



SCHOOLS' FORUM

9th May 2024

SCHOOLS' FORUM MEMBERSHIP

Report from Gill Curtis, Head of SEND, Inclusion and Learning,
Rutland County Council

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Schools' Forum:

1. Approves the proposed 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 Guide** (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 March 2024, there were 2704 pupils on role in Rutland primary schools; 2534 (94%) in the 16 primary academies and 170 in the 1 CEVA maintained primary school. In the 3 secondary academies there were 2933 students in total.

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

Name		Representing	Term of Office	
			Starting	Ending
1	Ben Solly (CHAIR)	Academies (Secondary)	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
2	Steve Cox (VICE CHAIR)	Special Schools	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
3	Carl Smith	Academies (Secondary)	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
4	Craig Charteris	Academies (Primary)	July 2023	June 2026
5	Fiona Wilce Steve Flowers	Maintained Schools (Primary)	Apr 2021 Oct 2023	June 2024 Sept 2026
6	Gary Morphus	Trade Unions	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
7	Lucy Lewin	Private, Voluntary & Independent (PVI) Early Years	Oct 2023	Sept 2026
8	Oliver Teasel	Post 16 Provision	Mar 2023	Feb 2026
9	Peter French Andrew Read	Dioceses	Nov 2021 May 2024	Oct 2024 April 2027

10	Stuart Williams	Academies (Secondary & Primary)	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
11	VACANT	Academies		
12	VACANT	Academies (Governors)		

SUBSTITUTES:

Name		Representing	Term of Office	
			Starting	Ending
13	Andreas Menzies	Dioceses	Nov 2021	Oct 2024
14	Kay Smith	Special Schools	Jan 2020	Dec 2022
15	Rob Gooding	Academies (Primary)	Oct 2023	Sept 2026
16	VACANT	Maintained Schools (Primary)		
17	VACANT	Private, Voluntary & Independent (PVI) Early Years		
18	VACANT	Trade Unions		
19	VACANT	Post 16 Provision		
20	VACANT	Academies (Governors)		

DECISION

Does the Schools' Forum agree that the current membership arrangements are balanced and continue to reflect the education sector in Rutland?

ACTION REQUIRED

1. There must be at least one representative of governors among the schools' members. There has been a long-standing 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 2024-2025.
2. There is one academy vacancy following the retirement of Alison Chambers and Schools Forum has also been notified of the intention of Fiona Wilce 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 (Local Authority) would encourage academies to consider the pupil proportions across all academies when electing academies' representatives.

3. To review, and update where necessary, the substitutes' representation to ensure this is still representative of membership.