
Schools' Forum Membership and Constitution from July 2020

Report being considered by: Schools' Forum on 13th July 2020

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Item for: Decision **By:** All Forum Members

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To review and where necessary update the Membership and Constitution of the Schools' Forum.

2. Recommendation

2.1 To approve the membership and Constitution of the Schools' Forum from July 2020.

Will the recommendation require the matter to be referred to the Council or the Executive for final determination?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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3. Introduction/Background

3.1 The Schools' Forum is required to review its membership and Constitution annually. The current Constitution complies with The Schools' Forums' (England) Regulations 2012. There have been no legislative changes requiring a change to our current practice. The membership however does need to be reviewed to see if the split based on pupil numbers is still correct or needs to be changed.

3.2 The current rules in respect to School Forum membership are as follows:

- (1) The need to have full representation for the various types of school with the number of members representing each being broadly proportionate to the number of pupils in each phase. This is to ensure debate within the Schools' Forum is balanced and representative.
- (2) There is no minimum or maximum number of members, but non school members must not make up more than one third of the total membership. However, care should be taken to keep the Schools' Forum to a reasonable size to ensure that it does not become too unwieldy.

3.3 The current breakdown in pupil numbers between the three main groups is as follows (*Pupil numbers include Nursery and Sixth Form*):

TABLE 1	Pupil Numbers (Jan 19 census)		Pupil Numbers (Jan 20 census)	
	Number	%	Number	%
Primary Schools	(62) 12,173	48%	(62) 12,067	47%
Secondary Schools	(3) 3,902	15.40%	4,033	16%
Academy Schools	(12) 9,288	36.60%	9,575	37%
TOTAL	25,363	100%	25,675	100%

(The number of schools in each sector is shown in brackets)

3.4 Data shows that overall the percentage of pupils in each sector has remained broadly the same.

3.5 No schools in West Berkshire have converted to Academies since the last Membership report that was presented to the Schools' Forum in October 2019.

3.6 The current membership of the Schools' Forum is organised as follows:

TABLE 2					
School Members	Heads	Governors	Other	Total	
	Number	Number	Number	Number	%
Primary	4	3	1 (v)	8	47%
Secondary	2	1 (v)	0	3	18%
Academies	4	2	0	6	35%
	10	6	1	17	100%
Other School Members					
Nursery Schools	1			1	
Special Schools	1			1	
iCollege (PRU)	1			1	
Non School Members					
RC Diocese			1	1	
C of E Diocese			1	1	
Early Years PVI			1	1	
Trade Union			1	1	
Non School Post 16			1	1	
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	12	6	6	25	
Proportion of School Members (minimum must be 67.2%)				80%	

3.7 It is not proposed to make any changes to the structure of the membership.

4. Membership – end of term

4.1 The term of office for members of the Forum is four years (it was increased from three years to four years by the Schools' Forum in December 2019) or until the position by virtue of which they are eligible for Forum membership comes to an end, whichever is the sooner.

4.2 Each Member is contacted individually as the end of their term approaches and asked to consult with their relevant forums or alternatively for Governors an election process will be coordinated.

5. Constitution

5.1 Forum members are invited to suggest any changes which they deem necessary or desirable.

6. Proposals

6.1 There have been no changes to the Regulations or Operational Guidance for the Schools Forum so it is not proposed to make any changes to the Constitution.

6.2 As pupil numbers have fluctuated only slightly, no changes are proposed to the Membership or composition of the Forum.

7. Conclusion

7.1 The Schools Forum is invited to approve the membership and the Constitution for the Schools Forum from July 2020.

8. Consultation and Engagement

8.1 Ian Pearson (Head of Education Service) and Melanie Ellis (Chief Management Accountant)

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix A: Membership of the Schools Forum as at July 2020

9.2 Appendix B: Constitution of the Schools Forum