

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN	WARDS: All
REPORT TITLE Appointment of a co-opted member and updates on co-opted membership for the Children, Schools and Families Scrutiny Committee	
REPORT OF Executive Director Children and Learning	
FOR SUBMISSION TO Children, Schools and Families Scrutiny Committee	DATE 10 November 2025
SUMMARY OF REPORT This report asks the Committee to agree a co-opted member appointment and to note other co-opted member updates. Local Government Act 1972 – Access to Information No documents that require listing have been used in the preparation of this report. Contact Officer: Anoushka Clayton-Walshe, Principal Democratic Services Officer Camden Town Hall, Judd St, London, WC1H 9JE Anoushka.Clayton-Walshe@camden.gov.uk / 020 7974 8543	
RECOMMENDATIONS That the Committee <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) agree the appointment of Jules Belton as the Church of England representative on the Committee (set out in section 3); and 2) note the three parent governor representative vacancies on the Committee (as set out in section 4) and note that a further report will be brought to the Committee once elections have been held to fill these vacancies. 	

Signed: 

Rashida Baig, Director of Children's Prevention, Family Help and Safeguarding Date:

28th October 2025

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval to formally appoint Jules Belton as the Church of England representative on the Committee, following nomination by the London Diocesan Board for Schools. The report also updates the Committee on other co-opted member changes.

2. Background to the report

- 2.1 The Local Government Act 2000 requires that where a local authority is responsible for education functions, any overview and scrutiny committee that considers those functions must include at least one co-opted Church of England representative, at least one co-opted Roman Catholic representative, and between two and five co-opted parent governor representatives. These co-optees have voting rights when the scrutiny committee is considering education matters. They may not vote of any other matters considered by the committee but may participate fully in the discussions.
- 2.2 Camden Council's Constitution details the education representative co-opted member positions on the Children, Schools and Families Scrutiny Committee, specifying with the following voting representatives:
- i) at least one Church of England diocese representative;
 - ii) at least one Roman Catholic diocese representative;
 - iii) up to 3 parent governor representatives;

3 Church of England vacancy

- 3.1 The Church of England position has been vacant since July 2024. The London Diocesan Board for Schools has now nominated Jules Belton, Headteacher of St Mary and St Pancras Church of England Primary School in Camden. The Committee is therefore asked to agree the appointment to confirm Jules Belton as a formal member of the Committee.
- 3.2 The term of office of diocese representatives is not prescribed.

4. Parent governor vacancies

4.1 Primary vacancy

The previous primary phase co-optee, Sarah Jafri, has been unable to attend a meeting of the Committee for more than six months and has not given apologies in that time. Under the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001 she has therefore ceased to be a member of the committee.

4.2 Secondary vacancy

The previous secondary phase co-optee, Dr Rachel Wrangham, is no longer a parent governor and therefore under the Parent Governor Representatives

(England) Regulations 2001 is no longer eligible to be a member of the committee.

4.3 Special schools and mainstream schools with Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP)

The third parent governor co-optee position has historically been filled by a parent governor from a special school. However, officers have been unable to fill this vacancy for several years and the position has remained vacant. It is therefore intended to widen the scope of this position to include parent governors from mainstream schools that have ARP. ARPs are designated specialist provisions within mainstream schools that provide targeted support for pupils with particular types of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). They enable pupils to access mainstream education while receiving additional specialist support.

4.4 Governor Services has been notified and is in the process of organising elections to these vacancies.

4.5 The term of office for parent governor representatives is between two and four years as the authority shall determine as prescribed by regulation 8 of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001. There is no statutory limit on the number of consecutive terms, provided the representative remains eligible.

5. Comments of the Director of Finance

The Director of Finance has been consulted and has no comments to add

6. Legal Comments of the Borough Solicitor

The diocese representatives are nominated under the Local Government Act 2000.

Under Regulation 3 of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001/478 a Council must appoint at least 2 but no more than 5 parent governor representatives to the scrutiny committee. These appointments occur after an election has taken place.

A parent governor representative ceases to be qualified to be a member of the committee if they fail to attend the meetings of the committee for a continuous period of 6 months starting on the date of a meeting and no apologies have been tendered and accepted by the committee under regulation 7.

Where there is a vacancy for a parent governor representative the election should be held to allow the vacancy to be filled not later than six months after the date the vacancy occurred.

7. Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

REPORT ENDS