
Staffordshire

County Council

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SCHOOLS FORUM

CONSTITUTION

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Education Act 2002, amended the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, to require each Local Authority (LA) to establish a Schools Forum, its function being to advise the LA on matters relating to their Schools Budget and to advise the LA or be a consultative body in relation to other prescribed matters. Currently, the [Schools Forums \(England\) Regulations 2012](#) (as amended) regulate the composition, constitution and procedures of a Schools Forum.
- 1.2 Although made up mainly of representatives from maintained schools and academies, it can also include “non-school” members, representing relevant bodies.
- 1.3 Within Staffordshire County Council, such non-school representation includes Diocesan representatives, representatives from the Early Years PVI Sector, representatives from 16-19 Education, representatives from the authority’s School Consultative Groups and a Parent Governor representative from the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee.
- 1.4 As elected members attend these meetings as observers, the Schools Forum forms an important link back into political decision making processes.

2 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM

- 2.1 Staffordshire County Council (“the Council”) has established and will maintain a Schools Forum (“the Forum”) in accordance with the requirements of section 47A of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, and subsequent regulations as may be amended from time to time.

3 MEMBERSHIP

General

- 3.1 The Forum will usually have a maximum of thirty two (32) members, composed of those persons specified in Appendix A. However, in order to accommodate the rate of academy conversions, the size of the Forum may be temporarily increased in order to appoint additional academy representatives, then take out maintained school representative vacancies when one arises.
- 3.2 At least two-thirds of the total membership will consist of maintained school and academy representatives; the proportion of maintained and academy primary and maintained and academy secondary members being broadly comparable to the pupil numbers in each of these categories.
- 3.3 Detailed in Appendix C is the process undertaken by the local authority at the beginning of the second week in September, January and April each year in order to ensure the

numbers of schools representatives are broadly comparable to the pupil numbers in each category.

- 3.4 The Council shall maintain a record of the composition of the Forum, including:
- (a) The number of schools members and by which group or sub-group they were elected;
 - (b) The number of academies members; and
 - (c) The number of non-schools members, their terms of office, how they were chosen and whom they represent.

School Members Term of Office

- 3.5 Schools members are appointed to the Forum for a term of 4 years in most cases unless agreement has been reached to the contrary. To ensure continuity of experience within the Forum membership, elections will be held every 2 years and, where appropriate, half of the representatives of each group will be appointed on each election date. The details of the election process is set out in Appendix B. However, where the school of a maintained school representative has converted to an academy, the Forum could consider appointing this member as an academies member until their current term of office ends.
- 3.6 To ensure the effectiveness of the decision making process surrounding the use of public money, all Schools Forum members are expected to attend the Forum meetings. Apologies must be made in advance of each meeting. Members' apologies will be considered at the Forum meeting and accepted if agreed by the majority of attending members. Where a member has not attended 3 consecutive meetings of Schools Forum and apologies have not been formally accepted, the Council will terminate their appointment and will undertake the appropriate nomination, election and appointment process.
- 3.7 A schools member will cease to be a member of the Forum:
- (a) if they resign from their position on the Forum by giving written notice to the Council;
 - (b) upon the expiry of their term of office;
 - (c) in the event of their death;
 - (d) if they cease to hold the office by virtue of which the member became eligible for election, selection or appointment to the Forum, except where the provisions of paragraph 3.5 apply;
 - (e) if the Council terminates their appointment because the member has not attended 3 consecutive meetings of Schools Forum and apologies have not been formally accepted by the Forum; or
 - (f) if the Council terminates their appointment because it has been instructed to do so by the Secretary of State.

