

Community Members in a School Association

A simple guide

What is a community member?

A community member is someone who:

- Is not a current parent or staff member at the school
- Wants to be involved and support the school

This could be:

- Past parents
- Grandparents
- Local community members
- Local business or service representatives

A community member has the same rights as a parent or staff member who is not on the committee.

How do they become a community member?

It's a simple process:

1. They are nominated
 - Two existing School Association members must nominate them
2. They agree (in writing)
 - They sign to say they are happy to be involved
3. The Committee decides
 - The School Association Committee must approve the nomination A copy of a paper community appointment form is available here: [form](#)

Once approved, they become a member of the School Association.

How long do they stay?

- Usually up to 3 years
- Can be extended if everyone agrees community member should be recorded on a register: [example register](#)

To be on the Committee, a community member must:

- Already be an approved member of the School Association
- Be selected through the Committee's process (the process may vary committee to committee)

This may involve:

- An election, or
- Appointment to fill a vacancy

A community representative can hold an officer bearer position on the Committee. Being a community member does not automatically mean being on the Committee - it is a separate step.

What can community members do?

Once approved, they:

- Are full members of the School Association
- Can attend meetings
- Can vote at a general meeting

Community members can also be part of the School Association Committee, but this is optional.

The Committee may decide to include community representation as part of its membership.

Community members on the Committee bring an additional community perspective to decision-making.

