



INDEPENDENT ACADEMIES ASSOCIATION
the voice of academies

A GUIDE TO THE IAA 2011/12



iaa.uk.net

WELCOME TO THE IAA

Who are we and what do we do?

The Independent Academies Association (IAA) is the national representative membership organisation for leaders of academies and other state-funded independent schools.

We are a non-partisan organisation committed to supporting our members in the advancement of the education and life chances of all students in their care. An acknowledged and respected national body, we are 'the voice of academies', run by and on behalf of our membership. We play a leading role in the development of the wider academy movement, providing help, support and advice to existing, new and converting academies. We are the only independent organisation dedicated to supporting academies and have a track record of over 20 year's experience in providing leadership to state-funded independent schools. We are regularly consulted by government and opposition on matters relating to educational policy. Our Board of Directors is elected from highly experienced Academy Principals, Executive Principals and Chairs of Governors. We hold meetings three times a year with the Minister who holds the Academies portfolio, and interim meetings with senior civil servants, in order to represent members' views to government. In this key lobbying role, we work to secure amendments to Education Bills and other relevant legislation and respond to government consultations on a range of issues, stating the case for academies.

Membership of the IAA offers exceptional networking opportunities and provides a support mechanism for member academies, enabling problems and challenges to be discussed and best practice solutions to be identified. Central to the widening calendar of events are two major conferences a year that are held in October and February for both members and non-members. Additional themed member-only events are held at other times of the year. A regular new-style email newsletter and our website keep members up-to-date with IAA activity and events.

Who should join us?

If you are a Principal, Executive Principal, Principal Designate or Chair of Governors, the IAA is *your* association. We welcome all state-funded independent schools, including Academies, Studio Schools, University Technical Colleges (Technical Academies) and Free Schools. Finance Directors of member academies are also affiliated to the association through the FDs' Forum.

Membership benefits

Membership offers unequalled networking opportunities, enabling mutual support and the exchange of ideas amongst professionals with a passionate commitment to the academy movement. By participating fully as a member you will also be part of a powerful lobbying organisation that helps to shape government policy. A new micro-site linked to our website will give up-to-date details of the current member benefits package.

Current benefits include:

- Access to first-class networking opportunities
- Representation to senior civil servants and Ministers
- Support of IAA Board and national membership
- Preferential rates at IAA conferences, which provide stimulating content presented by leaders in education and the opportunity to participate in high quality topical debates
- Access to member-only events
- Access to the members-only section of our website (www.iaa.uk.net)
- Regular newsletters and updates on policy developments and new legislation affecting academies
- A day's free consultancy from an experienced Academy Principal (*for new members only*)
- Access to initial free legal advice and guidance, plus access to ongoing discounted rates
- Access to preferential rates for a variety of goods and services including: recruitment, organisation of student expeditions, IT equipment/support
- Support with professional development, talent identification, leadership development and capacity building
- Selected free, partner provided, training courses
- Access to IAA exclusive framework agreements with hand-picked partners in key areas of academy procurement such as ICT and CPD

The cost of membership

The association is funded through subscription by member academies. Contributions are made on an annual basis at a rate decided at the AGM. The annual membership fee is now £750. New corporate rates are also available to chains/groups of academies. We also offer discounted rates for smaller schools and to academies who commit to longer periods of membership. All rates are subject to ratification at the AGM. Please contact us for details.



Our Values

All our work is accompanied by a strong sense of moral purpose and underpinned by a firm belief in the following specific commitments, endorsed by Lord Adonis in 2007:

- Making use of our independence for the benefit of the communities we serve
- Maximising the achievement, attainment and progress of all members of our learning communities
- Finding new ways to raise educational standards through our own innovative developments and by taking the best from wherever we find it
- Advancing education for the public good by being outward looking, acting collaboratively and contributing to widespread system leadership
- Working with partners and our sponsors to extend the horizons and ambitions of our community
- Measuring and analysing our progress in a variety of ways to ensure constant improvement
- Upholding these commitments in our work as individual schools and as members of the Independent Academies Association.

“What our members say”

I have found IAA membership invaluable for two reasons:

Firstly, it is an excellent professional network for discussing, and providing mutual support for, the issues we face - specifically the need to raise standards as quickly as possible in very challenging circumstances.