Non-Schools Members Term of Office

- 3.8 The Council will seek nominations for non-schools members from the relevant bodies as identified in Appendix A. The Council will normally ask the relevant bodies to nominate non-school members every four years. Existing non-school members shall continue until a replacement is appointed.
- 3.9 A non-schools member will cease to be a member of the Forum:
- (a) if they resign from their position on the Forum;
 - (b) when the relevant body makes a further nomination to replace him/her and the Council appoints him/her;
 - (c) in the event of their death;
 - (d) if they cease to hold the office by virtue of which the member became eligible for election, selection or appointment to the Forum;
 - (e) if the Council terminates their appointment because the member has not attended 3 consecutive meetings of Schools Forum and apologies have not been formally accepted by the Forum;
 - (f) if the Council terminates their appointment because it has been instructed to do so by the Secretary of State.
- 3.10 No person who is an executive member or relevant officer of the authority is eligible to be nominated as a non-schools member. A “relevant officer” refers to:
- a) the director of children’s services of the authority,
 - b) any officer employed or engaged to work under the management of the director of children’s services, other than one who directly provides education to children or who manages such a person, or
 - c) any officer whose work involves management of, or advice on, school funding.
- 3.11 The Council will arrange for vacancies on the Forum to be filled using the nomination, election and appointment processes detailed below.

Schools Members – Nomination, Election and Appointment

- 3.12 The Council will appoint as schools representatives those persons duly elected and nominated via the following process (and outlined on the Schools Forum Website).

Maintained Schools Members:

- 3.13 School members must be elected to the Schools Forum by the members of the relevant group, or sub-group, in the Council’s area. The groups are:
- (a) Representatives of nursery schools (where there are any such schools in the Council’s area);
 - (b) Representatives of primary schools other than nursery schools (where there are any such schools in the Council’s area);
 - (c) Representatives of secondary schools (where there are any such schools in the

- Council's area) ;
- (d) Representatives of special schools (where there are any such schools in the Council's area);
- (e) Representatives of pupil referral units (where there are any such schools in the Council's area).

Academies Members:

3.14 Academies members must be elected to the Forum by the proprietors of academies in the Council's area.

- (a) Representatives of primary academies other than nursery schools;
- (b) Representatives of secondary academies;
- (c) Representatives of special academies (where there are any such schools in the Council's area);
- (d) Representatives of academy pupil referral units (where there are any such schools in the Council's area).

Election Procedure

3.15 For maintained schools, in the event that there is more than one candidate for a vacant position or a position which is subject to election in that year within any of the groups set out in paragraph 3.13, the head teacher and chair of governors of every school within the relevant group will be invited to vote for one (1) candidate each. For each position, the candidate who receives the largest number of votes will, subject to paragraphs 3.19 and 3.20, be appointed to that position and the candidate who receives the second largest number of votes will be appointed, subject to paragraphs 3.19 and 3.20, if the candidate who receives the largest number of votes also receives the largest number of votes for another group in which they stood for election.

3.16 For academies, in the event that there is more than one candidate for a vacant position or a position which is subject to election in that year within any of the groups set out in paragraph 3.14, the proprietors of mainstream academies of every school within the relevant group will be invited to vote for one (1) candidate each. For each position, the candidate who receives the largest number of votes will, subject to paragraph 3.19 and 3.20, be appointed to that position and the candidate who receives the second largest number of votes will be appointed, subject to paragraphs 3.19 and 3.20, if the candidate who receives the largest number of votes also receives the largest number of votes for another group in which they stood for election.

3.17 In the event that two or more candidates for a position receive an equal number of votes or if for any reason an election for a position does not take place by the timescales set out in the election schedule set out on the Schools Forum website the Forum must appoint a member to the Forum instead.

- 3.18 In the event that there is only one candidate for a vacant position or a position which is subject to election in that year within any of the groups set out in paragraphs 3.13 and 3.14, it will not be necessary for members to vote, and that candidate will, subject to paragraphs 3.19 and 3.20, be appointed to the position.
- 3.19 In the event that there are no applications from any of the groups of schools subject to an election in that year, then the Forum members who represent the relevant group which has the vacancy shall nominate the representative to be appointed. Where the vacancy is for the single representative for the relevant group, i.e. there are no other members to make a nomination, then the Forum will seek to appoint the member from that group of schools.
- 3.20 It is not appropriate for a candidate to be elected to represent more than one group, however, they may stand for election from any group(s) but can only be appointed to represent one of the groups.
- 3.21 The Council reserves the right not to appoint any person duly entitled by the processes above, for any reason.

