

## ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS' FORUM

**Date and Time:-** Friday 28 March 2025 at 8.30 a.m.

**Venue:-** Rockingham Professional Development Centre,  
Roughwood Road, Rotherham. S61 4HY

The items which will be discussed are described on the agenda below and there are reports attached which give more details.

### AGENDA

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Welcome by the Chair and introductions by all Forum Members present.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies from any Forum Member who are unable to attend the meeting.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

To invite Forum Members to declare any interests they may have on agenda items to be considered at this meeting, to confirm the nature of those interests and whether they intend to leave the meeting for the consideration of the item.

**4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 12)**

Recommendation:- To receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025

**5. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

To consider and report on any matters arising from the previous minutes:-

**6. Membership and Constitution of the Rotherham Schools Forum (Standing Item)**

To consider any updates or amendments to the membership of the Schools Forum following a review of membership arrangements.

Based on the School Sector Breakdown to include:-

- John Barnett, Primary School Headteacher (Maintained) (filling a vacancy).
- Kate Blythe, Primary School Headteacher (Maintained) (filling a

vacancy).

- Paul Higginbottom, Primary Academy Representative (filling a vacancy).
- Carol Brookes as Substitute for Lisa McCall (Secondary Academy Representative)

and remove:-

- Phil Davies, Secondary Academy Representative
- David Sutton, Academy Governor Representative

**Recommendation:**

To consider and approve the amendments/updates to the membership of the Rotherham Schools Forum.

**7. Dedicated School Grant (DSG) and Schools Budgets 2024-25 Latest Position (Pages 13 - 18)**

Head of Finance (CYPS) and Principal Finance Officer (CYPS) to report.

**Recommendations:**

1. That Schools Forum note the latest published DSG funding for schools for the 2024/25 financial year.
2. That Schools Forum note the financial positions of Rotherham's maintained schools and the identified financial risks against the schools DSG budgets for the year.

**8. High Needs Budget and Funding Arrangements 2024/25 (Pages 19 - 29)**

Head of Finance (CYPS) and Principal Finance Officer (CYPS) to report.

**Recommendations:**

1. That Schools Forum note the High Needs funding settlement for 2025/26.
2. That Schools Forum note the proposed funding requirements for 2025/26, particularly in relation to the number of commissioned specialist places and the payment of top up funding to mainstream, special schools /academies, and other providers and settings.

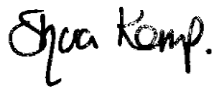
**9. Schools Forum Forward Plan (Pages 31 - 32)**

To consider the attached Forward Plan of agenda items and receive any updates.

**10. Any Other Business**

To receive any other items of urgent business.

**The next meeting of the Rotherham Schools Forum will  
be held on Friday 13 June 2025  
commencing at 8.30 a.m.  
in Rockingham Professional Development Centre.**



**SHARON KEMP OBE,  
Chief Executive.**