

Notice of Schools Forum



Date: Monday, 24 November 2025 at 10.00 am

Venue: Royal Hampshire Committee Room, BCP Civic Centre, Bournemouth
BH2 6DY / Via MS Teams

Membership:

Chairman:

Geoff Cherrill	Maintained Special
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Vice-Chairman:

Patrick Earnshaw	Academies – Secondary
Kate Carter	Academies - Primary
Esther Curry	Academies - Primary
Chris Jackson	Academies - Primary
Chris Moody	Academies - Primary
Sean Preston	Academies - Primary
Heather Spring	Academies - Primary
Vacancy	Academies - Primary
Mark Avoth	Academies - Secondary
Sian Phillips	Academies - Secondary
Michelle Dyer	Academies - Secondary
James Sankey	Academies - Secondary
Matthew Woodville	Academies - Secondary
Vacancy	Academies - Secondary
Sarah McCurrie	Special Academies
Ben Doyle	All Through Academies
Russell Arnold	Alternative Provision Academy
Chris Barnett	Maintained Secondary
Phillip Gavin	Mainstream PRU
Vicky Peters	Early Years
Linda Duly	Early Years
Vacancy	Catholic Diocese
Richard Wharton	C of E Diocese Representative

All Members of the Schools Forum are summoned to attend this remote meeting to consider the items of business set out on the agenda below.

The press and public are welcome to attend this remote meeting and should email any request to do so to the meeting contact below, and a meeting invite will be sent.

<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=6263>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Claire Johnston on 01202 096660 or email democratic.services@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 118686 or email press.office@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

