



SCHOOLS' FORUM

22 June 2023

SCHOOLS' FORUM MEMBERSHIP

The structure of the Forum is reviewed annually as part of the annual review of the constitution in the summer term to ensure that the balance is maintained.

Schools' Forums must have maintained school members, academy members and non-school members. Maintained schools and academy members must number at least two thirds of the total membership of the Schools' Forum and the balance between maintained primary and academies' members must be broadly proportionate to the pupil numbers in each category.

It is recognised in the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) Schools' Forum Operational and Good Practice Guide¹ (March 2021) that there is no requirement for academies members to represent specific primary and secondary phases. However, it is good practice to maintain a representative balance.

At the end of May 2023, there were 2729 pupils on role in Rutland primary schools; 2553 (94%) in the 16 primary academies and 176 in the 1 CEVA maintained primary school. In the 3 secondary academies there were 2944 students in total.

The current membership of Rutland Schools' Forum is shown below:

Name	Representing	Term of Office	
		Starting	Ending
Ben Solly (CHAIR)	Academies	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
Alison Chambers	Academies	April 2021	March 2024
Sharon Milner	Academies	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
Carl Smith	Academies	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
Stuart Williams	Academies	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
Fiona Wilce	Maintained Schools	April 2021	March 2024
VACANT	Governors		
Steve Cox (VICE CHAIR)	Special Schools	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
Kathryn Pullan	Private, Voluntary & Independent (PVI) Early Years	Feb 2022	Jan 2025
Oliver Teasel	Post 16 Provision	April 2023	March 2026
Peter French	Dioceses	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
Gary Morphus	Trade Unions	Nov 2021	Oct 2024

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DECISION:

Does the Schools' Forum agree that the current membership arrangements are balanced and continue to reflect the education sector in Rutland? Or does a review of membership need to be undertaken?

ACTION REQUIRED

1. There must be at least one representative of governors among the schools' members. There is currently a vacancy for a Governor representative on the board; a request for nominations for a Governor representative will be sent out to schools at the start of the autumn term. In preparation, could all Schools Forum school members please approach members of your Governing Board to identify potential candidates for this role. This vacancy must be filled prior to the first Schools' Forum of the academic year 2023-2024.
2. Schools Forum has also been notified of the intention of Sharon Milner to step down from Schools' Forum when she retires from headship at the end of this academic year. Nominations will therefore also be requested from the academy sector at the start of the autumn term. Please speak with colleagues who you consider would be suitable for this role.

Note - the ESFA Operational and Good Practice Guide states that academies members are there to represent the proprietor bodies of academies and are, therefore, not necessarily restricted to principals, senior staff or governors. There is no requirement for academies' members to be split into primary and secondary sub-groups. However, the LA would encourage academies to consider the pupil proportions across all academies when electing academies' representatives.

3. Schools Forum has also been notified of the intention of Kathryn Pullen to step down from Schools' Forum when she retires at the end of the academic year. Schools' Forum will therefore be seeking nominations from the Private, Voluntary & Independent (PVI) Early Years at the start of the autumn term. Please speak with early education colleagues from the PVI sector who you consider would be suitable for this role.