Secondly, the IAA is becoming an increasingly powerful lobbying voice with the Government, which recognises us as the main body representing the interests of academies. This gives us an opportunity to influence policy along the lines of our students' best interests

Andrew Chubb

Principal, Archbishop Sentamu Academy

At The Samworth Church Academy we are delighted to be members of the IAA. We get access to a national network of knowledge, first class experience, positive attitudes and high class events. We have benefited from a great professional stimulus, as well as working with people who share our attitudes and values and very importantly are fun to work with.

Mike Griffiths

Principal, The Samworth Church Academy

I have found the collaborative support and advice from my colleagues in the IAA to be invaluable - and given unstintingly. Whatever the issue, the problem or the situation - there is someone to share it with and help you find a solution.

The professional respect and interest given to the IAA views and suggestions by ministers and other education leaders is testament to the experience and quality of its members and their representatives.

Monica Cross

Principal, St Matthew Academy



Our partners

We continue to build on existing strategic partnerships and establish new mutually beneficial relationships with a range of partner organisations for the benefit of our members, the association and the wider academy movement.

Lead sponsors

TOSHIBA

XMA

Current strategic and commercial partners

FASNA

(Foundation, Aided Schools and Academies National Association) – Memorandum of Understanding in place

National College

Memorandum of Understanding in place

SSAT

(Specialist Schools and Academies Trust)
Memorandum of Understanding under discussion

Finance Directors' Forum

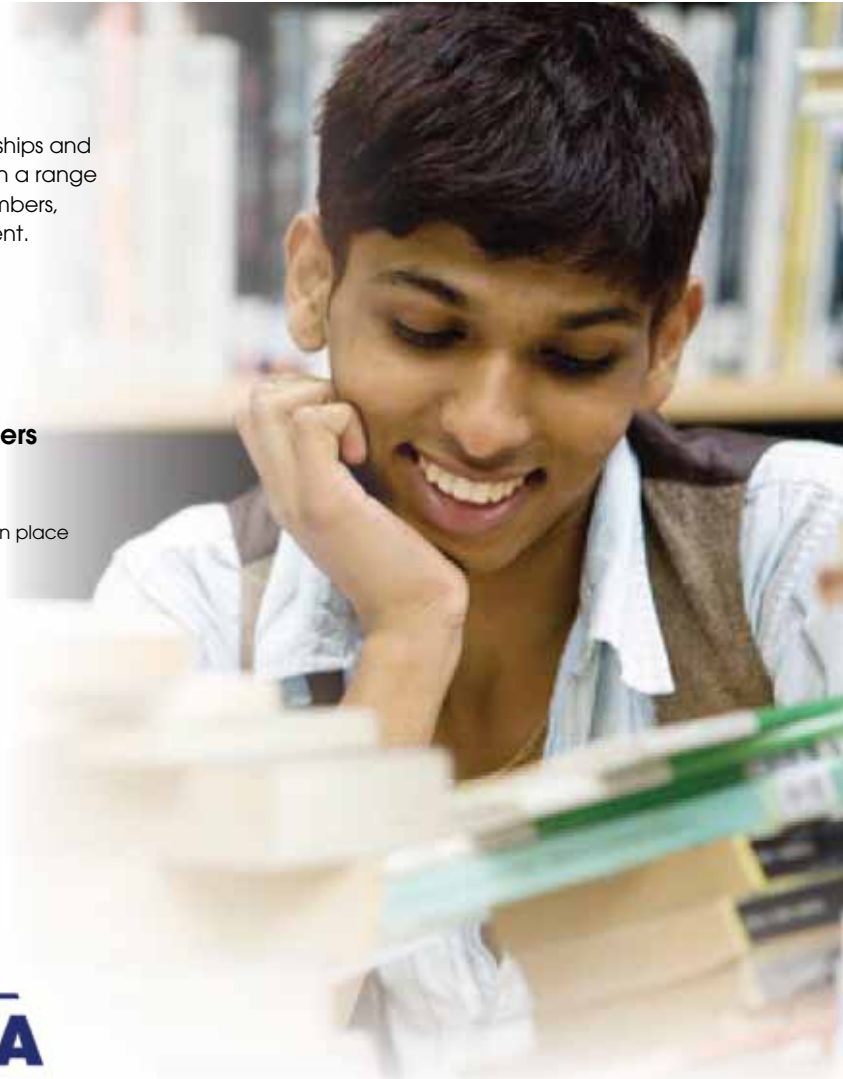
Affiliated

E- Learning Foundation

Anthony Collins Solicitors

Impact Teachers

TUI Education



TOSHIBA
Leading Innovation >>>



Anthony Collins
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TUI Education Division

Finance Directors' Forum

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