AIDAN DUNN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

14 November 2025

DEBATE
NOT HATE



Available online and
on the Mod.gov app

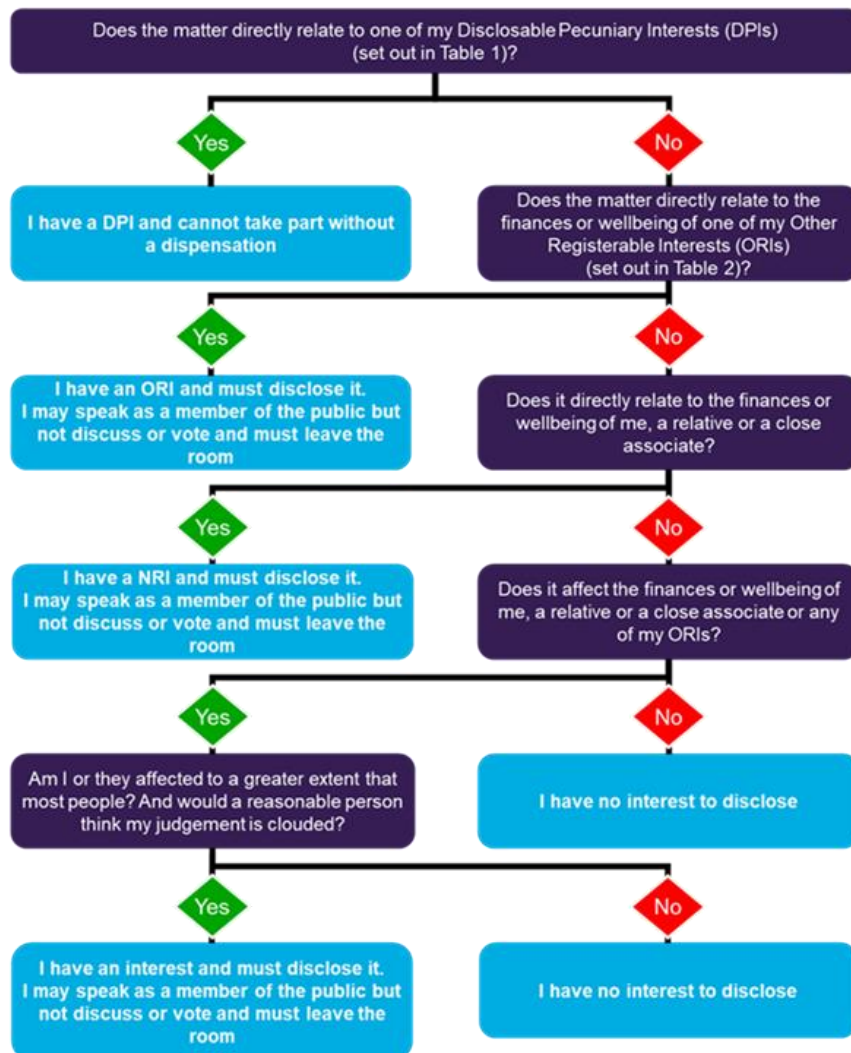


Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

Declaring interests at meetings

Familiarise yourself with the Councillor Code of Conduct which can be found in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

Before the meeting, read the agenda and reports to see if the matters to be discussed at the meeting concern your interests



What are the principles of bias and pre-determination and how do they affect my participation in the meeting?

Bias and predetermination are common law concepts. If they affect you, your participation in the meeting may call into question the decision arrived at on the item.

Bias Test

In all the circumstances, would it lead a fair minded and informed observer to conclude that there was a real possibility or a real danger that the decision maker was biased?

Predetermination Test

At the time of making the decision, did the decision maker have a closed mind?

If a councillor appears to be biased or to have predetermined their decision, they must NOT participate in the meeting.

For more information or advice please contact the Monitoring Officer

Selflessness

Councillors should act solely in terms of the public interest

Integrity

Councillors must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships

Objectivity

Councillors must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias

Accountability

Councillors are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this

Openness

Councillors should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing

Honesty & Integrity

Councillors should act with honesty and integrity and should not place themselves in situations where their honesty and integrity may be questioned

Leadership

Councillors should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs

AGENDA

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare any interests on items included in this agenda. Please refer to the workflow on the preceding page for guidance. Declarations received will be reported at the meeting.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 29 September 2025, as a correct record.

5 - 8

4. Schools Forum Reconstitution

Verbal
Report

5. Finance Update - Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2025-26 Budget Monitoring at Quarter Two

9 - 16

The 2025-26 quarter two budget monitoring position for the DSG being reported to the council's Cabinet on 26 November is a projected increase in the high needs annual funding gap from the budgeted gap of £57.5m to a year end projection of almost £72m. This reflects higher than expected growth in demand in the later months of the last financial year, with this unabated and with a significant increase in average costs of provision. Other DSG budgets for 2025-26 are forecast to be balanced.

The cumulative deficit on 31 March 2026 is projected to be £183m

6. Early Years Single Funding Formula 2026-27 - Set a date for February meeting

Verbal
Report

7. Update on Resource Allocation

Verbal
Report

8. Update on Place Sufficiency

17 - 34

This report provides an overview of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Sufficiency Strategy 2024-2026. The SEND Sufficiency Strategy is a key part of the Council's work to deliver a sustainable and stable system, working in partnership to ensure that the needs of children and young people are met, without escalating costs, and supporting delivery of the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Recovery Plan. The strategy is based on updated SEND projections presented in this year's annual school capacity return.

Given the scale of our immediate challenge, the SEND Sufficiency Strategy describes the actions we have been taking to respond to pressures in the system over a 2-year period. Details of our progress are contained in this report together with a summary of the key themes and strands of work that will be

incorporated in an updated SEND and Alternative Provision Sufficiency Strategy that is being developed for publication in May 2026.

9. Any Other Business

To consider any other business, which, in the opinion of the Chairman, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.

10. Forward Plan

To consider and note the Forward Plan

35 - 36

11. Dates of Future Meetings

To note the future meeting dates as follows:

- 19 January 2026
- 22 June 2026
- 21 September 2026
- 16 November 2026

No other items of business can be considered unless the Chairman decides the matter is urgent for reasons that must be specified and recorded in the Minutes.