



Department
for Education

Notes of Meeting: South West Advisory Board

16 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

- Hannah Woodhouse

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Brian Hooper
- Sally Apps
- Steve Savory
- Michael Larsen
- Paul Jones
- Joy Tubbs
- Suzanne Flack

Guests

- None

Apologies

- Alun Williams

DfE senior civil servants

- Lucy Livings (Deputy Director)
- Matthew Stevenson (Deputy Director)

Representations received

Seven representations were received for Jacobstow Community Primary School, **Cornwall** approval of new sponsor Learning Academy Partnership (South West)

These representations were shared in advance of the meeting with all attendees and considered alongside the corresponding item.

General Discussion Points

RSC Update

None provided at this meeting

Converter Academy Orders

Points discussed in relation to school conversion.

Project: Whether to approve Furzeham Primary School, **Torbay** converting to academy status and joining The Thinking Schools Academy Trust

AB discussion:

No concern

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

Sponsored Route

Project: Whether to approve Lydeard St Lawrence Community Primary School, **Somerset** joining The Bath and Wells Diocesan Academies Trust

Whether to approve Christ Church Church of England First School, **Somerset** joining The Bath and Wells Diocesan Academies Trust

AB discussion:

Governance:

- AB members acknowledged that the trust has undergone an internal restructure and are confident that it can support underperforming schools

Other:

- AB members and the RSC acknowledged the trust's growth strategy and are keen to also encourage strong schools to join the trust alongside sponsored schools.

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: Paul Jones

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

Project: Whether to approve Jacobstow Community Primary School, **Cornwall** joining Learning Academy Partnership (South West)

AB discussion:

School Improvement:

- AB members commented on the strong school improvement record of the trust and the support the trust will bring to Jacobstow

Other:

- AB members acknowledged the representations and comments from parents and other parties

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

Significant Change

Project: Whether to approve a significant change for Selworthy Special School, **Somerset** (The Oak Partnership Trust), to establish a satellite site for secondary provision in Wellington

AB discussion:

Other:

- AB members questioned whether the site would be ready for September. Assurances were given that there is a contingency plan for local temporary accommodation.
- AB members sought assurance on accountability for the quality of mainstream education accessed by pupils attending the satellite provision, and for outcomes.

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and the trust.

Project: Whether to approve a significant change for May Park Primary School, **Bristol** (Excalibur Academies Trust) to establish a 24 place Resource Base

AB discussion:

Governance:

- AB members discussed the governance structure and the responsibility of the trust

Other:

- AB members acknowledged that the local authority, Bristol City Council, have a proven record in ensuring buildings are of a standard and ready on time
- AB members commented on the strong links with Kingsweston School and the specialism to support the resource base
- AB members noted the number of pupils in the base and asked for greater clarity regarding accountability of the trust

RSC decision: Approve with conditions

Conditions:

- External review of the quality of the resource base provision by July 2023
- Formal support arrangement with a provider that has proven success in the specialisms

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

Decisions taken between AB meetings

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

Project: Whether to approve a significant change for ACE Schools, **Plymouth** (Transforming Futures Trust), to transfer its St Austell satellite provision to a new site

Decision type: Significant Change

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the trust.

Project: Whether to approve a significant change for Broadstone First School, **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole** (Castleman Academy Trust) to establish an 8 place Resource Base

Decision type: Significant Change

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

Project: Whether to approve a significant change for Livingstone Road Infant School, **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole** (Hamwic Education Trust) to lower the age range from 4-7 to 2-7 to incorporate nursery provision

Decision type: Significant Change

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

Project: Whether to approve a significant change for Tregony Community Primary School, **Cornwall** (The Roseland Multi Academy Trust) to change the age limit from 4 -11 to 2 -11 to incorporate nursery provision

Decision type: Significant Change

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

Project: Whether to approve a significant change for Churchward School, **Swindon** (Brunel Academies Trust) to increase places from 75 to 90 over two sites

Decision type: Significant Change

RSC decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Project lead to inform the school and trust.

Academy Opening Approved in Principle

List of academies approved to open.

Project: Beaford Community Primary & Nursery School, **Devon** (TEAM Multi-Academy Trust)

AB discussion:

- Opening date 1 June 2022
- No issues raised.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Portesham Church of England Primary School, **Dorset** (The First Federation Trust)

AB discussion:

- Opening date 1 June 2022
- No issues raised.

Further actions required: No action required.

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

Project: Whether to approve a significant change for Broadstone Middle School, **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole** (Castleman Academy Trust) to increase the capacity of its Resource Base from 15 to 22

Decision type: Significant change

Reason for why it was taken off agenda: Necessary papers were not ready.

Project: Whether to approve a significant change for Shaftesbury School, **Dorset** (Sherborne Area Schools' Trust), to remove its boarding provision

Decision type: Significant change

Reason for why it was taken off agenda: Necessary papers were not ready.

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