



Notes of Meeting: NWLSC Headteacher Board

Tuesday 23 February 2021

Attendance

Attendance data is published annually on the GOV.UK website.

HTB members who sent their apologies for the meeting have, where possible, been consulted on all projects before the meeting. Their views are reflected in the discussion at the meeting (where appropriate). This excludes items where that member declared a conflict of interest.

Regional school commissioner (RSC) chair

- Dame Kate Dethridge

Headteacher board (HTB) members

- Sarah Bennett
- Dame Yasmin Bevan
- Dame Sue Bourne
- Sarah Brown
- Dr Jamie Clarke
- Claire Robins OBE

Guests

- None

Apologies

- None

DfE senior civil servants

- Jo Thomas, Deputy Director NWLSC

Representations received

- No representations were made for any items discussed at this meeting.

General discussion points

- The January HTB meeting notes were agreed at the meeting.
- There were no conflicts of interests for the Headteacher Board members.

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.

West Sub-Region

Converter Academy Order

Project: Whether to approve the application for Frieth Church of England School, Buckinghamshire, to join Oxford Diocesan Bucks Schools Trust (ODBST).

HTB discussion:

- HTB members discussed the travelling distance between Frieth Church of England School and the other schools within the trust.
- HTB members discussed the school to school support that is available.
- HTB members discussed ODBST's school improvement strategy.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform parties of the RSC decision.

Significant Change

Project: Whether to approve the significant change application for Speenhamland School, West Berkshire, to increase the age range and add a 26-place full-time nursery.

HTB discussion:

- HTB members discussed the Ofsted grading and latest report for Speenhamland School.
- HTB members discussed the historic performance of Speenhamland School.
- HTB members considered the Local Authority's current nursery provision and planning projection.

RSC decision: Decline.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform parties of the RSC decision.

Significant Change

Project: Whether to approve a new resourced provision for pupils with EHCPs at Dedworth Green First School & Dedworth Middle School, Windsor and Maidenhead.

HTB discussion:

- HTB members discussed the educational performance of both Dedworth Green First School & Dedworth Middle School.
- HTB members discussed the governance at Windsor Learning Partnership and whether there is need for trustees with educational expertise.
- HTB members discussed the Ofsted gradings of both Dedworth Green First School & Dedworth Middle School.

RSC decision: Decline.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform parties of the RSC decision.

Significant Change

Project: Whether to approve the merger of The Bicester School, Oxfordshire, with the Bicester Technology Studio.

HTB discussion:

- HTB members discussed the educational performance of the schools within Activate Learning Education Trust (ALET).
- HTB members discussed the governance of ALET and the skills of those on the Board of Trustees.
- HTB members reviewed the finances of ALET.
- HTB members discussed the operation of the school if the merger were to be approved.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform parties of the RSC decision.

London Sub-region

Significant Change

Project: Whether to approve the retrospective significant change application for Phoenix Academy, Hammersmith and Fulham, and re-opening of its 6th Form.

HTB discussion:

- HTB members discussed the structure of the Board of Trustees at Future Academies Trust.
- HTB members considered the demand for places in the 6th form.
- HTB members discussed the educational performance of Phoenix Academy.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform parties of the RSC decision.