SOUTH SUFFOLK
LEARNING TRUST

Notes for applicants to the role of trust appointed AC members

The composition of the AC detailing the number of trust appointed AC members is set out in the Scheme of Delegation and Terms of Reference for ACs.

A Trust Appointed AC member will have a term of office of four years.

Any AC member may resign at any time during their period of office.

Employees of the trust will not be appointed as Trust Appointed AC members.

A parent/carer can apply to be a Trust Appointed AC member.

All AC members (including Trust Appointed AC members) must apply for an Enhanced DBS check within 21 days of their appointment. Full details of the procedure will be provided by the HR Team. Failure to apply for an Enhanced DBS check within 21 days will result in the AC member being removed from the AC.

Grounds for disqualification

General grounds

- Registered pupils at Trust schools cannot be AC members.
- AC members must be aged 18 or over at the time of election or appointment.
- A person cannot hold more than one AC member post at the same school at the same time but can serve on the AC of two schools.

Grounds that arise because of particular failings or actions on the part of the AC member

- A person is disqualified from being an AC member of a particular school if they have failed to attend the meetings of the AC of that school for a continuous period of six months, beginning with the date of the first meeting they failed to attend, without the consent of the AC. This does not apply to the headteacher.

- A person is disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office if that person:
    - is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order, debt relief restrictions order, an interim debt relief restrictions order or their estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;

- is subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986; a disqualification order under the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 2002; a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002; or an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order)

- has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement, or under section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body

- has been removed from office as an elected AC member within the last five years

- is included in the list of teachers or workers considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children or young people

- is barred from any regulated activity relating to children

- is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008

- is disqualified from working with children or from registering for child-minding or providing day care

- is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State

- subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has been sentenced to three months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the five years ending with the date preceding the date of appointment/election as an AC member or since becoming an AC member

- subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has received a prison sentence of two and a half years or more in the 20 years ending with the date preceding the date of appointment/election as an AC member

- subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more

- has been convicted and fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school or educational premises during the five years ending with the date immediately preceding appointment/election or since appointment or election as an AC member

- refuses a request by the governance manager to make an application to the Disclosure and Barring Service for a criminal records certificate.

Anyone proposed or serving as an AC member who is disqualified for one of these reasons must notify the chair of the AC.