



Notes of Meeting: North West London South Central Advisory Board

17 May 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
- Dr Jamie Clarke

Apologies

- Claire Robins, AB Member

DfE senior civil servants

- Paul Schofield, Deputy Director NWLSC Region

Representations received

- One received regarding the transfer of Park House School, part of the Transform Learning Trust, West Berkshire, to join Greenshaw Learning - Trust change. These representations were shared in advance of the meeting with all attendees and considered alongside their corresponding item.

General Discussion Points

- The meeting note of the April Advisory Board was agreed.
- Conflicts of interest were noted for Jamie Clarke for item 1.3.

North Sub-Region

Converter Academy Order

1.1 Project: Discussion to consider Cogenhoe Primary School, **West Northamptonshire**, to convert and join The Nene Valley Partnership.

AB discussion:

- AB members discussed the governance at The Nene Valley Partnership.
- AB members discussed the SRMA report and the trusts actions thereafter.
- AB members queried what school improvement is taking place by the trust.
- AB members discussed the finances of The Nene Valley Partnership.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

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

Significant Change

1.2 Project: Discussion to consider the application to close the residential boarding provision at Hailey Hall Special School, **Hertfordshire**.

AB discussion:

- AB members discussed pupil transition arrangements and the LA's Engagement Support Worker (ESW) strategy.
- AB members agreed with the proposal to close.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

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

Trust Change

1.3 Project: Discussion to consider the transfer of The CE Academy, part of The CE Academy Limited, **West Northamptonshire**, to Tove Learning Trust.

AB discussion:

- AB members discussed the capacity of the Tove Learning Trust.
- AB members discussed the current performance at The CE Academy.
- AB members considered the school improvement being delivered to the school.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: Dr Jamie Clarke

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

West sub-region

Converter Academy Order

2.1 Project: Discussion to consider All Saints CofE (Aided) Primary School, **Wokingham**, to convert and join LDBS Frays Academy Trust.

AB discussion:

- AB members discussed the performance of the schools within LDBS Frays Academy Trust.
- AB members discussed the governance and its capacity at the trust.
- AB members discussed pupil intake numbers of All Saints CofE Primary.

RSC decision: Approve with conditions.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Inform the school and trust of the RSC decision. Condition for further information regarding the support being provided by the trust.

Free School Presumption – Sponsor Approval

2.2 Project: Discussion to consider the sponsor options for the new NE Didcot Primary Free School in **Oxfordshire**.

AB discussion:

- AB members considered the sponsor options and recognised the strength of each.
- AB members recognised the proposal as a local authority s106 presumption project.
- AB members discussed and supported the local authority's prefer sponsor Omnia Learning Trust.
- AB members discussed the governance arrangements and skills on trust and local governing board at Omnia Learning Trust.

RSC decision: Approve with conditions.

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Inform school and trust of the RSC decision. Conditional requirements: for the trust to add further educational expertise to the board.

Trust Change

Project: Discussion to consider the transfer of Park House School, part of the Transform Learning Trust, West Berkshire, to join Greenshaw Learning Trust.

AB discussion:

- AB members raised no concerns on this project.
- AB members were in agreement for Park House School join Greenshaw Learning Trust.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

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

Academy Opening Approved in Principle

List of academies approved to open on 1 June 2022.

Project: St James' Church of England VA Primary School, **Bedford**, to join Diocese of St Albans Multi-Academy Trust.

AB discussion: None.

Further actions required: None.

Decisions taken between AB meetings

List of decisions taken by the RSC outside of AB meetings.

Project: Wooton-by Woodstock, **Oxfordshire**, Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust.

Decision type: Significant change – Site.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: None.

Project: Farington Primary School, **Oxfordshire**, Faringdon Learning Trust.

Decision type: Significant change - Age Range.

RSC decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: None.

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