
RSA Academies Affiliation Scheme

The purpose of the RSA (Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce) is to unite people and ideas to resolve the challenges of our time. Our aspiration is to empower human creativity in promoting a 21st century enlightenment.



1. Affiliation by a school to RSA Academies (RSAA) is an informal, time-limited (one-year) partnership for the benefit of the school. The link is based on trust, shared values and the common aspiration of enriching the community through ideas and action.
2. Affiliation is a way of exploring the value of developing an informal link to RSAA as a prelude to becoming an RSA academy within an RSAA MAT.
3. Affiliated schools are entirely responsible for their own governance, performance and finance but draw on the shared strength of the whole RSAA family. Affiliated schools can add an important dimension to RSAA by participating (as appropriate) in programmes for pupils, teachers and governors and the sharing of best practice and information.
4. In practical terms, Affiliation offers a school the following benefits:
 - an agreed number of workshops for governors, staff and pupils exploring the implications of becoming an RSA school and explaining the Commitments;
 - an Induction Day for governors and senior staff at RSA House;
 - the opportunity to attend appropriate events such as Takeover Day, Artsfest and other activities at RSA House;
 - information on support, resources and activities provided through RSAA, especially in relation to the Commitments (and the opportunity for appropriate staff to join at least one meeting for Commitment Leads);
 - the possibility of a nominated RSA Fellow to join the Governing Body (where desired); and
 - receipt of the RSAA Newsletter and other relevant publicity.
5. Affiliated schools will be asked to contribute a fee of £12.50 p.a. per primary school pupil and £15.50 p.a. per secondary school pupil to RSAA.
6. It may be possible for affiliated schools to negotiate a suite of structured support from RSAA, particularly in relation to the Commitments, where a school wishes to develop aspects of its own ethos and practice. If this is the case, then a further fee will be negotiated with the school in respect of the services provided.
7. The Affiliation Scheme is time-limited to one year, informal and can be terminated by either party by giving notice (of at least a half-term) to the other.
8. Affiliation does not:
 - a) give RSAA any power or influence in the school's executive functions;
 - b) provide access to additional funding;
 - c) permit the school to designate or describe itself as an "RSA school", but it may describe itself as an "RSAA-affiliated school". Affiliated schools may use the agreed affiliated status logo.
9. Whilst it may be possible (if desired) to co-opt an RSA Fellow onto the governing board as a means of strengthening the link to the RSA, a more formalised approach to governance could also be made, if both the school and RSAA see this as having benefit to both parties (e.g. in preparation for the school becoming an RSA academy). For example, a maintained school could change its Instrument of Government to include governors formally appointed by RSAA. An academy trust could do likewise by changing its Articles of Association.

RSAA Affiliated Schools Partnership Agreement

Between

- (1) School or Trust; and
- (2) RSA Academies (RSAA)

As a school/trust we will as appropriate:

- build a positive relationship with the Royal Society of Arts and its academies arm, RSAA, for the benefit of our pupils, families and the wider community
- align ourselves with the values of the RSA and especially its commitment to enrich society through ideas and action
- seek to build our capacity to respond effectively to the RSAA's Commitments
- refer in our Prospectus to our Affiliation and links with the RSA
- seek to celebrate and develop the contribution of the school to promoting social justice
- nominate one of our governors to be a 'link governor' for RSAA, who will seek to maintain and build the relationship
- make mention as appropriate of our affiliated status in publicity material

As RSAA we will:

- build personal relationships with the school
- make available information on support, resources and activities and access to events at RSA House, as appropriate
- provide access to a suite of support in relation to the Commitments for an agreed fee
- seek to link an RSA Fellow with the governing board, where this is desirable
- make periodic visits to the school, in the spirit of a shared enterprise, upon invitation from the headteacher

Together – school/trust and RSAA, we will:

- seek to support each other in the spirit of openness and the service of young people
- take opportunities for networking among ourselves
- share information and extend invitations to each other's events
- seek to find innovative ways to work together and learn from each other, in keeping with the spirit of this Agreement

This Agreement will last for one year from the date below unless terminated by the School/Trust or RSAA giving at least one term's notice.

Signed:

..... Headteacher

..... Chair of Governors

..... Chair of RSAA

This Document formally dated: