



Department
for Education

Notes of Meeting: North-West London South Central

23 June 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 Schools Commissioner (RSC) chair

- Dame Kate Dethridge

Headteacher Board (HTB) members

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

Guests

- None

Apologies

- Claire Robins OBE (HTB Member)
- Jo Thomas (Deputy Director, NWLSC)

DfE senior civil servants

- None

Representations received

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

General Discussion Points

- The May HTB meeting notes were agreed at the meeting.
- HTB members agreed there were conflicts of interest for item 1.1 for Sarah Bennett and Jamie Clarke – Sarah and Jamie left the meeting during these discussions.

North Sub-Region

Free School Presumption – Sponsor Approval

Project: Whether to approve the Local Authority's recommendation for The Denbigh Alliance Trust to sponsor Calverton Lane, **Milton Keynes**.

HTB discussion:

- HTB members discussed the governance structure and finances of The Denbigh Alliance Trust.
- HTB members discussed the Local Authority's recommendations regarding The Denbigh Alliance Trust.
- HTB members discussed the skill set of the trust board.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: Jamie Clarke and Sarah Bennett.

Further actions required: Inform the school and trust of the RSC decision. The RSC would like the trust's governance structure to be clarified.

West Sub-Region

Converter Academy Order

Project: Whether to approve an academy order for The Mandeville School, **Buckinghamshire**, to join Insignis Academy Trust.

HTB discussion:

- HTB members discussed the governance structure, finances and capacity of Insignis Academy Trust.
- HTB members discussed the performance of The Mandeville School and Princes Risborough School.
- HTB members discussed the school improvement plan for The Mandeville School.
- The HTB members discussed the Ofsted gradings of the schools currently within the trust and the need for evidence of positive impact.

RSC decision: Defer.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform school of the RSC decision. The RSC needs feedback on school improvement and the trust structure.

Converter Academy Order

Project: Whether to approve an academy order for Oakfield First School, **Windsor and Maidenhead**, to join Windsor Learning Partnership.

HTB discussion:

- HTB members discussed the finances of Windsor Learning Partnership.
- HTB members discussed the skill set and structure of the trust board.
- HTB members discussed the trust's school improvement strategy.
- HTB members discussed the latest Ofsted inspection of Oakfield First School.

RSC decision: Approve with conditions.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform school and LA of the RSC decision. Condition: The Members are to appoint two additional trustees – one with primary expertise and the other with secondary expertise.

London Sub-Region

Converter Academy Order

Project: Whether to approve the academy order for Field End Junior School, **Hillingdon**, to join Vanguard Learning Trust.

Project: Whether to approve the academy order for Hermitage Primary School, **Hillingdon**, to join Vanguard Learning Trust.

HTB discussion on the above two items:

- HTB members discussed the capacity of Vanguard Learning Trust to take on these schools.
- HTB members discussed the school improvement strategies for the schools.

RSC decision: Approve both items.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform the school and LA of the RSC decision.

Sponsor Application

Project: Whether to approve the application from Fulham Boys School (SAT), **Hammersmith and Fulham**, to become an academy sponsor.

HTB discussion:

- HTB members discussed the performance of Fulham Boys School.
- HTB members discussed the need for further evidence of educational impact in other settings.

RSC decision: Decline.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform school of the RSC decision.

Academy Opening Approved in Principle

Project: Northhill CofE VA Lower School, **Central Bedfordshire**, to join Diocese of St Albans Multi-Academy Trust.

HTB discussion:

- No comments or objections from members to this project proceeding.
- Since meeting note cleared, this project did not transfer on 1st July.

Further actions required: No action required.

Decisions taken between HTB meetings

Project: Whether to approve, in-principle, the decision for Jewish Community Academy Trust (JCAT) to sponsor the Jewish Free School (JFS), **Brent**.

Decision type: Sponsor Application.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Decision to be escalated to Ministers; invite representations from stakeholders.

Project: Whether to approve the retrospective application from Kempston Challenger Academy, **Bedford**, to change its age range from 9-11 years to 11-18 years, to reflect the completion of the school's transition to a secondary school.

Decision type: Significant Change.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform school of RSC decision.

Project: Whether to approve the application by Fern House School, **Enfield**, to extend their age limit to include KS1.

Decision type: Significant Change.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform school of RSC decision.

Project: Whether to approve the application from Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form (BGN), **Oxfordshire**, to increase its PAN from 150 pupils to 210 for the September 2023 Yr7 intake.

Decision type: Significant Change.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform school of RSC decision.

Project: Whether to approve the significant change application for Bellevue Place Education Trust (BPET) to expand capacity of Evendons Primary School, **Wokingham**, from 378 to 420 pupils and for this to be reflected in the school's Funding Agreement.

Decision type: Significant Change.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform school and trust of RSC decision.

List of projects listed on the published draft agenda, but were removed before the meeting

- None