

## **ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS' FORUM**

**Date and Time:-** **Friday 13 June 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 Members 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 - 8)**

**Recommendation:-** To receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 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.

Based on the School Sector Breakdown to include:-

- Councillor Simon Currie, Primary School Governor (Maintained) (filling a vacancy).
- Mehdi Najafi, Primary School Governor (Maintained) (filling a vacancy).

**Recommendation:**

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

**7. Schools Budget - 2024-25 Outturn and 2025-26 Latest Update (Pages 9 - 17)**

Louise Keith, Principal Finance Officer to report.

**Recommendations:**

1. That the Schools Forum note the final reported position for LA maintained schools and the centrally retained DSG budgets for 2024/25.
2. That Schools Forum note the latest budget projections of Rotherham's maintained schools for 2025/26 and the identified financial risks against the schools DSG budgets.

**8. Scheme for Financing Schools Update (Pages 19 - 55)**

Louise Keith, Principal Finance Officer to report.

**Recommendations:**

1. That Schools Forum note the updates to the Scheme for Financing Schools sections highlighted in yellow.
2. That Schools Forum note the DfE's latest version, updated 27 March 2025.
3. That the Schools Forum agree for the Updated Scheme for Financing Schools to be disseminated to schools.

**9. High Needs Budget and Funding Arrangements 2025/26 (Pages 57 - 67)**

Joshua Amahwe, Head of Finance (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.

**10. SEND Sufficiency Strategy - Annual Update (Pages 69 - 73)**

Mark Cummins, Transformation Lead to report.

**Recommendations:**

That Members of Schools Forum receive and note the update.

**11. Schools Forum Forward Plan (Pages 75 - 76)**

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

**12. Any Other Business**

To receive any other items of urgent business.

**The next meeting of the Rotherham Schools Forum will  
be held on Friday 12 September 2025  
commencing at 8.30 a.m.  
in Rockingham Professional Development Centre.**

*Sharon Kemp.*

SHARON KEMP OBE,  
Chief Executive.