



## Notes of meeting: West Midlands Advisory Board

Date of meeting: 25 February 2025

### 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 – Interim Regional Director

### Advisory Board (AB) members

- Steve Taylor
- Mike Donoghue
- Sarah Finch
- Dan Parkes
- Amarjit Cheema
- Tom Leverage
- Guy Shears

### Guests

- None

### Apologies

- None

### DfE senior civil servants

- Dawn Dandy
- Parminder Garcha

### General discussion points

- Introduction from Interim Regional Director
- Regional Director recruitment update
- Regional improvement for standards and excellence teams (RISE) update

## Decisions

### Stoke-on-Trent

#### Trust Changes

**Project: A proposal for:**

- **St Marys Catholic Academy (URN 140114), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **Our Lady and St Benedict Catholic Academy (URN 140141), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **St George and St Martin's Catholic Academy (URN 140145), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Goldenhill (URN 140148), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy (URN 140149), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **St Peter's Catholic Academy (URN 140150), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School (URN 140151), Stoke-on-Trent**

**to transfer from The Newman Catholic Collegiate, Stoke-on-Trent to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56 are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.
- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of planning by the Archdiocese with the trusts and schools, developing their MAT strategy and support structures.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

**Project: A proposal for:**

- **Our Lady's Catholic Academy (URN 140287), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **St Augustine's Catholic Academy (URN 140296), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **St Gregory's Catholic Academy (URN 140297), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy (URN 140298), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **St Thomas More Catholic Academy (URN 140304), Stoke-on-Trent**

**to transfer from All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Stoke-on-Trent to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56 are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.
- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust / Archdiocese of the decision.

**Project: A proposal for:**

- **St Teresa's Catholic (A) Primary School (URN 140804), Stoke-on-Trent**
- **St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Primary School (URN 140805), Stoke-on-Trent**

**to transfer from Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, Stoke-on-Trent to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56 are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.
- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust / Archdiocese of the decision.

# Staffordshire

## Converter academy orders

### Project: An application from:

- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Cannock), (URN 124354), Staffordshire
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Rugeley), (URN 124360), Staffordshire
- St Joseph and St Theresa Catholic Primary, (URN 124351), Staffordshire
- St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, (URN 124376), Staffordshire
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School, (URN 124349), Staffordshire

to convert and become an academy and join The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).

### Representations received:

- No representations were made for this project.

### AB discussion:

- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Cannock), St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Rugeley), St Joseph and St Theresa Catholic Primary, St Thomas More Catholic Primary School and St Mary's Catholic Primary School are all Ofsted "Good" schools which have requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56 are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.
- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- These conversions form part of the Archbishop's comprehensive vision for St Gabriel the Archangel trust as the future of Catholic education in the north of the Archdiocese, focusing on the creation of a strong Catholic Multi-Academy Trust across its 63 schools. The intention is for the 63-school trust to foster collaboration, unite resources and enhance opportunities for pupils, schools and key staff.
- The 6 conversions will formally unite a group of schools serving the community of Cannock and the surrounding area, grouping them together as 'the Cannock Cluster' within the MAC. In the past 5 years, the Cluster has developed strategically through

collaboration to promote good outcomes for students. For the 6 schools, converting into the MAC will help to increase levels of cohesion, integration and sharing of resources and best practice. The MAC will also derive value from these benefits and it regards the schools as capacity-givers in many respects.

- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust / Archdiocese of the decision.

**Project: An application from Horton Lodge Community Special School, (URN 124496), Staffordshire, to convert and become an academy and join Manor Hall Academy Trust.**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- Horton Lodge Community Special School, Staffordshire is an Ofsted “Good” school which has requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- Manor Hall Academy Trust consists of 16 academies across Staffordshire, Cheshire East, Sandwell, Solihull and Knowsley, Stoke-on-Trent. It is a Special Schools and Alternative Provision Trust.
- Manor Hall have a hub within the area of Horton Lodge so best practice can be shared. The trust’s schools already have established relationships with the school, and Spring-field and Meadows are based in the same town as Horton Lodge. Cicley Haughton (trust school) also works closely with Horton as they both have residential provisions, so the trust has experience of this.
- The board discussed finances and school improvement capacity.

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** Mike Donoghue was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

## Trust changes

### Project: A proposal for:

- **Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy (URN 140129), Staffordshire**
- **St John the Evangelist Catholic Primary (URN 140146), Staffordshire**

**to transfer from The Newman Catholic Collegiate, Stoke-on-Trent to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

### Representations received:

- No representations were made for this project.

