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- Closed captions are available
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# Neil Collins

Managing Director, GovernorHub



**K** The  
Key

Key Trend  
is  
Cloud



# Governance no exception

Uptake accelerated by  
Lockdown



# GovernorHub

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Dean Lindsay

Customer Marketing Manager EMEA

8x8



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# Primary and Secondary Schools in the UK

- Currently employs 624,520 full time teachers\*
- 10,320,811 full and part time pupils\*
- 10,945,331 in total

**16%**  
Of the UK population



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Founded in 1707

Catering from children  
aged 2 to 18

650 pupils in total

180 members of staff



1707

# Warminster School



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# The UK Education Sector - Increasing Digital Interactions

*“The pandemic has been a challenging period for teachers, schools and colleges, students and parents.”*

\*Source Gov.uk Ofqual



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# The UK Education Sector - Remote Learning

*“There was no prior requirement for schools and colleges across England to engage in remote teaching and learning before the pandemic. As such, investment in remote education solutions was lacking at the time of the initial school closures in March 2020.”*



\*Source Gov.uk Ofqual



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# The UK Education Sector - New ways of working

*“I believe that the integration of information technology in education will be further accelerated and that online education will eventually become an integral component of school education.”*



\*Source Gov.uk Ofqual



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# Q&A.



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# **Kathy Inskip Chair of Trustees – Ash Field Academy**

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# Responding to the challenges of virtual governance and remote trustee monitoring

- Virtual meetings via Teams - maintained same structure of Trust Board and committees with additional meetings to review the Covid-19 Risk Assessment
- Safeguarding and Health and Safety focus
- Pupil and Staff wellbeing, and working with parents, remained as key standing agenda items
- Continued School Improvement Plan via remote monitoring
- Correspondence with staff team and pupils whilst trustees not present on site
- Increased review of documentation outside of planned trustee meetings



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# Benefits and challenges of remote governance

- Range of views across trustees

## Benefits:

- Focussed discussion
- Further strengthened relationships with staff team attending board meetings
- Reduced travel time

## Challenges:

- Trustee presence at school – reduced time with pupils and staff, and monitoring on site
- More difficult to focus on longer term strategy
- Discussion in meetings more limited
- Additional time outside of meetings to read all guidance/docu



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# Remote Learning

## Remote Learning Offer:

- Remote Learning Team
- Remote Support Team
- Education Outreach support
- Personalised remote learning offer
- Remote Learning – questionnaire and evaluation
- Multi-agency and partnership working
- Contribution to the Oaks Academy PMLD resource



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# Key learning and further developments

- Respect and understand the individual context for each trustee
- Flexibility - responding in ever changing times
- 'Blended approach' moving forward - trustee presence and monitoring within school
- Continued evaluation and further development of remote learning, resources and approaches
- Working in partnership



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# Leveraging technology in schools and governance

The importance of a Digital Strategy

# Who am I?

- James Garnett
- Director of IT – United Learning
- Programme Lead – EdTech Demonstrator Programme
- School Governor

# The EdTech Demonstrator Programme

- **Free** to all publicly funded schools and colleges in England
- Up to 30 hours of peer to peer support available to any one institution
- Sign up here - <https://edtechdemo.ucst.uk/>
- @jamesmgarnett @edtechdemo

# Why do schools need a digital strategy?

If we start from the premise that technology and digital tools can support and enhance the effective delivery of education, then we will need a coherent strategy for ensuring that it delivers on those perceived benefits and in a manner which is costed, affordable and measured for success, and subsequently revised in light of the that success.

Enables Governors to provide oversight

# Why EdTech?

- Technology lets real human beings doing real things in classrooms and homes around the country do those things faster, more often, more successfully, with greater insight and to greater depth.



# How do Governing Bodies help?

- Not being afraid to ask difficult questions or challenge when something does not look right
- Supporting your school/college or academy in developing its strategy and in making the difficult decisions, especially around budgets

# When in school/college

- How does the school/college make effective use of technology in the classroom
- When you visit, look beyond the “they are engaged” to ask how technology is helping the teacher teach and the children learn
- Is the technology reliable?
- Is equipment well used?

# When in school/college

- Are staff making enough use of the tools at their disposal?
- Safe and secure access from home – more cloud than knocking holes in secure systems
- Do staff have access to devices they can take home?
- Are there cupboards full of digital white elephants?
- Is your school/college paying for tools they rarely use?



# Is there a Digital Strategy?

- Use of technology to
  - support teaching
  - support learning
  - support admin
  - support governance
- Who leads the Digital Strategy
- Linked to school improvement plan
- Infrastructure
- Budgets
- Security and Data Protection
- Flexible working
- Digital divide
- IT Support

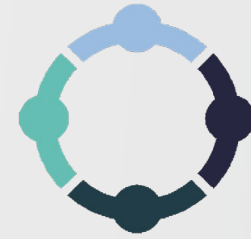


# The EdTech Demo Programme

- Help all schools/colleges progress in their use of tech
- Up to 30 hours of peer to peer support
- <https://edtechdemo.ucst.uk/>



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