



March 2020

Dear Colleagues

The Institute of School Business Leadership (ISBL) recently conducted one of the most significant surveys into the school business profession.

One of the most disappointing findings was the large number of practitioners still excluded from senior leadership team meetings. In some instances, school business leaders had never been invited to participate in leadership discussions even where there were clear resource and financial implications.

ISBL has long been campaigning for a more joined-up approach to the leadership of schools, where the three pillars of pedagogy, business and governance work in a culture of inclusivity and integration.

Decision-making in silos, where pedagogical colleagues do not fully engage with business professionals, making the most of their knowledge and expertise and vice versa, can only result in less informed and collaborative decision-making. It also undermines the working relationship between school business professionals and governing boards who rely on their contribution to the effective management of financial resources: a core function of governance in schools and trusts.

As the respective leaders of the Institute of School Business Leadership, the Association of School and College Leaders, NAHT, the National Governance Association and the Confederation of School Trusts, we appeal to the sector to embrace all strands of education leadership and ensure all are present at the table when strategic decisions are taking place.

Yours faithfully

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CEO, Confederation of School Trusts

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General Secretary, NAHT

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