### AB discussion:

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56 are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.
- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust/Archdiocese of the decision.

### Project: A proposal for:

- **St John Fisher Catholic College (URN 140802), Staffordshire**

- **St Mary's Catholic Primary School (URN 140803), Staffordshire**
- **St Wulstan's Catholic Primary School (URN 143352), Staffordshire**
- **Our Lady and St Werburgh's Catholic Primary School (URN 145687), Staffordshire**

**to transfer from Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, Stoke-on-Trent to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56 are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.
- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust / Archdiocese of the decision.

**Project: A proposal for St Christopher's Catholic Primary Academy (URN 148318), Staffordshire to transfer from St Francis and St Clare Catholic Multi Academy**

## **Company, Wolverhampton to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

### **Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

### **AB discussion:**

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56 are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.
- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust / Archdiocese of the decision.

## **Wolverhampton**

### **Trust changes**

#### **Project: A proposal for:**

- **SS. Mary and John's Catholic Primary Academy (URN 139800), Wolverhampton**
- **St Edmund's Catholic Academy (URN 139891), Wolverhampton**

- **St Michael's Catholic Primary Academy and Nursery (URN 139892), Wolverhampton**
- **St Teresa's Catholic Primary Academy (URN 139893), Wolverhampton**
- **SS Peter and Paul Catholic Primary Academy & Nursery (URN 139894), Wolverhampton**
- **Corpus Christi Catholic Primary Academy (URN 141769), Wolverhampton**
- **Holy Rosary Catholic Primary Academy (URN 141789), Wolverhampton**
- **Our Lady and St Chad Catholic Academy (URN 141802), Wolverhampton**
- **St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy, Wolverhampton (URN 141827), Wolverhampton**
- **St Anthony's Catholic Primary Academy (URN 147367), Wolverhampton**
- **St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy (URN 147630), Wolverhampton**

**to transfer from St Francis and St Clare Catholic Multi Academy Company, Wolverhampton to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 6 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56 are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.
- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust / Archdiocese of the decision.

## Converter academy orders

**Project: An application from St Paul's Church of England Aided Primary School, (URN 104382), Wolverhampton to convert and become an academy and join Three Spires Trust.**

### Representations received:

- No representations were made for this project.

### AB discussion:

- St Paul's Church of England Aided Primary School, Wolverhampton is an Ofsted "Requires Improvement" school which has requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- Three Spires Trust consists of 6 academies across Staffordshire and Wolverhampton.
- The governing board at St Paul's Church of England Aided Primary School have voted to proceed with academisation and Three Spires Trust is their preferred option. The school feeds into two of the trust's secondaries, St Regis Church of England Academy and St Peter's Collegiate Academy. St Paul's also has existing links with St Michael's Church of England Aided Primary School (pipeline), its headteacher having been mentored by the headteacher at St Michael's. The school is seeking to strengthen these ties by becoming part of Three Spires's 'south' hub and is also looking to benefit from the school improvement support offered as being part of a MAT.
- The board discussed the opportunity presented by the proposal but declined the proposal after a wider discussion on short term questions arising from finances, performance data and Ofsted.

**Decision:** Decline.

**Conflicts:** Sarah Finch was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Feedback decision to the school/trust/diocese detailing the further information required or rationale for deciding.

### Project: An application from:

- **Fallings Park Primary School, (URN 104294), Wolverhampton**
- **Dovecotes Primary School, (URN 104350), Wolverhampton**
- **Merridale Primary School, (URN 104334), Wolverhampton**
- **Bantock Primary School, (URN 132197), Wolverhampton**

**to convert and become an academy and form a new trust called The Wulfruna Partnership.**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- Fallings Park Primary School, Dovecotes Primary School, Merridale Primary School and Bantock Primary School are all Ofsted “Good” schools which have requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- All schools in the proposed trust are based in Wolverhampton, and the proposed trust believe this will allow it to serve the unique needs of the community. All four schools already have a relationship with each other, carrying out moderation and offering strategic support, for example, a member of staff from Fallings Park was seconded to Bantock to support curriculum and teaching.
- The proposed trust, in bringing these four Wolverhampton schools together, believes it will be able to draw on their collective understanding, knowledge of the risks and challenges that the schools face. Their inclusive and adaptive pedagogical approaches which develop the whole child, will help to achieve their ambition of ensuring all pupils can achieve their aspirations.
- The proposed trust says it will share strategies focused on the most challenging circumstances of deprivation, SEND, mobility, attendance, safeguarding, EAL and digital transformation. The proposed trust further explain it will sustain and enhance existing professional connections that have a proven track record.
- The Wulfruna Partnership’s mission is to challenge existing norms and empower teachers and leaders to provide an exceptional education for every child, creating an environment where all children learn and thrive. They will strive to maximize support and foster growth through their strong collective identity. The proposal to form a trust has been under discussion amongst the four schools for the last two years.
- The board discussed the trusts governance and leadership and sought assurances on finances and growth. This new MAT formation will add MAT capacity to the Local Authority.
- The board recommends CEO mentoring, a School Resource Management Adviser and an external review of governance.