[**NOTE:** Proprietor in relation to an academy means the person or body of persons responsible for the management of the academy].

Non-schools Members – Nomination and Appointment

- 3.22 The Council will seek nominations for non-schools members from the relevant bodies identified in Appendix A and in accordance with the schedule set out on the Schools Forum website.
- 3.23 Upon receipt of a nomination under paragraph 3.21, the Council will:
- (a) make an appointment pursuant to that nomination; or
 - (b) provide the relevant body with the grounds on which they determine not to make such an appointment.
- 3.24 Where the Council has proceeded under paragraph 3.22(b), 3.9(e) or 3.9(f) it will seek a further nomination from the relevant body concerned.
- 3.25 Through publication on the Schools Forum website the Council will inform all maintained schools and academies in its area of the name of the member appointed as a non-schools member and the name of the relevant body that that member represents, within one month of the appointment.

4 PROCEEDINGS OF SCHOOLS FORUM

Meetings

- 4.1 The Forum must:
- (a) hold a meeting at least four (4) times in each academic year;
 - (b) agree where meetings should take place and the time of its meetings;
 - (c) hold a meeting in response to a request from:
 - (i) one-third of its members; or
 - (ii) the Chair, provided that this does not conflict with any directions given by the Forum.
 - (d) hold meetings in public, but visitors should be asked to leave if confidential items are discussed, unless the Forum have asked them to take part in a specific discussion.
- 4.2 The Council shall agree the frequency and timing of meetings of the Forum in consultation with the Forum in advance of each academic year. Whilst setting out the cycle of meetings, where possible, the Council will provide a clear overview of key consultative and decision-making points in the school funding cycle.

Substitutes

- 4.3 In the event that a member is unable to attend any meeting, that member may seek the Chair's permission no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting, subject to paragraph 4.4, to have a named substitute attending in their place, and such permission will not be unreasonably withheld.
- 4.4 The notice period referred to in paragraph 4.3 is waived where substitution is in respect of a meeting where levels of delegation are subject to a vote of the Schools Forum and no notice period should apply in these circumstances.
- 4.5 A named substitute will have the same rights as a member of the Forum.

Local Authority Officers, Observers & Visitors

- 4.6 The following persons shall be entitled to speak at such meetings even though they are not members of the Forum:
- (a) the Director responsible for education and children's services or their representative;
 - (b) the Section 151 Officer or their representative;
 - (c) any elected member of the authority who has primary responsibility for children's services or education in the authority;
 - (d) any elected member of the authority who has primary responsibility for the resources of the authority;
 - (e) any person who is invited by the Forum to attend in order to provide financial or technical advice to the Forum;
 - (f) an observer appointed by the Secretary of State; and
 - (g) any person presenting a paper or other item to the Forum that is on the

meeting's agenda, but that person's right to speak shall be limited to matters related to the item that the person is presenting.

Quorum

- 4.7 The Forum will be quorate if at least forty percent (40%) (rounded up to a whole number) of the total current membership in position is present at a meeting, except where paragraph 4.21(d) applies.

Decisions

- 4.8 The Forum will unless otherwise stated within this document, arrive at its decisions by consensus.

- 4.9 However, if it is necessary to take a vote the following arrangements apply, subject to paragraph 4.10:

- (a) every member of the Forum will have one (1) vote;
- (b) a resolution will be passed by simple majority, subject to the following provision; and
- (c) where there are an equal number of votes for and against a proposal, the Chair will have the casting vote.

- 4.10 Where the vote is in respect of arrangements where voting requirements are set by government regulations, those regulations shall apply. In these circumstances the authority will highlight the voting arrangements which will apply in the Schools Forum papers supporting the vote. Currently, such arrangements include but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Voting on the funding formula is limited to schools members, academies members and PVI representatives;
- (b) Voting on de-delegation is limited to the specific primary and secondary phase of maintained schools members; and
- (c) Voting on retaining funding for statutory duties relating to maintained schools only is limited to maintained primary, secondary, special and PRU group members.

