



Department
for Education

Draft agenda: East of England

This meeting will take place on 22 May 2025.

This is a draft agenda and may change before the meeting.

Submit a comment about an agenda item

If you have any comments about this draft agenda, please email representation.rg-ee@education.gov.uk.

Comments must be submitted by email by 15 May 2025. Any comments submitted after this deadline may not be considered in advance of the meeting.

In your email please include:

- the school/academy name (and where this is about a 'trust change', please also state the name of the recipient trust), and the local authority area of the school/academy
- your relationship to the school/academy
- your comments on the proposal
- any alternative proposal(s) you may have
- any other comments on the school's/academy's future

Please note that we will not respond to emails. Any representations received via email may be required to be released if a Freedom of Information (FOI) request is received by the Department for Education.

Items listed for decision by East of England this month

Bedfordshire

Significant changes to an open academy

- An application for Bedford Academy [URN: 136085], Heart Academies Trust, Bedfordshire, to make the following change:
 - Expansion (increasing physical capacity) from 1440 to 1800 places

Cambridgeshire

Trust changes

- An application for St Mary's Church of England Primary School St Neots [URN: 142034], Cambridgeshire, to transfer from Diocese of Ely Multi-Academy Trust to ACT Multi Academy Trust.

Significant changes to an open academy

- An application for The Icknield Primary School [URN: 148454], Anglian Learning, Cambridgeshire, to change its age range from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11 and add a nursery.

Essex

Converter academy orders

- An application from Downham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School [URN: 115119], Essex, to convert and become an academy and join Berlesduna Academy Trust.

Significant changes to an open academy

- An application for St Mary's Church of England Primary School [URN: 147878], Berlesduna Academy Trust, Essex, to make the following change:
 - adding a 4-place SEN unit or resourced provision
- An application for St Nicholas Church of England Primary School [URN: 149617], Berlesduna Academy Trust, Essex, to make the following change:
 - expansion (increasing physical capacity) from 145 to 210 places
- An application for Saffron Walden County High School [URN: 136776], Saffron Academy Trust, Essex, to make the following change:
 - adding a 40-place SEN unit or resourced provision

Hertfordshire

Significant changes to an open academy

- An application for St Rose's Catholic Infant School [URN: 150799], All Saints Catholic Academy Trust, Hertfordshire, to change its age range from 3 to 7 to 2 to 7.

Suffolk

Converter academy orders

- An application from Hopton CEVA Primary School [URN: 124703], Suffolk, to convert and become an academy and join Elveden Schools Trust.

Glossary of project types

Converter academy orders

Where the governing body of a local authority maintained school has applied to become an academy and wants to join an existing academy trust or set up a new academy trust with other local authority maintained schools.

Sponsored academy orders

Where a local authority maintained school is becoming an academy because it has been judged inadequate by Ofsted or is not making the necessary improvements, meaning it is currently judged as requires improvement, having been judged below good in its previous inspection.

Establishing a new academy through the free school presumption route

Where a local authority has identified a need for a new school in its area and invited applications from trusts to be accountable for the new school.

Significant changes to an open academy - a change which may have a 'significant' impact on the local school environment, through changing the number and/or type of school places and/or where they are offered.

Trust changes

Where an academy is moving from one academy trust to another, including where two or more academy trusts are coming together and academies within those trust are moving to the new trust. It also includes where a single academy trust applies to become a multi academy trust.