



Notes of Meeting: London Advisory Board

Thursday 19 October 2023

Attendance - **The meeting was held via correspondence only.**

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

Regional Director (RD) chair

- Claire Burton

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Rama Venchard
- Susan Douglas
- Vanessa Ogden
- Gill Bal
- Emma Bradshaw
- Cassie Buchanan
- Penny Barratt
- Lee Mason-Ellis

DfE senior civil servants

- None

Representations received

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

Converter Academy Orders

Points discussed in relation to school conversion.

Project: To discuss the conversion of 5 schools to become academies to form a new Catholic MAT: East London Catholic Academy Trust (ELCAT)

- Cardinal Pole Catholic School, Hackney
- St Monica's RC Primary School, Hackney
- Bishop Challoner Catholic School, Tower Hamlets
- St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School, Tower Hamlets
- St Anne's and Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School, Tower Hamlets

AB key points raised:

- Five schools in Hackney and Tower Hamlets have applied to become academies and to form a MAT and to form the East London Catholic Academy Trust. The 5 schools are Ofsted-rated Good.
- The formation of the trust is supported by the Archdiocese of Westminster.
- All schools forming the MAT joining the trust are within a 3-mile radius of each other.
- The schools will benefit from being in a MAT by building on existing relationships and providing support to each other for school improvement and financial management. Becoming a MAT will enable them to manage the challenges around pupil numbers, staff retention and recruitment.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform schools/trust of decision.

Significant Change

Points discussed in relation to significant changes application(s).

Project: To discuss the application of Clarendon School (part of Auriga Trust), Richmond upon Thames - physical expansion to build a new 4-19 centre to provide 77 places for children with MLD and an additional 18 places at Clarendon's existing secondary school site.

AB key points raised:

- The Auriga Academy Trust has submitted a proposal to expand Clarendon School, a special academy in Richmond-upon-Thames offering provision for pupils with MLD.
- The trust proposes to establish a 4-19 centre to provide up to 77 additional places for children and young people with moderate to severe learning difficulties.
- The proposal would also free up space for an additional 18 places at one of the trust's secondary sites in Twickenham. The new centre's anticipated opening date is September 2025.

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform school/trust of decision.

Decisions taken between AB meetings

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

Project: Conisborough College, Lewisham – Sponsor Matching

Decision type: Sponsored route

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform school/trust of decision.

Project: Merger of Inicio Educational Trust (Bromley) and Charles Darwin Academy Trust (Bromley)

Decision type: Trust change

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform school/trust of decision.

Project: The Crescent Primary School – creation of SEND provision

Decision type: Significant change

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: Lee Mason-Ellis did not receive papers for this item or provide advice on this project.

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform school/trust of decision.

Project: Bell Lane Primary School – sponsor match

Decision type: Sponsored route

RD decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform school/trust of decision.