

# Notes of Meeting: East of England and North East London Headteacher Board

15<sup>th</sup> November 2018

## Attendance\*

**RSC, Chair** Sue Baldwin

### Headteacher Board (HTB) Member

Tom Canning (HTB)

Diane Rochford (HTB)

Caroline Derbyshire (HTB)

Karen Kerridge (HTB)

Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne (HTB)

Brian Conway (HTB)

Duncan Ramsey (HTB)

### DfE Senior Civil Servants

Claire Mycock (Deputy Director)

Alan Parnum (Deputy Director)

**Guests** None

**Apologies\*\*** None

\*Attendance data is published annually on gov.uk

\*\*Members of the board who apologised have been consulted on all projects, where available, prior to the meeting (excluding items where there were conflicts). Their views are reflected in the discussion at the meeting (where appropriate).

# General Discussion Points

Item	Discussion Point
RSC Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update on the changes to the HTB process due to transparency</li></ul>
Presentation on reducing teacher workload	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support available for schools and the barriers to utilising these resources.</li><li>• Feedback on the ‘reducing teacher workload toolkit’ resources published by the Department for Education.</li></ul>

## Discussion of projects, including decisions made by RSC with advice from HTB:

All decisions are made in reference to relevant legislation and the published criteria.

### Converter Academy Orders

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Great Bentley Primary School, Frinton-on-Sea Primary School, Elmstead Primary School and Broomsgrove Junior School, Essex, to join Learning Connections Trust	<p>Governance arrangements for the proposed conversions were discussed, with HTB members scrutinising the efficacy of the structures proposed and the lines of accountability between members, trustees and senior leaders.</p> <p>The need for a primary school focussed multi-academy trust in the area as well as the viability of the proposed trust in regard to pupil numbers.</p> <p>Great Bentley's record on school improvement was also assessed.</p> <p>Provisional KS2 data was used to inform the decision made.</p>	Approve with conditions	None
Further Actions Required	Agreed, subject to conversations between RSC office and trust regarding the proposed governance arrangements of Learning Connections Trust.		

## Converter Academy Orders

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Northborough Primary School, Peterborough, to join Soke Education Trust	The HTB considered information pertaining to the benefits of the existing collaborative relationship between Northborough Primary School and the Soke Trust, maths progress scores across the trust and the financial position of the school. The conversion proposal was agreed without comment.	Approve	None
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	School and Trust to be informed		
Pakefield High School to join Clarion Academy Trust	The HTB considered information pertaining to the proposed governance arrangements at the school, including personnel, performance data trends and the recent Ofsted report. The conversion proposal was agreed without comment.	Approve	None
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	School and Trust to be informed		

## Sponsored Route

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Parker's CofE VC Primary School to be sponsored by The Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust	<p>The overall performance of The Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust (DNEAT) and their capacity to take on additional schools.</p> <p>The financial structures of DNEAT were assessed and their record of school improvement was examined.</p> <p>The governance arrangements and additional funding sources at Parker's CofE VC Primary were discussed.</p>	Decline	None
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Trust and school to be informed.		
Oakington CofE VA Primary School, Cambridgeshire to be sponsored by The Diocese of Ely Multi-academy Trust	The HTB considered information pertaining to school performance, the school improvement capacity of the trust and the financial outlook of the school. The sponsorship proposal was agreed without comment.	Approve	None
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Trust and school to be informed.		

## Sponsor Application

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Unity Education Trust, Norfolk	<p>In detail the projected school improvement model, focussing on the current reliance on external partners and the number vacancies in the proposed trust.</p> <p>The strength of the monitoring and accountability systems which are being put into place were also discussed.</p> <p>Provisional KS2 results were consulted.</p>	Approve	None
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Trust to be informed		
Great Bentley Primary School, Frinton-on-Sea Primary School, Elmstead Primary School and Broomsgrove Junior School, Essex, to Learning Connections Trust	<p>Governance arrangements for the proposed conversions were discussed, with HTB members scrutinising the efficacy of the structures proposed and the lines of accountability between members, trustees and senior leaders.</p> <p>The need for a primary school focussed multi-academy trust in the area as well as the viability of the proposed trust in regard to pupil numbers.</p> <p>Great Bentley's record on school improvement was examined.</p> <p>Provisional KS2 results were consulted.</p>	Approve	None
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Trust to be informed		

## Trust Change

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Mildmay Junior School, Essex, to join Bridge Learning academy (SAT to MAT)	The Headteacher board considered information pertaining to the financial position of the school and trust, the strengths of the trust vis-à-vis the needs of the school and recent staffing changes. The proposal was agreed without comment.	Approve	None
Further Actions Required	Trust and School to be informed		
St Ivo, Cambridgeshire, to join Astrea Trust (SAT to MAT)	<p>The financial position of the trust and internal structures were considered.</p> <p>Evidence from the RSC East Midlands and Humber region, pertaining to the capacity of the trust, was also considered.</p> <p>The benefits in increasing the size of Astrea's Cambridgeshire Hub were discussed.</p>	Approve	None
Further Actions Required	Trust and School to be informed		

<b>Project</b>	<b>HTB discussed:</b>	<b>RSC Decision</b>	<b>Conflicts</b>
Colchester Academy, Essex, to join the Suffolk Learning Trust	<p>The financial position of the school and how this might affect the financial position of the incoming trust.</p> <p>The school performance data and the differences between outcomes for disadvantaged children and those of the rest of the cohort.</p> <p>The school improvement record of Suffolk Learning Trust, which was viewed as positive, and of potential benefit to the school</p>	Approve	Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne was not present for this discussion and did not receive papers.
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Trust and School to be informed		
Alde Valley Academy, Suffolk, to join Waveney Valley Trust	<p>The existing school improvement support within the school and the capacity of the trust to bring about sustained improvement. The school improvement structures and personnel of Waveney Valley Trust were seen as positives.</p> <p>The relatively small number of students on roll and how the trust planned to mitigate any risks posed by this. This conversation also included discussion of the recent consultation process, the plans for sixth form provision, and how this would impact</p>	Approve	Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne was not present for this discussion and did not receive papers.
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Trust and School to be informed		



Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
Cliff Lane Primary, Castle Hill Juniors and Castle Hill Infant, Suffolk, to join Asset Education Trust	<p>The financial position of the trust and its capacity to support the transferring schools.</p> <p>Existing school improvement within Asset Education Trust and the trust's capacity to transfer this to the three schools joining. The trust's school improvement structures and resources were seen as impressive.</p> <p>The proximity of all three schools to each other and the capacity for the schools to support each other.</p>	Approve	Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne was not present for this discussion and did not receive papers.
Trust and School to be informed	Trust and School to be informed		