

For Information

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Education Answers LBMW Circular 007 – JANUARY 2018

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A Happy New Year to all our readers and users of Education Answers.

Last call for January 25th - **Academy Workshop** – full details [here](#) and [below](#) – [click here to book](#).

March 8th - Where next for schools? is it time for a post-academy agenda?

May 3rd LBMW 7th Annual Schools Conference

September 18th Education and Property Law Update

November 13th Charity Law Update

Full details of all the above [available from this link](#).

EDUCATION ANSWERS developments and a new materials

Admissions arrangements in all-through schools have been highlighted in a [Determination](#) from the Office of the Schools Adjudicator; and we have issued a new Paper on the topic at this link (sign-in required): <http://lbmw.educationanswers.co.uk/documents/be-careful-about-admissions-policies/>. If your organisation includes or has any kind of oversight over an all-through school or academy, then this is important reading.

[Staff Contracts for Schools and Academies](#) – not a paper, just a link to the details published by CEEO.

INTERESTING SNIPPETS

As this circular is being prepared, Theresa May is thought to be considering moving Justine Greening out of her role as Education Secretary. Her time in office has been characterised by a softening of her predecessor's push for all schools to be academies by 2022 – some newspapers speculate that this is why she may be moved! Meanwhile, those who are involved with academy accounts will have submitted their financial statements, an auditor's management letter and an accounts submission coversheet online form, by the due date of December 31st – we hope that did not adversely impact your Christmas festivities. Full accounts now must be in by January 19th and trusts then have to submit a budget forecast return outturn by May 18, and a budget forecast return by July 27th. All of this is to ensure the DfE can produce its own return (the SARA), having struggle to produce its own accounts in respect of academies (see many press reports passim). We confidently anticipate:

- Naming and shaming of trusts that have been late with their accounting deadlines;
- Continued niggling about the place of trustees' land values in (or as we advise, out) of academy trust accounts (and therefore the DfE balance sheet);
- Further amendments to provision of sites by government for academies and free schools

So, if there is a new hardline push on academies and free schools, this intensified accounting regime will reach more and more into the lives of the LBMW network. We will, as ever, be here to help!

And finally:

Is it true that the Alexa internet feed has collapsed in Westminster with the command "Alexa, why did Michael Gove ever start academies in the first place?".

You can follow new information announcements via our twitter accounts [@LBMWLAW](#) and [@Ed Answers LBMW](#).

www.educationanswers.co.uk is now a vital resource for all involved in school organisation, academy conversion, and education administration. LBMW runs [regular seminars and conferences](#) for all involved in the issues affecting schools, universities, colleges, and academies. Please contact simon.foulkes@lbmw.com or call 0202 7960 7134 for details.

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ACADEMY WORKSHOP: 25 January 2018 – see next page

ACADEMY WORKSHOP: 25 January 2018

Thinking about being an academy and/or a multi-academy trust?

Find out more by attending a free workshop at LBMW

On Thursday 25th January 2018 - midday - 12 noon to 3pm (including a light lunch).

The workshop will be led by Tricia Pritchard and Simon Foulkes.

Tricia Pritchard is Education Adviser LBMW, former headteacher, HMI, Diocesan Director of Education and Chief Executive of the Diocese of Ely Multi-Academy Trust and Chair of the Woodard Academies Trust.

Simon Foulkes is Education Consultant LBMW, former MD of Ethos School Improvement Ltd and Assistant Diocesan Director (School Organisation) for the Diocese of Canterbury.

The workshop will be held in the offices of LBMW at 1 The Sanctuary (next to Westminster Abbey).

What will the workshop cover?

- Lessons learned from running a multi-academy trust: the challenges and risks
- The application procedures for converting to an academy and setting up a MAT
- The academy conversion process
- Establishing strong governance: defining roles and responsibilities within the new structure
- Managing school improvement; monitoring quality
- Financial management – what's different?
- Who cares? Who is affected? Implications for staff and the whole school community
- Setting the vision and strategic direction
- Why belong to a MAT?
- And other matters you would like to raise ahead or that come up during the workshop

HOW TO REGISTER

Book on line [click here to book](#) or contact Sarah Neden on 020 7960 7153 or email sarah.neden@lbmw.com

Register SOON: restricted places available.