- 4.11 Once a decision has been taken, all members will be bound by it, but any member can ask for their opinion to be recorded in the minutes.

Forum Sub-Groups

- 4.12 The Forum may establish sub-groups from their membership to consider in detail specific issues on their behalf and report their findings back to them.

Officers:

Chair and Vice Chair:

- 4.13 The Schools Forum must elect the Chair and Vice Chair from amongst its own

members. The election of Chair and Vice Chair will take place at the final meeting (usually July) of the school year for a period of two years. Elections will take place only every two years unless either post becomes vacant (see 4.21). The Chair and Vice Chair will hold office until a decision has been reached about their successors at any meeting or until they are no longer members of the Forum.

- 4.14. The Chair and Vice Chair will take up their appointments at the first Schools Forum meeting in the new school year (usually October) following their election. This is to allow for a smooth transition between chairs and to aid the continuity and efficiency of Schools Forum.
- 4.15 Any elected member of the Council or officer of the Council who is a member of the Schools Forum may not be elected as Chair or Vice Chair.
- 4.16 Either Option A or Option B below will be included once a decision has been made by the Forum

Option A

Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair are received by the Clerk in advance of final meeting of the school year. Nominations, with pen portrait, must be submitted at least 7 days prior to the publication of Schools Forum papers. Names of the nominees, along with the pen portraits, would be emailed to Schools Forum members in preparation for the election (if required) at the meeting. Where no nominations are received prior to the meeting, nominations will be sought at the meeting. This will take place only every two years unless either post becomes vacant (see 4.21).

Option B

Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair are received under the agenda item at the final meeting of the school year (usually July) .This will take place only every two years unless either post becomes vacant (see 4.21). The election (if required) would take place as part of that agenda item.

- 4.17 In the event that there is only one (1) candidate for each position, it will not be necessary for members to vote, and those candidates will be appointed to the positions.
- 4.18 If for any reason it is not possible to reach a decision regarding the persons to be appointed to the positions of Chair or Vice Chair, the matter will be considered at the next meeting of the Forum.
- 4.19 The Clerk to the Forum must act as Chair during the part of the meeting at which appointments to the posts of Chair or Vice Chair are considered.
- 4.20 All candidates must comply with the paragraphs in this document on Conflicts of Interests and leave the meeting at which their suitability for either of these positions is to be discussed.

- 4.21 The Chair and Vice Chair may resign from their posts at any time by giving written notice to the Clerk and can be removed from the post with immediate effect in the event that a resolution to remove the Chair or Vice Chair has been passed at two consecutive meetings which have been convened in accordance with the following rules:
- (a) seven (7) clear days' notice of each meeting is given;
 - (b) removing the Chair or Vice Chair is a specific item on the agenda for both meetings;
 - (c) there are at least fourteen (14) days between the two meetings;
 - (d) there are at least two-thirds of the members (rounded up to a whole number) at both meetings, and before the vote at the second meeting, the member proposing the removal of the Chair or Vice Chair states reasons for the proposal, and the Chair or Vice Chair is given an opportunity to make a statement in reply.

Acting Chair:

- 4.22 If the Chair is unable to attend any meeting, or if the post is vacant, the Forum members will elect one of those members present to Chair that meeting only, normally being the Vice-Chair.

Clerk:

- 4.23 The Clerk to the Forum will be appointed by the appropriate Director responsible for education and children's services and will convene, direct, offer advice on procedure and minute meetings in accordance with directions given by the Forum.
- 4.24 The Clerk will not have either a vote or a casting vote when in the position of acting Chair in accordance with paragraph 4.18.

