

Academy Council - Statutory Information – 2025 2026

1. **Name of Academy Council:** Walton Hall Academy

2. **Academy Council:**

Councillor	Number	Current Vacancies
Community	4	0
Parent	2	1
Staff (non-teaching/teaching)	2	0
Principal	1	0
Total	9	0

The Academy Council is composed of 8 councillors as listed above. The term of office for academy councillors of all categories is four years (with the exception of the Principal).

The Academy Council meets at least once a term.

Meetings are at least once a term and in addition there are committees that only meet when the need arises.

The Academy Council works very closely with the Principal in a positive and highly effective partnership. The Principal is the professional leader and chief executive of the school. They are responsible for the organisation, direction and management of the school, the leadership of staff and for all the activities, academic or otherwise, of the school.

The Academy Council at Walton Hall Academy has a vital role to play in making sure that each of its students receives the best possible education. In particular the Academy Council:

Sets the school's vision and strategic aims, agreeing plans and policies, and making creative use of resources.

Monitors and evaluates performance, acting as a critical friend to the Principal to support and challenge them in managing the school;

Ensures that the school is accountable to the children and parents it serves, to its local community, the local authority, as well as to the staff it employs;

Oversees the financial performance of the school and makes sure its money is well spent.

Monitoring and evaluating the progress the school is making towards achievement of its aims and objectives.

The Academy Council also carries out a number of other important duties, which include:

- Appointing and dismissing of staff.
- Hearing appeals and grievances.
- Setting standards for pupils' behaviour and discipline.
- Making sure school buildings are welcoming and safe.
- Setting and monitoring the school's aims and policies.

Being an academy counsellor means giving time, energy and commitment. The role of a school academy counsellor is a voluntary position that is much valued within the education system. It is a position of importance and trust.

Name	Category	Date of Appointment	Term of Office	Appointed by
Mitchell Gosling	Community Council Chair	26/11/2021	4 Years	Appointed by Academy Council
Julie Wood	Principal	20/09/2016		Co-opted
Laura Paget	Vice Principal	02/09/2020		Co-opted
Nicki Hemmings	Support Staff representative	08/12/2025	4 Years	Appointed by Academy Council
Elizabeth Pohl	Community Councillor	23/10/2024	4 Years	Appointed by Academy Council
Ellie Wheeldon	Teaching Staff representative	07/04/2025	4 Years	Appointed by Academy Council
Keith Winstanley	Community Councillor	24/04/2024	4 Years	Appointed by Academy Council
Joanne Service	Parent Governor	24/11/2025	4 Years	Appointed by Academy Council
Katy Dixey	Parent Governor	30/11/2024	4 Years	Appointed by Academy Council
Lindsey Webb	Community Councillor Vice Chair	04/03/2025	4 Years	Appointed by Academy Council
Beth Barlow	SET representative			

Role	Name
AC Chair:	Mitchell Gosling
AC Vice Chair:	Lyndsay Webb
Clerk to Academy Council:	Angela Lunn
<u>Link Councillors</u>	
Safeguarding	Elizabeth Pohl
Teaching and Learning	Mitchell Gosling
Residence	Kate Dixey
Health and Safety	Keith Winstanley
Pupil Premium	Lindsey Webb
PFA	Jo Service
Curriculum	Mitchell Gosling

3. Committee Structure

Terms of reference for all committees are available on request from the Clerk to Academy Council at the school.

Sub Committees:

Academy Councillor	School Academy Meeting (Chair – M. Gosling)
Mitchell Gosling (Chair)	✓
Keith Winstanley	✓
Julie Wood	✓
Laura Paget	✓
Elizabeth Pohl	✓
Lindsay Webb (Vice)	✓
Nicki Hemmings	✓
Katy Dixey	✓
Joanne Service	✓
Ellie Wheeldon	✓
Beth Barlow	

4. Register of Pecuniary Interests 2025 - 26

Academy Councillor	Details of Business Interest	Details of Personal Interest	Governance Role in other educational institution
Mitchell Gosling	Nil	Nil	Nil
Julie Wood	Nil	Nil	Nil
Laura Paget	Nil	Nil	Nil
Elizabeth Pohl	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ellie Wheeldon	Nil	Nil	Nil
Lindsay Webb	Nil	Nil	Nil
Keith Winstanley	Nil	Deputy chairman of an authority	Nil
Joanne Service	Nil	Parent	Nil
Nicki Hemmings	Nil	Nil	Nil
Katy Dixey	Nil	Parent	Nil
Beth Barlow	Nil	Nil	Nil

5. Attendance Record

Academy Council Meetings September 2025 to July 2026

Name	Term of Office Start Date	Sub- committee member	School Academy meetings			
			24 September 2025	25 November 2025	3 March 2026	9 June 2026
Julie Wood (Principal)	20/09/16	Academy Council	✓	✓		
Mitchell Gosling (Chair)	27/02/18	Academy Council	✓	✓		
Laura Paget (Vice Principal)	01/09/20	Academy Council	N/R	N/R		
Elizabeth Pohl	24/09/20	Academy Council	✓	✓		
Lindsey Webb	04/03/25	Academy Council	✓	✓		
Keith Winstanley	24/04/24	Academy Council	Apologies	Non Attendance		
Ellie Wheeldon	07/04/25	Academy Council	✓	✓		
Nicki Hemmings	08/12/25	Academy Council	*****	*****		
Katy Dixey	30/10/24	Academy Council	Apologies	✓		
Joanne Service	24/11/25	Academy Council	*****	✓		
Chris Castell Boote	N/A	Academy Council	N/A	N/A		
Vas Stamatelatos	N/A	Academy Council	✓	✓		
Beth Barlow	N/A	SET	N/R			

Walton Hall Academy Council meetings 2025 2026

Walton Hall Academy Council meetings 2025 2026			
School Academy Meeting	Wednesday 24 September 2025	3pm to 5pm	TEAMS or face to face
	Tuesday 25 November 2025	3pm to 5pm	
	Tuesday 3 rd March 2026	3pm to 5pm	
	Tuesday 9 th June 2026	3pm to 5pm	