

SBM Meeting February 2019 Updates

General Updates:

ALL SCHOOLS GENERAL

- **Introduction to the Finance & Buildings team** (new member AM who will be joining the DES team on 5th March)
- **SBM conference** - Thursday 7th March at the National conference centre based at the Motorcycle museum, Solihull. Invitations have been emailed to schools.
- **The DFE have published on line a Good Estate Management for Schools System (GEMS)** which provides information about the fundamentals of good estate management, some useful references are provided including an overview of the important policies, processes and documents schools should aim to have in place. The pages also provide information on Governance budgets & finance, performance management of the estate, data and data management, procurement and emergency planning.
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/good-estate-management-for-schools/overseeing-the-estate>
- **AN update on GDPR and Data protection** – There were 703 reported data breach incidents in UK academies and schools in 2016/17, an increase of 4% from the previous year. Please check that you have up to date policies and procedures in place. Do use the Browne Jacobson GDPR toolkit previously provided by the DES.
- **Reminder to all schools please to use the landlord approval form** which can be found on the BDES website to seek approval prior to commencing any building works on their school site.
- **AMAP** – The AMAP deadline is fast approaching, all schools should have completed their online submission, including governor sign off by 15 February 2019. The DfE will be publishing a list of all schools that have not submitted their return by the deadline.
- **Details about the Additional One Off capital allocations** for all schools which was announced in the Budget last November have been provided. For VA schools, their additional capital was made available to them on 1st Feb 2019 and transferred into their RBS accounts.

- **Damien Hinds**, the secretary of state for Education has been in the press recently, encouraging Faith schools to convert to academy status. He has also written an open letter to the Director of the Catholic Education Service, Paul Barber on the matter.
- **The DfE** have updated their website with a guidance on Buying for Schools, an electronic link to the site is provided below

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/buying-for-schools?utm_source=b499b7f7-7b40-4def-be7b-ef886c589d8a&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

- **The Department for Education (DfE)** has published information about sources of training and support for school business professionals in schools, trusts and other organisations. This includes the following (*source: DfE*):
 - A suite of professional standards from the Institute of School Business Leadership (ISBL).
 - A range of qualifications available from different providers.
 - Sector organisations which provide training and support.
 An electronic link to the site is below

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-resource-management-training-and-support>

ACADEMIES GENERAL

- The DES is about to commence the next round of MAC finance monitoring meetings. The first meetings are scheduled for next week with invitations having been sent to MAC's.
- **Academy Finances.** The ESFA continue to monitor closely the financial position of MAT's and MAC's. The ESFA are keen to stress the importance of key personnel being familiar with the content of the Academies Financial Handbook and their legal duties contained therein. The electronic link to the latest guide is published below

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/academies-financial-handbook>

UHY Hacker Young produced a summary of the 2018 Handbook, including commentary on the key changes; an electronic link to the document is below

<https://www.uhy-uk.com/news-events/news/academies-financial-handbook-2018-update/>

VA SCHOOLS GENERAL

- We are still carrying out work on the proposed LCVAP capital programmes for 2019/20 and will be in touch with all VA schools to inform them of the outcome of their bids in due course.

FUNDING/GRANT UPDATES

- **UK Space Agency – Competition for Young Space Entrepreneurs**

The UK Space is offering young people expert advice and a share of £50,000 for their ideas of how satellites could improve life on Earth. The SatelLife Competition is now in its third year and aims to support the development of science, data handling and technological skills. The competition seeks innovative proposals that have the potential to use data collected from space to benefit our economy, health and the environment.

Ideas from the 2018 competition included a wristband that uses satellite location data and communications services to identify the locations of swimmers and surfers in the sea and a tool that would map change in urban areas using satellites and algorithms, identifying where building is taking place and potential sites for development.

Deadline: 3 March 2019

For more information visit: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/satellife-competition-2019-how-to-enter-and-other-resources>

- **WHSmith Trust Community Grants Application**

The WHSmith Trust aims to support good causes in the local communities where WHSmith operates, and also to promote literacy and a love of reading. The Trust also makes donations to hundreds of schools across the UK and funds large scale literacy projects through its long-standing partnership with the National Literacy Trust.

