Outwood Grange Academies Trust

Fact Sheet – Becoming a Parent/Carer Member of an Academy Council

1. Background on the role

Outwood Grange Academies Trust was established to advance education in the UK for the public benefit, in particular by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing Outwood Grange Academy and all other academies in our family of schools in pursuance of these aims. The Board of Directors is responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Trust by the use of results and budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The Board relies heavily on each Academy's Academy Council as an advisory committee to ensure that it has all the information it needs to make key decisions. Certain statutory functions are dealt with at Local Academy Council level and the Board may also delegate certain decisions to an Academy Council where local decision making is required.

2. What is required of a Parent/Carer Member

Members of the Trust's Academy Councils have a key role to play in advising on many aspects of their Academy including curriculum, staffing and finances. As a Parent/Carer Member you would provide a key link between the Academy and parents/carers. You would be expected to attend at least one meeting every six months, take an active interest in the Academy and its students and help to positively promote the parental view at meetings.

You would be expected to support the Trust in achieving its objectives and would be required to comply with any rules and regulations made by the Board from time to time relating to the membership, constitution, terms of reference and proceedings of the Academy Council. By agreeing to be a Parent/Carer Member you would also be agreeing to keep confidential any information obtained in the course of being a Parent/Carer Member which is confidential in nature.

3. Restrictions on who can serve as a Parent/Carer Member

To become a Parent/Carer Member of an Academy Council you must be the parent/carer of a student registered at the Academy at the time of appointment. No special qualifications are required, but you must be 18 or over on the date when you are elected or appointed. Enthusiasm, commitment and an interest in education are the most important qualities.

By becoming a Parent/Carer Member of an Academy Council you will be agreeing to :

(a) Support the Trust and its academies in achieving its objectives of advancing education in the United Kingdom for the public benefit.
(b) Help the Trust to maintain, carry on, manage and develop the Academy.
(c) Comply with any rules and regulations made by the Board from time to time in respect of the Academy Council.
(d) Keep confidential any information obtained in the course of being a Parent/Carer Member which is confidential in nature.
(e) Be subject to the Trust's vetting procedures relating to members of the Academy Councils and acknowledge that this will involve an enhanced DBS check.

You may not stand or continue as a member of an Academy Council if you would, in doing so, breach the Trust's "Regulations Applying to Potential and Current Members of Academy Councils" (current copy attached).

4. Duration of Office

If elected as a Parent/Carer Member of an Academy Council, you would have a maximum term of office of two years, but may be required to retire from this role prior to the end of this two year period if:

(a) You breach any of the rules and regulations imposed by the Board of Directors.
(b) Your child ceases to be a registered student at the Academy; or
(c) You cease to satisfy any of the above requirements.