

Walsall Council Schools Forum

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 20 June 2023 at 4.00 pm

Digital Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Schools Forum Members Present:

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| Mr M. Vlahakis | Primary Head Teacher, Cadmus Family of schools |
| Mrs A. Arnold | Primary Head Teacher, Delves Infant School |
| Mrs J. Garratt | Primary Head Teacher, Walsall Wood |
| Mr S. Davies | Primary Head Teacher, Christ Church CE (C) JMI School |
| Mrs L. Foster | Primary Governor, Short Heath Federation |
| Mr A. Seager | Secondary Academy Head Teacher, Bloxwich Academy |
| Mr J. Ludlow | Secondary Academy Head Teacher, Joseph Leckie Academy |
| Mr W. Downie | Secondary Academy Head Teacher, Streetly Academy |
| Ms M. Turley | Nursery Head Teacher, Ogley Hay Nursery |
| Mr T. Hopkins | PVI Representative |
| Mr C. Bury | Principal, The Ladder School, Alternative Provision |

Officers Present:

S. Kelly – Director of Access and Inclusion
Mr R. Walley – Technical Accounting, Treasury Management & Education Finance Manager
Mr L. Haynes – Head of Finance – Technical & Transactional
Mr N. Picken – Principal Democratic Services Officer
Mr R Thomas – Head of Access
Judith Nash – Head of Inclusion
Mr L. Cook – Assistant Democratic Services Officer

Observers Present:

Councillor M. Statham – Cabinet Portfolio holder for Education and Skills
Mr A. Orlik – C of E Diocese
Ms S. Guy (National Education Union)
Secretary Teachers Union was also present

| | | Action |
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| 1. 20.06.23 | <p>Welcome</p> <p>The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and explaining and rules of procedure and legal context in which the meeting was being held. He also directed members of the public viewing the meeting to the papers, which could be found on the Council's Committee Management Information System (CMIS) webpage.</p> <p>A roll call was taken of those members present who confirmed they could both see and hear the proceedings.</p> | |
| 2. 20.06.23 | <p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mrs Draper, Mr Fox, Mr Moody, Mr Smith and Mr Fraser.</p> | Noted |
| 3. 20.06.23 | <p>Minutes</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th March, 2023 were approved as a true and correct record.</p> | |
| 4. 20.06.23 | <p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of 7th March 2023</p> <p>None.</p> | Noted |
| 5. 20.06.23 | <p>Late Item/s (urgent) to be introduced by the Chair</p> <p>The Principal Democratic Services Officer explained that Independent Exclusion Review training would be available in the new academic year. He welcomed expressions of interest from Members of Schools Forum and advised that he would circulate details in due course.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the Principal Democratic Services Officer circulates details of the training to members of Schools Forum.</p> | |
| 6. 20.06.23 | <p>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)</p> <p>There were no items for consideration in the private session.</p> | |

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| <p>7. 20.06.23</p> | <p>Review of Schools Forum Membership</p> <p>A report was submitted: -</p> <p>(See annexed)</p> <p>The Principal Democratic Services Officer provided an overview of the content of the report.</p> <p>The Forum considered the recommendations of how to proceed with membership sizes and to extend the existing membership for a period of a year.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That membership of all serving members be extended for a period of 1 year until June 2024. 2. That membership be amended by reducing maintained primary membership representation by 1 and increasing primary academy representation by 1. | |
| <p>8. 20.06.23</p> | <p>Schools Forum Annual Report</p> <p>A copy of the Annual Report of the Principal Democratic Services Officer, covering the period 23 July 2023 to 7 March 2023, was submitted:-</p> <p>(see annexed).</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the Annual Report be noted.</p> | <p>Noted</p> |
| <p>9. 20.06.23</p> | <p>School Improvement Working Group</p> <p>The Chair discussed the Priority Education Investment Area (PEIA), a group that focuses on targeting funding in maths and English for Key Stage 2, Key Stage 4 and metacognition.</p> <p>The Director of Access and Inclusion provided an update regarding the launch event of the PEIA and advised that there was a partnership board meeting scheduled for the 21st June 2023, to discuss targeted schools.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the update be noted.</p> | <p>Updated</p> |

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| <p>10. 20.06.23</p> | <p>Dates for 2023/24 Meetings</p> <p>The Forum considered a report of the Principal Democratic Services Officer (annexed)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the Schools Forum agrees to hold its meetings on the following dates at 4.00pm:</p> <p>2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 25 September • Tuesday 17 October • Monday 18 December <p>2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 16 January • Tuesday 5 March • Tuesday 18 June | |
| <p>11. 20.6.23</p> | <p>Correspondence</p> <p>Mr Baker had notified the clerk that he would not be seeking re-election once his term of office expired.</p> <p>Mr Hopkins confirmed that, due to the closure of the setting, he would be unable to assist Schools Forum.</p> <p>Mrs Boys had written to confirm that she was taking up a new role in Wolverhampton and so would no longer be eligible to serve on Schools Forum.</p> <p>Lesley Foster advised the Forum that she was no longer a maintained primary governor but would continue on Schools Forum as a special school governor, if appointed.</p> | |
| <p>12. 20.6.23</p> | <p>Forward Plan</p> <p>A copy of the Forward Plan was submitted (annexed)</p> <p>The Technical Accounting, Treasury Management & Education Finance Manager noted that due to an increase in early years funding for 2023/24 in the Autumn term, a further update would be provided in October 2023.</p> <p>Resolved</p> | <p>Noted</p> |

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| | That Early Years Funding be added to the work programme for October, 2023. | |
| 13. 20.6.23 | Late Items There were no late items for consideration. | |
| 14. 20.6.23 | Date of Future Meeting The next meeting of the Schools Forum is scheduled for Monday, 25 September 2023 at 4:00pm | |

The meeting terminated at 4:42pm.

Signed

Date