Administration

- 4.25 Every member of the Forum will be given at least seven (7) days' written notice of the date of a meeting with a copy of the agenda for that meeting. This is to enable members to consider the papers and if necessary obtain views from the group they are representing. The notice and agenda will be sent out by the Clerk to the Forum. A copy of the paperwork will be sent to the Director responsible for education and children's services at the same time as to members of the Forum. Shorter notice can only be given if the Chair (or the vice-Chair if the Chair is absent or the position has not been filled) agrees that there is an urgent need for a meeting. Members can be contacted/consulted by email on matters of urgency. Meetings to consider the removal of the Chair or a co-opted governor must be convened with at least seven (7) clear days' notice. Papers are published on the Council's website to enable representations to be made to Forum members and to ensure that all interested groups are able to access the papers prior to a meeting.
- 4.26 The agenda will be agreed by the Chair of the Forum. The Forum will whenever necessary consider and revise an annual work programme for meetings.

- 4.27 Minutes of each Forum meeting must be taken by the person acting as Clerk. A copy of the draft minutes will be circulated to members within two (2) weeks of the meeting or as soon as possible thereafter, prior to their formal approval at the next meeting,
- 4.28 The Clerk must make sure that copies of the agenda, draft and approved minutes and any report, document or other paper considered at a meeting (not including confidential items) are made available at County Buildings for anyone to read. Agendas, reports and minutes should also be promptly posted on the Forum's website.

Confidentiality

- 4.29 The following information which may be presented, discussed and voted upon at any meetings of the Forum, must be kept confidential:
- (a) the votes of individual members;
 - (b) opinions by members involving a named person which are in any way sensitive or critical;
 - (c) anything else which the Forum decides ought to be considered as such.
- 4.30 Confidential information will be recorded separately by the Clerk and will not be available for inspection by the general public.

Conflicts of Interest

- 4.31 In common with other aspects of working in public life, Forum members should, for reasons of probity, be aware of circumstances in which they should withdraw from meetings. The general principle is that no-one should be involved in a decision where his or her personal interests may conflict with those of the Forum.
- 4.32 Forum members should declare any personal interest as soon as a matter in which they have an interest is raised and withdraw from that meeting. However, Forum members need not withdraw because of an interest that is no greater than that of other members of the Forum, e.g. primary school nominees should not withdraw from discussions on primary school funding.

Proceedings

- 4.33 The proceedings of the Forum shall not be invalidated by:
- (a) any vacancy among their members;
 - (b) any defect in the election or appointment of any members; or
 - (c) any defect in the appointment of the Chair.

5 FUNCTIONS

Consultation with the Schools Forum on the school funding formula

- 5.1 The Council will consult the Forum on:-
- (a) any proposed changes in relation to the factors and criteria that were taken into account, or the methods, principles and rules that have been adopted, in their formula made in accordance with regulations made under section 47 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, and
 - (b) the financial effect of any such change.
- 5.2 Consultation under paragraph 5.1 will take place in sufficient time to allow the views expressed to be taken into account in the determination of the relevant authority's formula and in the initial determination of schools' budget shares before the beginning of the financial year.

Consultation on contracts

- 5.3 The Council will, at the meeting prior to the issue of invitations to tender (being at least one month prior to invitations to tender), consult the Forum on the terms of any proposed contract that is paid out or to be paid out of the schools budget for services or supplies to schools, where such a contract is to be let by the Council to a value equal to or exceeding the local government threshold which applies to that proposed contract pursuant to regulation 5 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Consultation on financial issues

- 5.4 The Council will consult the Forum annually in respect of functions relating to the schools budget, including:-
- (a) the arrangements to be made for the education of pupils with special educational needs, and in particular:
 - (i) the places to be commissioned by the Council in different schools and other institutions, and
 - (ii) the arrangements for paying top-up funding to schools and other institutions;
 - (b) arrangements for the use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school, and in particular:
 - (i) the places to be commissioned by the Council and by schools in pupil referral units and other providers of alternative provision, and
 - (ii) the arrangements for paying top-up funding to pupil referral units and other providers of alternative provision;
 - (c) arrangements for insurance;
 - (d) prospective revisions to the scheme for the financing of schools;
 - (e) administrative arrangements for the allocation of central government grants paid to schools via the Council;
 - (f) arrangements for free school meals; and
 - (g) arrangements for early years provision.

