



## Notes of meeting: East of England

**Date of Meeting – 21/11/2024**

### Attendance

AB members who sent their apologies for the meeting but sent in their comments on agenda items, are listed under the apologies section. These members' views are reflected in the discussions below, unless the AB member(s) declared a conflict of interest.

### Regional Director (RD) chair

- Jonathan Duff

### Advisory Board (AB) members

- Lawrence Chapman (AB)
- Tim Clouston (AB)
- Mark Farmer (AB)
- Clare Flintoff (AB)
- Al Kingsley (AB)
- Adrian Rogers (AB)
- Sarah Skinner (AB)
- Josephine Valentine (AB)

### Guests

- ESFA Representative

### Apologies

- None

### DfE senior civil servants

- Emily Williams

## General discussion points

- The Regional Director gave some general national and regional updates and invited feedback from the board.
- The board considered Ofsted judgements outcomes for the previous month.

## Essex

### Trust Changes

**Project: An application for Great Baddow High School (single academy trust), Essex, and The Eveleigh Link Academy Trust, Essex, to merge and form Quantum Multi Academy Trust.**

**AB discussion:**

- The board discussed the benefits of the SAT and MAT joining together to form a new MAT.
- The board discussed the governance of the trust and appointing an independent member and trustee.

**RD decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Delivery officer to inform both trusts of the decision and the recommendation to appoint an independent member and trustee when the new MAT (Quantum) is established.

## Norfolk

### Converter Academy Orders

**Project: An application from Attleborough Primary School, Norfolk, to convert and become an academy and join Sapientia Education Trust.**

**Project: An application from Rosecroft Primary School, Norfolk, to convert and become an academy and join Sapientia Education Trust.**

**AB discussion:**

- The board heard that both schools have been judged as 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted and Sapientia Education Trust has been supporting them.
- The board discussed the benefits of the school joining Sapientia Education Trust, including the support the trust can provide them through its centralised functions.
- It was highlighted to the board that both schools are feeder schools to the same secondary school which is operated by the trust.

**RD decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Delivery officer to inform the schools and the trust of the decision. Academy Orders to be issued and LA to be informed of the decision.

## **Decisions taken between AB meetings**

### **Bedfordshire**

#### **Significant changes to an open academy**

**Project:** An application for Wootton Lower School, Chiltern Learning Trust, Bedford, to increase its age range from 3-9 to 3-11, forming a primary school as part of a wider restructure to a two-tier system in the locality.

**Decision:** Approve

**Conflicts:** Not Applicable

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

### **Cambridge**

#### **Significant changes to an open academy**

**Project:** A retrospective application for Swavesey Village College, Meridian Trust, Cambridgeshire, to expand physical capacity by 150 places.

**Decision:** Approve

**Conflicts:** Not Applicable

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

**Project:** A retrospective application for Kennett Primary School, Staploe Education Trust, Cambridgeshire, to expand physical capacity by 105 places.

**Decision:** Approve

**Conflicts:** Not Applicable

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

### **Essex**

#### **Significant changes to an open academy**

**Project:** An application for Alderton Junior School, Epping Forest School Partnership Trust, Essex, to create an 8-place Autistic Spectrum Condition resource provision.

**Decision:** Approve

**Conflicts:** Not Applicable

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

**Project: An application for Longwood Primary Academy, NET Academies Trust, Essex, to add a Special Educational Needs unit for 16 pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.**

**Decision:** Approve

**Conflicts:** Not Applicable

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

## **Hertfordshire**

### **Significant changes to an open academy**

**Project: An application for Beaumont School, Hertfordshire, to increase its capacity by more than 30 places.**

**Decision:** Approve

**Conflicts:** Not Applicable

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

## **Suffolk**

### **Significant changes to an open academy**

**Project: An application for Elveden Church of England Primary Academy, Elveden Schools Trust, Suffolk, to add a Special Educational Needs unit for 18 pupils aged between 4-7 years.**

**Decision:** Approve

**Conflicts:** Not Applicable

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

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

### Central Bedfordshire

**Project: An application from Watling Lower School, Central Bedfordshire, to convert and become an academy and join Scholars' Education Trust.**

**Type of project:** Converter academy orders

**Reason for why it was taken off agenda:** Further information requested to make an informed decision.

**Project: An application for Meppershall Church of England Academy, Poppy Hill Church of England Multi Academy Trust, Central Bedfordshire, to extend its age range from 4-11 to 2-11.**

**Type of project:** Converter academy orders

**Reason for why it was taken off agenda:** Further information requested to make an informed decision.

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