



Schools Forum

Report title: Revision of membership of Schools Forum

Date: 18 January 2024

Key decision: No

Item no: 9

Outline and recommendations

1. Schools Forum to note that as a consequence of six schools academising, there is a significant shift in balance of pupils supported by maintained schools to academy schools.
2. The report confirms the new membership, effective for the financial year 2024/25.
3. Schools Forum to agree the revised constitution and accordingly invite the relevant School representative groups to confirm representatives to fulfil the Schools Forum membership in accordance.

Timeline of engagement and decision-making

18th January 2024

Period from January 2024 to next meeting expected late summer 2024 – representatives to provide nominated representatives.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide data to support a revision of the Schools Forum Constitution from 2024/25

2. Primary, secondary and academy school representation.

- 2.1. Based on the October 2023 census, **table 1** below confirms that there are 33,930 pupils in Lewisham Schools. The table further shows the split over maintained primary, maintained secondary and academy schools. It should be noted the for the purpose of forum representation, academy pupil numbers do not require categorisation across their age phase. Also, where a school is an all through maintained school, the pupils are shown based on the age profile and takes into account recent and notified pending academy conversions.

Oct 2023		
Number on Roll	33,930	
Primary	19112	56%
Secondary	4190	12%
Recoupment Academy	10628	31%

Table 1, October 2023 pupil numbers

- 2.2. Schools Forum has 15 representatives. **Table 2** shows the current distribution and **table 3** shows the revised distribution necessary once recent and pending notified academy conversions are complete.

	Current Constitution			Total	
	Heads	Governors	Other		
Primary	7	2		9	60%
Secondary	2	2		4	27%
Academy	2	0		2	13%
	11	4	0	15	100%

Table 2, Current constitution

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	Revised Constitution			Total	
	Heads	Governor	Rep.		
Primary	6	2		8	56%
Secondary	1	1		2	12%
Academy			5	5	31%
	12	3	0	15	100%

Table 3, Revised constitution

- 2.3. At present within the maintained sector representatives, one headteacher (Prendergast Ladywell) and one governor (Leathersellers) need to step down from their maintained school representative roles. Another governor (Bonus Pastor) will need to step down when their school converts. These individuals may wish to stand as Academy representatives. This would need to be agreed by the Academy group schools, following due process.
- 2.4. **Table 4** below shows the current filled posts versus vacant posts and incorporates recent and pending notified academy conversions.

	Filled			Total	Vacancy
	Heads	Governor	Rep.		
Primary	3	2		5	1x primary head vacancy. 2x membership expiring Jan 2024 (David Lucas and Maxine Osbaldeston)
Secondary	1	0		1	1x secondary governor vacancy
Academy			1	1	4x academy vacancy
	6	4	0	10	

Table 4, Representatives and vacancies

- 2.5. The remainder of the forum membership remains unchanged and is shown below for completeness.

	Heads	Governors	Other	Total
Maintained Nursery School	1			1
Special School	1	1		2
14-19 Consortium Rep			1	1
Private, Voluntary, Independent providers			1	1
Pupil Referral Unit Head	1			1
Dioceses Authorities			2	2
Total	3	1	4	8

Table 5, forum groups membership.

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- 2.6. In relation to the remainder of the forum groups membership, currently there are the following vacancies-
- 1x Special School – Governor,
 - 1x Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (CE)

3. Financial implications

- 3.1. This report focuses on the constitution of Schools Forum membership as such there are no financial implications arising from this report.

4. Legal implications

- 4.1. There are no legal implications arising from this report, as the report is recasting the membership to reflect the pupils supported by maintained and academy schools.

5. Equalities implication

- 5.1. The report supports equality of representation across schools as the membership is being revised to reflect the changes in academy and maintained schools.

6. Climate change and environmental implications

- 6.1. There are no climate change implications of this report.

7. Crime and disorder implications

- 7.1. There are no crime and disorder implications of this report.

8. Health and wellbeing implications

- 8.1. There are no direct health and wellbeing implications.

9. Report authors and contact

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