- 5.5 The Council will consult the Forum on such other matters concerning the funding of schools as it sees fit and as required by government regulations.

Reports by the Forum

- 5.6 The Forum will, as soon as reasonably possible and in any event by any date specified by the Council, provide the Council with a report in writing in response to any consultation under this section 5.

Other functions

- 5.7 The Forum may commission and publish reports and research into school funding issues. The Forum may also commission or liaise with working groups on issues related to the function of the Forum.

Provision of account to schools

- 5.8 The Forum will, as soon as reasonably possible, inform the governing bodies of maintained schools of:
- (a) all consultations carried out under this section 5, and
 - (b) any reports provided by the Forum under paragraph 5.7 above.

Consultation

- 5.9 It is a responsibility of the Council to ensure there is consultation with all schools on the following issues:
- (a) changes to the School Funding Formula;
 - (b) changes to the Scheme for Financing Schools.

6 EXPENSES

Forum's Expenses

- 6.1 All expenses of the Forum will be met by the Council and charged to the schools budget.
- 6.2 The Annual Outturn Report will include as part of the overall figure:
- (a) the costs of servicing the Forum which have been charged to the schools budget for the preceding financial year;
 - (b) the costs of additional work commissioned by the Forum which has been charged to the schools' budget for the preceding financial year.

Members' Expenses

- 6.3 The Council will reimburse the reasonable travel costs of members for attendance at the Forum's meetings, following receipt of a valid claim, at its current mileage rate for attendance at in-service training activities. Such expenses will be charged to the schools budget.

Staffordshire County Council's
Schools Forum Membership

1. The Forum will normally have a maximum of thirty two (32) members (subject to paragraph 3.1 of the Constitution):
 - (a) twenty three (23) schools members; and
 - (b) nine (9) non-schools members.

2. Maintained primary, maintained secondary and academies must be broadly proportionately represented on the Forum, having regard to the total number of pupils registered at them. The Council can determine the number of members representing schools in each of the categories set out below. These should be broadly comparable to the pupil numbers in each of these categories.

The Forum's members will include the following:

(a) School Members:

- places for maintained primary schools representatives, where there are any maintained primary schools in Staffordshire, who are either a governor, headteacher or senior member of staff;
- places for maintained secondary schools representatives, where there are any maintained secondary schools in Staffordshire, who are either a governor, headteacher or senior member of staff;
- places for primary and secondary academy representatives, elected from the proprietor bodies of academies within the Council's area;
- one (1) place for a special academy representative, elected from the proprietor bodies of academies within the Council's area;
- one (1) place for a maintained special school representative, where there are any maintained special schools in Staffordshire, who are either a governor, headteacher or senior member of staff;
- one (1) place for a primary schools representative, elected from its membership by the Council's primary schools headteacher forum;
- one (1) place for a secondary schools representative, elected from its membership by the Council's secondary schools headteacher forum;
- one (1) place for a middle schools representative, elected from its membership by the Council's middle schools headteacher forum;

- one (1) place for a nursery school representative, who is either a governor, headteacher or a senior member of staff;
- one (1) place for a maintained pupil referral unit representative, where there are any maintained pupil referral units in Staffordshire, who is either a governor, headteacher or a senior member of staff;
- one (1) place for an academy pupil referral unit representative, elected from the proprietor bodies of academy pupil referral units within the Council's area.

Notes:

1. *Where at least one (1) maintained school exists in any category, at least one schools member must be a representative of that category.*
2. *A "senior member of staff" means an executive headteacher, principal, deputy headteacher, assistant headteacher, business manager or other person responsible for the financial management of the school.*
3. *Governors include interim executive members of an interim executive board.*
4. *Where they exist at least one member must be a representative of the governing bodies of maintained schools and at least one member must be a representative of the headteachers of such schools.*
5. *Proprietor in relation to an academy means the person or body of persons responsible for the management of the academy.*
6. *Middle schools are 'deemed secondary' and are included in the secondary category.*

(b) Non-school Members:

- one (1) place for a member nominated by the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education;
- one (1) place for a member nominated by the Birmingham Diocesan Schools Commission;
- one (1) place for a parent governor representative nominated by the Council's Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee;
- two (2) places for representatives of the early years PVI sector nominated by the early years sector;
- two (2) places for members nominated by the 16-19 education sector; and
- two (2) places for representatives of the schools consultative groups nominated by the branch secretaries.

