



Prisoner Learning Alliance

PRISONER LEARNING ALLIANCE

Become a member

Founded in 2012, the Prisoner Learning Alliance (PLA) is a network of experts who share the following **vision**:

'That all prisoners can engage in high-quality and diverse learning opportunities to help them transform their lives.'

After an external consultation with current members and the wider sector, the PLA is expanding its membership for 2018 and beyond.

Why are we expanding?

- To strengthen our expertise and influence
- To build on the efforts of our initial 23 members and our [significant track record](#) of influencing change in prison education policy and practice
- To more fully involve the views and expertise of current and former prisoners
- To unite the voice of the sector and provide a community for all individuals and organisations with a stake in prison education

If you share our vision and would like to get involved, we want to hear from you.

The activity of the PLA will be guided by:

- A new, independent Chair, [Professor Tom Schuller](#), and
- An elected steering committee of members, who will form working groups devoted to specific pieces of work.



Who can apply?

- Organisations that share the PLA's vision, who can become **full members** for a tiered annual fee starting from just £60.
- Individuals sharing the PLA's vision, who can become **associate members** at no charge.

You might be a prison teacher, officer or other staff member, a charity worker in the sector, a researcher or anyone with a passion for prison education.

- **Individuals with personal lived experience of prison:** The views and expertise of former prisoners are pivotal to the PLA and its activity. Therefore, these individuals will be granted all the benefits of full membership, at no charge.

Our record of success

[Click here to read about some of the PLA's key achievements](#) since 2012, including influencing the Ministry of Justice's use of a new, broader definition of prison education, securing regular meetings with officials on the changes to education commissioning, coverage of our [annual conference and awards](#), and [speaking to the media](#).



All photos credit: Jessica Bernard / PET



Benefits of membership

Both full and associate members can:

- Find out about up-to-date policy changes affecting prison education
- Learn about and share effective prison education practice
- Have the opportunity to share news, opportunities and events through a dedicated newsletter
- Be the first to hear about our events, including the annual PLA conference and awards
- Meet potential collaborators and enjoy networking opportunities
- Receive PLA reports and briefings
- Support better learning opportunities for people in custody
- Be part of a national and European community and movement for change
- Be approached to serve on the PLA steering committee or particular working groups, depending on interests and expertise

In addition, full members can:

- Benefit from a platform for your organisation's messages to be shared and amplified, including with policy makers
- Influence the PLA's work by voting to elect the members of the steering committee
- Stand for election to the steering committee

- Volunteer to take part in working groups related to specific interests and expertise
- Help to shape the PLA's key messages to policy makers, through meetings with ministers and regular collaboration with Ministry of Justice officials
- Contribute to PLA reports and briefings
- Learn about international good practice through automatic membership of the [European Prison Education Association \(EPEA\)](#)
- Be recognised through inclusion of your organisation's name and logo on the PLA website

Membership fees

Members will be charged the following fee based on organisational income:

Annual Income	Annual Fee
Associate members	Free
Less than £500,000	£60
£500,000 - £1m	£70
£1m - £10m	£130
More than £10m	£260

Further fee information will be provided on application for membership.

How to apply

To access our application form, visit www.prisonerseducation.org.uk/become-a-member.

For questions, email robert@prisonerseducation.org.uk.



We look forward to hearing from you!