With the introduction of the new WHSmith Community Grants, the WHSmith Trust is now offering grants of up to £500 to voluntary organisations and schools from the proceeds of the compulsory carrier bag levies across the UK. Grants are awarded every six months to charities, schools and community groups of any size, provided they support the community in the UK.

If you are interest in applying for a grant, visit the website to find out more and for an online application form.

Deadline: 31 March 2019

For more information, and for an online application form, visit:

<https://blog.whsmith.co.uk/community-grants-application/>

- **The SHINE Trust – Let Teachers SHINE – Funding for projects that raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils**

Let Teachers SHINE offers up to £15,000 to teachers who have brilliant ideas they would like to pilot in their classroom to help disadvantaged children aged 4 – 18 succeed in English, maths or science. It's free to enter and open to any qualified, practising teacher working in England.

Projects must:

- *Be innovative* – inspire children in new and exciting ways
- *Target economically disadvantaged children* – Pupil premium eligibility should be used as a general indicator of economic disadvantage
- *Be scalable* – it must be possible for your project be scaled up and replicated easily, whether that be in other schools or areas, or working with a higher number of students.

Deadline: 23 April 2019

For more information visit: <https://www.shinetrust.org.uk/what-we-do/let-teachers-shine/apply/>

- **The Jerusalem Trust – Small grants to resource the teaching of Christianity within Religious Education**

The Jerusalem Trust's Small Grants to Schools Scheme supports the teaching of Christianity within Religious Education by providing schools with grants of up to £600 to purchase resources for use in RE lessons. The grant application process for Spring Term 2019 is currently open to secondary schools, including middle deemed secondary and upper.

Applications for the scheme can only be made for Religious Education (RE) resources on Christianity. These can include books, teacher resources, artefacts, DVDs and CD-Roms for use in RE lessons. Class sets of Bibles may be purchased under the terms of the scheme. Please ensure that the ones you actually intend to purchase with the grant and could not be purchased from within the allocated RE budget for the school, in the current and subsequent year, unless this grant is awarded.

When funding decisions are made, the quality and shelf-life of resources, and the number of pupils that will benefit from them, will be taken into account. A short report on the impact of the grant on teaching and learning and will be required 12 months after an award is paid.

For more information visit: <http://www.regrants.org.uk/>

- **Woodland Trust – Free Trees for Community Groups and Schools**

The Woodland Trust has announced that it has thousands of free tree packs available to community groups and schools across the UK, plus nurseries, colleges, universities, and outdoor learning centres. The trees are available for planting on an area that is accessible to the public so that it can be used and enjoyed by others. If applying as a school, trees should be planted on either the schools grounds, land the school has arranged regular access to, or in an area that is publicly accessible.

Applications for a tree pack for a community group need to:

- State that the land is accessible to the public
- Make sure the local community is aware of the plans to plant and is happy for the project to go ahead
- Be applying for up to 420 trees in each application cycle or season.

There are two delivery periods per year, in November and March, where the trees are dormant and perfect for planting.

Applications are currently being accepted for trees to be delivered in November 2019.

For more information visit: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/free-trees/>

- **Greggs Foundation Breakfast Club Funding**

The Greggs Foundation currently supports over 465 breakfast clubs across Britain, providing a nutritious breakfast to over 30,000 school children each day. Every school is provided with fresh bread from their nearest Greggs store, and a grant to support start-up and ongoing costs. The average club costs just £2,000 to set up and run for a year.

If you are a primary school interested in applying to establish a breakfast club supported by the Greggs Foundation, please see the qualifying criteria below:

- The applicant organisation must be a primary school in Britain or Belfast
- At least 40% of the pupils at your school should be eligible to claim free school meals
- The school should demonstrate a commitment to engaging parents or other volunteers in the running of the breakfast club
- The breakfast club must be free to ensure that all pupils can attend.

To apply, simply fill in the online form on the website link below.

For more information visit: <https://www.greggsfoundation.org.uk/breakfast-clubs>