

Virtual Monitoring

from the Diocesan Education Team

General guidance for the session

- Please mute your microphone unless you are addressing the group
 - If you have any questions, please type them in to the chat box
 - Please amend your name details so we know how to address you
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The Chatham House Rule

“When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.”

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/about-us/chatham-house-rule>

The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the
serenity to accept the
things that I cannot
change,

The courage to change
the things I can,

And the wisdom to know
the difference.



Aims of the session

- To provide an overview of governor monitoring
 - To suggest ways of undertaking virtual monitoring
 - To give guidance on undertaking virtual monitoring of key areas:
 - What to do now incl Progress & catch-up,
 - Church School: SIAMS, RE & Collective Worship,
 - Statutory: Safeguarding, Health & Safety, SEN & PP.
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Where are you now with
your governor monitoring?

3 Core Functions of Governance

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Monitoring Targets

- Core Value 1: Monitor your vision, ethos and strategic direction
 - How effectively is your school's vision and ethos embedded?
 - Is your SIAMS SEF up to date, and are you actively monitoring it?
- Core Value 2: Monitor educational performance and hold school leaders to account.
 - Your School Improvement/Development Plan is the key document here.
- Core Value 3: Monitor the school's finances
 - Pupil Premium should be a key focus as well as the school's budget.
- Compliance Areas: Safeguarding, SEND, equality and inclusion, health and safety, exclusion
 - These areas are covered by your policies so make sure they're up to date.

Key governor monitoring activities:

- Asking Questions
- Meeting with staff
- Looking at data/ information
- Reviewing policies and documents
- Talking to members of your school community (staff, pupils, parents)
- Visiting the school

Types of Monitoring

- Asking questions in LGB meetings
- Scheduled monitoring visits
 - By Link governors
 - By Curriculum areas
 - By SIP/SDP section
 - Learning walks

Starting (Virtual) Monitoring

- Choose a governor monitoring system with your Head that works for your school (whether in person or virtual)
- Be organised: create a timetable
- Agree how virtual monitoring will take place

Ideas for Virtual Monitoring

- Meetings with key staff are via online platforms rather than in person.
- Documents can be shared on screen, or via a secure webpage.
- Learning walks or visits are done via a tablet that the staff member is holding.
- Governors attending online events to observe.

Monitoring via TEAMS/ ZOOM (other providers are available!)

- All monitoring meetings should be purposeful.
- Use time effectively
- Agree objectives for conversation ahead of time with HT & related staff
- Stick to those objectives
- Write up your conversation afterwards



Thoughts so far...

What to do now

- Implement a structured virtual monitoring programme – focus on key areas, including how the school will be catching-up the children who have missed some school.
 - Be aware of the issues with data
 - Continue to prioritise wellbeing
 - Undertake in person safeguarding and health and safety visits as soon as it is safe to do so. (Not before)
 - Discuss any changes to your school's risk assessment (Health & Safety)
 - Discuss safeguarding concerns with your Head/ DSL. What additional issues have been raised after children have come back to school
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Case Study: St Bartholomew's Crewkerne

- Designed a monitoring plan for the year with out staff governing, including a check-list for virtual visits
- Identified clear time parameters – most visits should be no longer than 30 minutes (1 hour max)
- Questions submitted at least 48 hours in advance of virtual meeting to help staff
- Christian values and vision to be mentioned on visit report form
- Monitoring report sheets are submitted so that other governors can submit questions in relation to them at governors meetings

Virtual Monitoring: **SIAMS**

How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?

Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills

Hope and Aspiration (and courageous advocacy)


Community and Living Well Together

Dignity and Respect

Please use this time to monitor the school website.

Virtual Monitoring: RE

- What is the quality of RE teaching and learning?
- What are the real challenges at the moment?
- What support is needed to further improve RE?

 DIOCESE OF Bath & Wells
Living the story. Telling the story.

Monitoring Focus:
Date:
Staff / Governors / Clergy / Others involved:

Strengths: •	Impact: •	
Areas for Development: •	When	Who

Other comments:

Virtual Monitoring: Collective Worship

How is collective worship currently an expression of the school's Christian vision?

What is the current impact of collective worship on pupils and staff?

What would your questions be?

(Parish partnership, prayer, children planning and leading)

Virtual Monitoring: Staff Wellbeing

- Are you clear on what policies you have in place to protect and support your staff?
 - Ask specific questions to the issues of leading/ teaching during a pandemic
 - Specific to the Head – how are they coping; do they need any support?
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Virtual Monitoring: Safeguarding

- Safeguarding Policy
 - Vulnerable children
 - Children accessing remote education
 - Online safety
 - Safeguarding concerns/issues
 - Well-being support for children and staff
 - Continue to monitor the Single Central Record (this can be done virtually)
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Virtual Monitoring: Health & Safety

- Review and discuss the risk assessment with the Head. Make sure you understand the implications of all actions.
 - Review the health and safety audit with the responsible person. Note areas of action and follow up with them.
 - If possible, conduct a remote health and safety walk with the responsible person or ask them to film their walk and share it with you to review with their action plan.
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Virtual Monitoring: SEN & Pupil Premium

- How many of your PP and SEN children are in school? If not, why not?
 - How are the PP children doing? How is the PP being spent this year? What impact is that spend having or likely to have?
 - How are your SEN children doing? What additional support do they need? How will that need be resourced? What impact will it have?
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Write down three actions
you're going to take as a result
of tonight's training.



Any questions?

Thank you

- You will have received an email with a link to the following:
 - Feedback form – we would really like to hear what you think of our training
 - The power-point slides used in this session
 - Any resources referred to in this session
 - Further CPD opportunities
 - Visit our website for more information
www.bathandwells.org.uk/supporting-children/
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