



Notes of Meeting: North West London South Central Advisory Board

13 April 2022

Attendance

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

AB 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

Advisory Board (AB) members

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

Apologies

- Dr Jamie Clarke, Advisory Board Member
- Paul Schofield, Deputy Director NWLSC Region

Representations received

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

General Discussion Points

- Discussion and reflections on the release of the Schools White Paper.
- The meeting note of the March Advisory Board was agreed.
- Conflicts of interest were noted for Claire Robins for items 1.1 and 1.2.

Items for discussion

Sponsored Route:

1.1 Project: Watchlytes Primary School, **Hertfordshire**, to be sponsored by Ivy Learning Trust.

Reason for Academy Order: Inadequate Ofsted inspection.

AB discussion:

- AB members discussed Ivy Learning Trust's capacity and governance structure.
- AB members discussed the finances of Ivy Learning Trust.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: Claire Robins.

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

Sponsored Route:

1.2 Project: Martins Wood Primary School, **Hertfordshire**, to be sponsored by Ivy Learning Trust.

Reason for Academy Order: Inadequate Ofsted inspection.

AB discussion:

- AB members discussed Ivy Learning Trust's capacity and governance structure.
- AB members discussed the finances of Ivy Learning Trust.
- AB members discussed the trust's growth speed.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: Claire Robins.

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

Sponsored Route:

1.3 Project: Dovery Down Lower School, **Central Bedfordshire**, to be sponsored by Knowledge Schools Trust.

Reason for Academy Order: Inadequate Ofsted inspection.

AB discussion:

- AB members discussed the governance structure at Knowledge Schools Trust.
- AB members discussed the need for a school improvement plan.
- AB members discussed the distance between the schools within the trust and performance of other schools in the trust.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

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

Sponsored Route:

1.4 Project: Bishopswood School, **Oxfordshire**, to be sponsored by The Propeller Academy Trust.

Reason for Academy Order: Inadequate Ofsted inspection.

AB discussion:

- AB members considered proposals from three sponsors and recognised the strength of each.
- AB members discussed the specific needs of Bishopswood School and the capacity and expertise of each sponsor to support sustainable change and rapid transformation as well as the wider strategic landscape.
- AB members recognised the positive impact of the interim support provided to Bishopswood through a service level agreement brokered by Oxfordshire County Council.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

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

Significant Change

1.5 Project: Kingfisher School, **Oxfordshire**, regarding their retrospective applications for physical expansion and increase capacity to 112 pupils.

AB discussion:

- AB members discussed the finances and governance structure of The Propeller Academy Trust.
- AB members considered the need due to securing long-term SEND provision.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

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

Significant Change

1.6 Project: Manor School, **Brent**, to increase capacity by physical expansion and age range to commence from September 2022.

AB discussion:

- AB members agreed to recommend the project with no further comments.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

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

Academy Opening Approved in Principle

List of academies approved to open on 1 May 2022.

Project: Manor Farm Junior School, **Buckinghamshire**, to Great Learners Trust.

AB discussion: None.

Further actions required: None.