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

## Shropshire

### Converter academy orders

**Project: An application from Broseley CofE Primary School, (URN 123523), Shropshire to convert and become an academy and join Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust.**

#### **Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

#### **AB discussion:**

- Broseley CofE Primary School, Shropshire is an Ofsted “Good” school which has requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust consists of 18 academies across Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire.
- Broseley CofE Primary School’s governing board has unanimously voted to proceed with academisation, with the Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust identified as the school’s preferred choice. Broseley CofE Primary School is a voluntary controlled school within Shropshire, whose vision, values and ethos are closely aligned with those of the Diocese of Hereford MAT.
- The Diocese of Hereford MAT currently has a considerable geographical footprint within Shropshire with a total of 10 primary schools and one secondary school, which includes a mixture of both rural and larger educational settings, as well as varying levels of pupil deprivation. As a school with an average sized KS2 cohort and %FSM lower than the national average, Broseley will be well supported by the Diocese of Hereford MAT and their experience in supporting similar Primary schools within the area.
- The board discussed the opportunity presented by the proposal but declined the proposal after a wider discussion on the scale of growth given school improvement, finances and primary and secondary performance data.

**Decision:** Decline.

**Conflicts:** Guy Shears was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Feedback decision to the school/trust/diocese detailing the further information required or rationale for deciding.

**Project: An application from Albrighton Primary School & Nursery, (URN 123410), Shropshire to convert and become an academy and form a new trust called Four Hills Education Trust.**

#### **Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

#### **AB discussion:**

- Albrighton Primary School & Nursery, Shropshire is an Ofsted “Good” school which has requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- This is a proposal for a new MAT formation, Four Hills Academy Trust, with the conversion of 6 maintained schools. All Schools are Good and Outstanding and in close proximity of each other and within a 25-minute drive to Millbrook Primary School where the trust headquarters will be based.
- All of the schools have considered the option of joining an existing trust. However, each school has a strong preference to be part of a new MAT with the opportunity to shape the ethos and values of the trust. Existing relationships between the schools have been further cemented by extensive joint working on the academisation proposals. The schools have a shared vision of working together to support pupils through community partnerships, shared expertise and feel that joining a local new Primary MAT will help to further support each school.
- The trust’s vision as a new MAT is for each local school to be at the heart of its local community, providing high quality education, family support and some adult education. It aims to take a partnership approach to address local challenges.
- Albrighton is a semi-rural school which benefits from having strong community links. The school states that the links are used to enhance its curriculum and encourage pupils’ desire for learning.
- The school believes that joining the trust will enhance its child-centred approach, inspiring every child to reach their full potential academically, socially, and emotionally.
- The trust’s collaborative environment is expected to boost professional development for staff, drive innovation, and address shared challenges, ultimately improving educational practices.
- The board discussed the trust’s finances and growth plans and were supportive of this match.

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

**Project: An application from:**

- **St Mary's CofE Primary School, (URN 123458), Shropshire**
- **Norton-in-Hales CofE Primary School, (URN 123491), Shropshire**

**to convert and become an academy and join Three Spires Trust.**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- St Mary's CofE Primary School and Norton-in-Hales CofE Primary School are both Ofsted "Good" schools which have requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- Three Spires Trust consists of 6 academies across Staffordshire and Wolverhampton.
- St Mary's CofE Primary School is pursuing academisation in line with the preference of the Diocese of Lichfield Board of Education for their Church of England schools to become part of a family of schools affiliated with the diocese. Three Spires Trust is the school's preferred choice. The school would join a newly created 'south' hub for the trust and would be under 6 miles away from the nearest primary in this hub, St Michael's Church of England Aided Primary School (pipeline). School leaders are seeking to benefit from the trust's central offer of support and professional development, while offering the MAT their knowledge and experience of running a well-performing school in a more rural setting.
- The governing board at Norton-In-Hales CofE Primary School have voted to proceed with academisation, and Three Spires Trust is their preferred option. The school would become part of the trust's 'north' hub, which currently includes schools in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent. It plans to offer the trust expertise in running a small, rural school, and is keen to benefit from the support that a MAT can offer, particular with regards to staff development, safeguarding and SEND provision. Academisation also aligns with the Diocese of Lichfield's preference for their school to join a MAT.
- The board discussed the opportunity presented by the proposal but declined the proposal after a wider discussion on finances, pupil numbers and performance data.

