 Pupil success and wellbeing

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

5 Collaborating with partners

Find out about key partners and stakeholders, how to develop relationships with them, and how engagement with stakeholders can lead to better outcomes for pupils.



6 Executive leaders

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.

7 The best use of resources

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

8 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.

9 Clerking

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

10 MATs

Our 'Effective multi academy trust governance' module explores key challenges for multi academy trusts, common pitfalls, and what effective MAT governance looks like.

Outstanding quality, and very useful in enhancing my knowledge.



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learninglink

bitesize

Just in time support to fill knowledge gaps
when you need it most.

In addition to our suite of over 50 e-learning modules we offer a selection of modules in convenient bitesized sessions that take between 5 and 10 minutes to complete, supplemented with helpful downloadable resources and templates.

Topics

- Creating a new vision for your school or trust
- Governors and trustees visits to schools
- Integrated curriculum-led financial planning
- Minimising exclusions
- Monitoring school improvement priorities
- Objective setting for executive leaders
- Question and challenge
- Staff workload
- Stakeholder engagement
- Courageous conversations

The bitesized training courses are ideal to upskill the governing board in a quick and accessible way.





The materials are excellent, well targeted and covering a wide range of topics. There is something for all governors from the newly appointed to the chair of great experience.

As a clerk I have found the courses extremely helpful and enlightening.

Well-designed courses with clear and easily understood content.

Excellent - well presented, very clear and well structured.

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0121 237 3780

learninglink@nga.org.uk

www.nga.org.uk/learninglink

National Governance Association | 36 Great Charles Street | Birmingham B3 3JY

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