

# Academy Update

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Engage your MAT community with mobile technology

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Welcome to the May edition of *Academy Update*, including recent news about governance, teacher retention and advice on building a successful MAT. We also invite you to contribute mini articles giving advice on good practice and problem solving that you are willing to share. I look forward to hearing from you.

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Anna Sterlini, Editor

## Education in the news

### The knowledge school governors need

Leora Cruddas, CEO of FASNA, argues that governors and trustees should have an adequate knowledge of risk management, finance (including issues around curriculum planning and distributing funding) and educational legislation and regulation.

### Solutions for teacher retention

David Weston, CEO of the Teacher Development Trust, says that the keys to retaining teachers are professional respect, reduced workload, high-quality CPD and long-term support for communities facing the greatest challenges.

### David Carter: what makes an effective MAT

The National Schools Commissioner argues that the most successful trusts have a clear vision and strategy for improving standards and encourage collaboration between schools based on this shared vision.

### Nine 'breakpoints' for expanding MATs

A report published by Ambition School Leadership has shown that small and medium-sized MATs need to focus on areas such as accountability, governance, collaboration, communications and school performance and make the necessary changes in these areas in order to grow.

## Call for submissions

Please consider contributing to coming issues of *Academy Update*. We are keen to receive brief pieces offering advice, guidance and information on topics pertinent to those running MATs.

You might be able to help with topics such as trustee recruitment, improving procurement of utilities, or dealing with the media.

➤ Please send your submissions to [Anna Sterlini](mailto:Anna.Sterlini@pearson.co.uk).

## Focus on...



### Becoming a Governor

We have just released a course for new governors to help them perform their role effectively. This course outlines the responsibilities and expectations of governors, as individuals and as a team, to ensure strong governance and accountability.



Written by EES for Schools, it provides a useful overview for trustees and local governing board members in multi-academy trusts.

➤ Read more at: [www.pearson.co.uk/becoming-a-governor](http://www.pearson.co.uk/becoming-a-governor)

## Contact us

- **Anna Sterlini** [a.sterlini@pearson.co.uk](mailto:a.sterlini@pearson.co.uk) with any questions or feedback about this newsletter.
- **George Pearson** [gap@pearson.co.uk](mailto:gap@pearson.co.uk) with any questions regarding our service to Academies, including requesting access codes for a free preview.

[www.pearson.co.uk](http://www.pearson.co.uk)



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