

AQUINAS ADVISORY COUNCILS

APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE

Members of an Aquinas Advisory Council (AAC) form an integral part of the governance structure of the Trust. Members of AACs have vital roles as they provide Headteachers with the necessary support and expertise, and at times are simply a sounding board, enabling Headteachers and their leadership teams to continue to provide the very best for the children and young people in our care.

The Trust Board has determined that AACs will consist of:-

- Two parent members, elected;
- One staff member, elected; and
- Six members appointed by the Trust for their relevant expertise and ability to advise.

Appointment of parent AAC members - The parent members of the AAC shall be elected by parents or carers of registered children/students at the Academy and s/he must be a parent or carer of a student at the Academy at the time when s/he is elected. Any election of persons who are to be the parent members of the Aquinas Advisory Council which is contested shall be held by secret ballot. Appointments are for four years.

Appointment of staff AAC member - The staff member of the AAC shall be elected by the staff of the Academy. Any election of a person who is to be the staff member of the Aquinas Advisory Council which is contested shall be held by secret ballot. Appointments are for four years.

Appointment of Non-Elected Members - AAC members are appointed by reference to the skills and experience they bring to the role, and/or their willingness to undertake development training to both execute and expand their governance practice. Applications will be considered from any applicant who meets the criteria as outlined in the 'Member of an Aquinas Advisory Council' document.

Process - Following the initial series of appointments to academy councils for September 1st 2016; the Trust will identify a vacancy and determine a desired skill set/expertise for the role by reference to an audit of skills of the individual AAC.

The vacancy may be posted on the Trust website together with details of the expertise required. There is a common application form for all AAC member appointments.

What happens next?

- At each meeting of Trustees, applications to join an AAC that have been received will be reviewed and appointments made.
- The Trustees will appoint you to one of the AACs you have expressed an interest in joining. On occasion, you may be asked to consider another Academy in order to address a skills gap or to strengthen the knowledge base within the AAC.
- Following approval of your application, you will join the AAC (new members only - subject to satisfactory DBS clearance).
- We will contact you by letter to inform you of the Trustee's decision.
- If your application is not successful and the Trustees do not appoint you, we will contact you by letter to inform you of the decision.