**Decision:** Decline.

**Conflicts:** Sarah Finch was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Feedback decision to the school/trust/diocese detailing the further information required or rationale for deciding.

## Herefordshire

### Converter academy orders

**Project: An application from:**

- **Luston Primary School, (URN 116707), Herefordshire**
- **Shobdon Primary School, (URN 116734), Herefordshire**
- **Ivington CofE Primary and Pre-School, (URN 116894), Herefordshire**

**to convert and become an academy and join Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust.**

## **Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

## **AB discussion:**

- Luston Primary School, Shobdon Primary School and Ivington CofE Primary School are all Ofsted “Good” schools which have requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust consists of 18 academies across Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire.
- Luston Primary School states that the Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust vision and ethos, which focusses upon ‘Educating for life in all its fullness’ aligns with the school’s values. Whilst DHMAT are a Church Trust, the school notes that the Trust does not work exclusively with faith schools. Luston Primary School states that the Trust approach, which includes those of faith and non-faith backgrounds, would support the school to provide a vibrant and inclusive education to all pupils through their shared ethos and values.
- Luston Primary School is located within a 30-minute drive of seven DHMAT primary schools which were rated ‘Good’ under the previous Ofsted inspection framework. The school states that, due to their rural location, the strong support mechanisms that DHMAT offer to staff, are a key factor in their preference to voluntarily convert to join DHMAT.
- Shobdon Primary School states that this is their preferred Trust due to the vision and ethos that the school shares with DHMAT, which places a focus on ‘Educating for life in all its fullness’, inclusive of schools from all faith backgrounds. Shobdon Primary School identifies that the Trust has experience of working with community schools and that by working with DHMAT towards their shared ethos and values, they may benefit from this experience to continue to thrive.
- Shobdon Primary School is located near to several existing DHMAT primary schools, with nine primary schools judged to be ‘Good’ under previous inspection frameworks, within a thirty-minute drive of the school. The school states that DHMAT have strong mechanisms to support staff, which they identify as a key factor in their preference to convert to join DHMAT due to their rural location.
- Ivington CofE Primary and Pre-School states that their Christian values align with those of the Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust (DHMAT) and the Diocese of Hereford. The school was graded ‘Outstanding’ in their most recent SIAMS report and wishes to join a trust that shares its desire to foster a Christian ethos alongside academic excellence. This is part of the diocesan strategy to grow further in Herefordshire.
- Ivington Primary and Pre-School is located within a 30-minute drive of six DHMAT primary schools which were rated ‘Good’ under the previous Ofsted inspection framework.
- The Diocese of Hereford MAT currently has a considerable geographical footprint within Shropshire with a total of 10 primary schools and one secondary school, which includes a mixture of both rural and larger educational settings, as well as varying

levels of pupil deprivation. As a school with an average sized KS2 cohort and %FSM lower than the national average.

- The board discussed the opportunity presented by the proposal but declined the proposal after a wider discussion on the scale of growth given school improvement, finances and primary and secondary performance data.

**Decision:** Decline.

**Conflicts:** Guy Shears was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Feedback decision to the school/trust/diocese detailing the further information required or rationale for deciding.

## Sandwell

### Converter academy orders

**Project: An application from Holy Name Catholic Primary School, (URN 103996), Sandwell to convert and become an academy and join The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- Holy Name Catholic Primary School, Sandwell is an Ofsted “Good” school which has requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56 are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.
- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- These conversions form part of the Archbishop’s comprehensive vision for St Gabriel the Archangel trust as the future of Catholic education in the north of the Archdiocese, focusing on the creation of a strong Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

across its 63 schools. The intention is for the 63-school trust to foster collaboration, unite resources and enhance opportunities for pupils, schools and key staff.

- The 6 conversions will formally unite a group of schools serving the community of Cannock and the surrounding area, grouping them together as ‘the Cannock Cluster’ within the MAC. In the past 5 years, the Cluster has developed strategically through collaboration to promote good outcomes for students. For the 6 schools, converting into the MAC will help to increase levels of cohesion, integration and sharing of resources and best practice. The MAC will also derive value from these benefits and it regards the schools as capacity-givers in many respects.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust/ Archdiocese of the decision.