The number of places will be published and updated on the Schools Forum website.

Membership
Selection, Nomination and Appointment Timetable

The school membership will be reviewed at the beginning of each term (2nd week in September, January and April) to confirm the proportions of maintained and academy school representatives are broadly comparable to the pupil numbers in each of these categories (see Appendix C). Where a vacancy occurs due to paragraphs 3.7 or 3.8 of the Constitution, the Clerk to Schools Forum will notify Entrust to undertake the selection process set out below.

- Once a vacancy arises the Clerk to Schools Forum will notify Entrust to seek applications for school members via a notice to head teachers and chairs of governing bodies requesting that the matter be raised with staff and governing bodies within 4 school working weeks.
- Applications and nominations to be received within a further 4 school working weeks. In those groups where there is more than 1 application an election will be carried out, administered by Entrust on behalf of the Council.
- Membership of nominees to be confirmed by no later than a further 2 school working weeks.
- Where one application per position is received membership will be confirmed by no later than 2 school working weeks.
- Nominations for non-schools members will be sought from the relevant bodies within 1 calendar month of the vacancy occurring.

All members are appointed and attend their first meeting as soon as possible.

Termly Review of Membership

The Schools Forum school membership will be reviewed at the beginning of each term to confirm the proportions of maintained and academy school representatives are broadly comparable to the pupil numbers in each of these categories. This is completed using the process below.

The total number of Schools Forum maintained schools and academy members is 23

The Schools Forum regulations state that, where there are any, there must be one member for each of the following: maintained nursery schools, maintained special schools, maintained PRUs, special academies and alternative provision academies. This is the case in Staffordshire. Therefore there are **5 members** from these schools and academies (1 from each type - 5 members).

This means that **18 Schools Forum school members** represent the mainstream primary and secondary schools and academies.

(Regardless of pupil numbers, where there are any in that group, there has to be at least one (1) schools member representative for maintained primary schools and maintained secondary schools.)

Using the latest school census information (example in the table below)

Phase	Maintained NOR	%	Academy NOR	%	Grand Total	%
Primary Phase	27,343	43%	35,668	57%	63,011	53%
Secondary Phase	10,026	18%	45,049	82%	55,075	47%
Grand Total	37,369	32%	80,717	68%	118,086	100%

The number of primary and secondary representative is calculated using the percentages in the final column

Number of primary members is 53% of 18 = 9.6

Rounded to the nearest whole number, **10 primary members** are required

Number of secondary members is 47% of 18 = 8.4

Rounded to the nearest whole number, **8 secondary members** are required

Staffordshire Schools Forum has members nominated from the primary, middle and secondary headteacher forums (1 from each - **3 members**).

To calculate the proportion of maintained and academy representatives for each phase the same process is completed

Number of maintained primary members is 43% of 9 = 3.9

Rounded to the nearest whole number, **4 primary maintained members**

Number of academy primary members is 57% of 9 = 5.1

Rounded to the nearest whole number, **5 primary academy members**

Number of maintained secondary members is 18% of 6 = 1.1

Rounded to the nearest whole number, **1 secondary maintained member**

Number of academy secondary members is 82% of 6 = 4.9

Rounded to the nearest whole number, **5 secondary academy members**

Based on the calculations above there would be

10 primary Schools Forum members of which:

- 1 primary school headteacher forum nomination
- 4 primary maintained school representatives
- 5 primary academy representatives

8 secondary Schools Forum members of which:

- 1 middle school headteacher forum nomination
- 1 secondary school headteacher forum nomination
- 1 secondary maintained school representative
- 5 secondary academy representatives

[Schools Forums \(England\) Regulations 2012](#)