



Notes of meeting: South West Advisory Board

Date of meeting – 20 May 2024

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 Director (RD) chair

- Lucy Livings, Regional Director, South West Region

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Steve Savory
- Rachel Howie
- Stuart Ingram
- Adele Hayson
- Jennier Blunden
- Jackie Fieldwick
- Mark Ducker
- Margaret Simmons-Bird

Guests

- None

Apologies

- None

DfE senior civil servants

- Matthew Stevenson, Deputy Director, South West Region
- Jessica Trahar, Interim Deputy Director, South West Region

Representations received

- None

General discussion points

- AB members shared local intelligence and provided insight on the challenges being faced by the sector.
- Ofsted inspection outcomes from the start of this academic year were shared.
- Regions Group presented on Area Based Priorities.

Converter Academy Orders

Points discussed in relation to school conversion.

Project: To discuss the application from St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School, Bristol to convert and become an academy and join The Cardinal Newman Catholic Educational Trust.

Representations received:

- No representations were made for this project.

Points raised in Discussion: ** all projects for The Cardinal Newman Catholic Educational Trust were discussed together.

- St Bonaventure's is a two-form entry primary school, which received a Good Ofsted judgement in June 2023. This is a voluntary conversion.
- St Joseph's is a single form entry primary school, which received a Good Ofsted judgement December 2021. This is a voluntary conversion.
- St Patrick's is a single form entry academy that converted to academy status in 2012. The school was graded outstanding at its Ofsted inspection in 2013. This is a voluntary transfer.
- The Academy strategy for the Clifton Diocese was discussed, the Bishop's vision is for all Catholic schools to join a multi-academy trust.
- The Cardinal Newman Catholic Educational Trust (Newman) is a MAT in the Clifton Diocese that opened in March 2022. It currently has four schools, three in Bristol and one in North Somerset.
- The diversity of the trust board and educational expertise at primary was discussed. Regions Group will review this with the trust.
- The financial position of the trust was discussed, and Regions Group will liaise with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and the trust.
- It was recommended that the trust considers a review of the central trust functions and how to develop their offer in line with trust growth.

RD decision: Approve with conditions.

- That the trust board is balanced with educational expertise across primary.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform the schools, trust and Diocese (where relevant).

Project: To discuss the application from St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, **North Somerset** to convert and become an academy and join The Cardinal Newman Catholic Educational Trust.

Representations received:

- No representations were made for this project.

Points raised in Discussion: ** all projects for The Cardinal Newman Catholic Educational Trust were discussed together.

RD decision: Approve with conditions.

- That the trust board is balanced with educational expertise across primary.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform the schools, trust and Diocese (where relevant).

Trust Changes

Points discussed in relation to academies moving to another trust.

Project: To discuss the proposal for St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, **Bristol** to move from St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (SAT) to The Cardinal Newman Educational Trust.

Representations received:

- No representations were made for this project.

Points raised in Discussion: ** all projects for The Cardinal Newman Catholic Educational Trust (academy conversion and trust change) were discussed together.

RD decision: Approve with conditions.

- That the trust board is balanced with educational expertise across primary.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform the schools, trust and Diocese (where relevant).

Establishing a new academy through the free school presumption route

Project: To discuss the proposed sponsor for a new presumption primary free school proposal at Weston Runway, Weston-super-Mare, **North Somerset**.

Representations received:

- No representations were made for this project.

Points raised in Discussion:

- North Somerset Council has identified a need to establish a new 630 place primary school, with an attached nursery. Weston-Super-Mare has seen a period of rapid housing growth in the Weston Airfield development area.
- The LA's preferred trust is Cabot Learning Federation (CLF).
- CLF have the experience, capability, and depth of knowledge to be able to deliver and run the school. CLF understand the local area and has a dedicated and experienced free school team in place, they have opened two free schools within North Somerset.
- The Council, with input from Regions Group, assessed the applicants and CLF was the strongest candidate across all areas.

RD decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform the schools, trust and Diocese (where relevant).

Academy opening approved in principle

List of academies approved to open the following month.

All of the projects have gone through previous Advisory Board meetings for consideration and discussion. These projects are checked for any legal inconsistencies to ensure they are in line with departmental requirements and that all conditions are met.

Project: Barrs Court Primary School, **South Gloucestershire** (Mosaic Partnership Trust Ltd).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Broadway Infant School, **South Gloucestershire** (Mosaic Partnership Trust Ltd).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Gillingstool Primary School, **South Gloucestershire** (Mosaic Partnership Trust Ltd).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Parkwall Primary School, **South Gloucestershire** (Mosaic Partnership Trust Ltd).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Raysfield Primary School, **South Gloucestershire** (Mosaic Partnership Trust Ltd).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Redfield Edge Primary School, **South Gloucestershire** (Mosaic Partnership Trust Ltd).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: St Michael's Church of England Primary School, Winterbourne, **South Gloucestershire** (Mosaic Partnership Trust Ltd).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: St Stephen's Church of England Junior School, Soundwell, **South Gloucestershire** (Mosaic Partnership Trust Ltd).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: The Park Primary School, **South Gloucestershire** (Mosaic Partnership Trust Ltd).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: The Ridge Junior School, **South Gloucestershire** (Mosaic Partnership Trust Ltd).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: North Bradley Cofe Primary School, **Wiltshire** (Equa Multi Academy Trust).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Southwick Church of England Primary School, **Wiltshire** (Equa Multi Academy Trust).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: St Barnabas Church of England School, Market Lavington, **Wiltshire** (Equa Multi Academy Trust).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Studley Green Primary School, **Wiltshire** (Equa Multi Academy Trust).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: The Grove Primary School, **Wiltshire** (Equa Multi Academy Trust).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Bellefield Primary and Nursery School, **Wiltshire** (Equa Multi Academy Trust).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Bovey Tracey Primary School, **Devon** (Learning Academy Partnership (South West)).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Haselbury Plucknett Church of England Primary School, **Somerset** (Quantock Education Trust).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Merriott Primary School, **Somerset** (Quantock Education Trust).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Ash Church of England Primary School, **Somerset** (Preston Primary Academy Trust).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Project: Poole High School, **Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole** (Twynham Learning).

Points raised in discussion: No questions or concerns were raised.

Opening date 1 June 2024.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: No action required.

Decisions taken between AB meetings

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

Project: Canford Heath Junior School, **Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole** (Teach Poole) to add a 20-place resource base for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN).

Decision type: Significant Change.

RD decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform the schools and trust.

Project: Canford Heath Infant School, **Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole** (Teach Poole) to add a 15-place resource base for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN).

Decision type: Significant Change.

RD decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform the schools and trust.

Project: Okehampton Primary School and Foundation Unit, **Devon** (Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust) to add an 8-place resource base for children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH).

Decision type: Significant Change.

- The school's KS2 performance was discussed, and this will be reviewed with the trust, Local Authority and Regions Group, to ensure expected standards are met and outcomes are consistently improved, for all pupils at the school.

RD decision: Defer - to be brought back to Regional Director at later date once more information is provided about issues discussed

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform the schools, trust and local authority.

Project: St James Church of England First School, **Dorset** (Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust) to change the age range from 4-9 to 2-9 to include a pre-school.

Decision type: Significant Change.

RD decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Delivery officer to inform the schools and trust.

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

- None