

Early Years & Schools Forum

16 September 2021

Agenda Item: 3b

REVIEW OF FORUM MEMBERSHIP & CONSTITUTION 2021-22

1. The constitution of the Forum should be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it still meets the requirements of the Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2021 (as amended) and that the membership reflects how children are educated in Nottinghamshire.

The regulations require that:

- 1) Schools members and Academies members must together comprise at least two thirds of the membership of the forum.
- 2) 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 head teachers of such schools.
- 3) Subject to paragraphs (4) to (7), primary schools, secondary schools and Academies must be broadly proportionately represented on the forum, having regard to the total number of pupils registered at them.
- 4) Where the authority maintains one or more secondary schools, at least one schools member must be a representative of a secondary school.
- 5) Where the authority maintains one or more special schools, at least one schools member must be a representative of a special school.
- 6) Where the authority maintains one or more nursery schools, at least one schools member must be a representative of a nursery school.
- 7) Where the authority maintains one or more pupil referral units, at least one schools member must be a representative of a pupil referral unit.
- 8) An authority may determine that the number of members representing schools in a particular school category must be broadly proportionate to the total number of schools in that category when compared with the total number of schools.

2. The Early Years & Schools Forum membership was last reviewed in September 2020 in line with the Forum Constitution. The constitution is as detailed below:

School and Academy membership (based on pupil population)

- 5 maintained primary Head teachers
- 1 maintained secondary Head teacher
- 8 academy representatives
- 1 maintained special school Head Teacher
- 1 academy special school representative
- 5 governor representatives (2 maintained 2 academies and 1 special)

Non-school membership

- 1 FE representative from a Nottinghamshire College
- 2 PVI early years providers
- 2 Diocesan representatives (Catholic & Church of England)
- 2 Trade Union representatives (teaching & non-teaching)

Total membership: 28

3. This membership was based on pupil data extracted from the October 2019 census and has now been updated to reflect the latest data from the October 2020 census in the following table:

Sector	Number of	October 2019	%	Number of	October 2020	%
	Schools	Census		Schools	Census	
Primary – maintained	187	41,764	38.0	177	39,512	35.7
Secondary - maintained	1	711	0.7	1	718	0.6
Primary – academy	94	25,073	22.8	104	26,679	24.1
Secondary – academy	44	42,325	38.5	44	43,841	39.6
	326	109,873	100	326	110,750	100

- 4. The membership for maintained primary and academy members is based on a pupil population ratio and there has been a 2% shift in the number of pupils between these sectors, between the two census dates which does not affect the membership. It is recommended, therefore, that the membership remains the same as detailed in paragraph 2 for the academic year 2021/22.
- 5. There are currently two vacancies as shown in the table below:

Sector	Current Membership	Vacancies	
Maintained Primary	5	1	
Maintained Secondary	1		
Academy representatives	8	1	

Maintained Special	1	
Academy Special	1	
Governors	5	
FE representative	1	
Early Years Providers	2	
Diocesan representatives	2	
Trade Union representatives	2	
	28	2

- 6. It is recommended that the membership of the Early Years & Schools Forum for the 2021/22 academic year is as set out in paragraph 2 above.
- 7. Only one change is required to the Forum Constitution, relating to remote meetings. Remote meetings were a temporary provision which have now been changed to a permanent provision.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Forum:

- 1) Notes the content of the report.
- 2) Agrees to the membership as set out in paragraph 4 of the report.
- 3) Agrees to the change to the Constitution as set out in Appendix A, page 12

Toni Gardner
Assistant Accountant, Children & Families Finance
Chief Executive's Department

T: 01159 773487

E: toni.gardner@nottscc.gov.uk