## Trust changes

**Project: A proposal for:**

- **St Mary's Catholic Primary School (URN 147795), Sandwell**
- **Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School (URN 147881), Sandwell**
- **St John Bosco Catholic Primary School (URN 148535), Sandwell**

**to transfer from The St John Bosco Catholic Academy, Dudley to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56

are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.

- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

## Dudley

### Trust changes

**Project: A proposal for:**

- **Bishop Milner Catholic College (URN 140126), Dudley**
- **St Chad's Catholic Primary School (URN 140144), Dudley**
- **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (URN 140147), Dudley**

**to transfer from The St John Bosco Catholic Academy, Dudley to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56

are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.

- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

## Converter academy orders

**Project: An application from:**

- **Ashwood Park Primary, (URN 103818), Dudley**
- **Howley Grange Primary, (URN 103814), Dudley**
- **Quarry Bank Primary, (URN 103830), Dudley**
- **Peters Hill Primary, (URN 103791), Dudley**

**to convert and become an academy and form a new trust called Round Oak Collaborative.**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- Howley Grange Primary, Quarry Bank Primary and Peters Hill Primary are all Ofsted “Good” schools and Ashwood Park Primary is an Ofsted “Requires Improvement” School which have requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- The proposed trust will consist of four Primary Schools in Dudley. It will be led by the current headteacher of Peters Hill Primary and will be known as the Round Oak Collaborative Multi Academy Trust.

- All schools in the proposed trust are based in Dudley and believe this will allow it to serve the unique needs of their catchments. All four schools already have a relationship with each other and meet as a shadow trust with a view to improving educational standards and outcomes.
- The schools currently work together as the Round Oak Collaborative and include a board of shadow trustees and shadow CEO and Shadow Lead for Business and Operations. The group would like to formalise this work through the creation of a MAT, with the aim to build its own capacity for sustained school improvement by accessing and developing the wide range of expertise available across its schools including support for financial sustainability through collaboration and economies of scale.
- The board considered finances, the school improvement plan and pupil numbers.

**Decision:** Decline.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Feedback decision to the school/trust detailing the further information required or rationale for deciding.

## Walsall

### Converter academy orders

**Project: An application from:**

- **Sunshine Infant and Nursery School, (URN 104145), Walsall**
- **Blakenall Heath Junior School, (URN 104144), Walsall**
- **Moorcroft Wood Primary School, (URN 135016), Walsall**
- **St James Primary School, (URN 131581), Walsall**
- **Castlefort Junior Mixed and Infant School, (URN 104204), Walsall**
- **Meadow View JMI School, (URN 104217), Walsall**
- **Lindens Primary School, (URN 104212), Walsall**
- **Barcroft Primary School, (URN 135081), Walsall**
- **Beacon Primary School, (URN 131580), Walsall**

**to convert and become an academy and form a new trust called The Lighthouse Trust.**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- Sunshine Infant and Nursery School, Blakenall Heath Junior School, Moorcroft Wood Primary School, St James Primary School, Castlefort Junior Mixed and Infant School, Meadow View JMI School, Lindens Primary School and Barcroft Primary School are all Ofsted "Good" schools and Beacon Primary School is an Ofsted

“Outstanding” School which have requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.

- The proposal for the federation to become a MAT, would allow the schools to build on existing structures and working relationships through the shared vision they have developed together.
- The schools are used to working closely with a central team including federation-wide school improvement leads and the Chief Operating Officer, Paul Drew who would become the CEO.
- All schools are geographically close in the Walsall area, between 2.5 and 9 miles from the central offices based at Beacon Primary School.
- Several of the schools serve communities with shared characteristics with several having levels of FSM pupils significantly above national average. This will allow the new trust to continue to develop and share common strategies for school improvement, serving communities with high levels of deprivation.
- The new trust say it will be able to build on their shared vision to serve pupils by developing a learning community through school-to-school support and collaboration that ensures high quality professional development.
- The proposal explains how this would allow the schools to continue to improve and share their expertise with SEND provision developed through the Specialist Resource Provision facilities in four of the federation schools.
- The board discussed leadership and a review of governance, along with the school improvement strategy, capacity and performance outcomes.

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

## Trust changes

**Project: A proposal for St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School (URN 147163), Walsall to transfer from The St John Bosco Catholic Academy, Dudley to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56

are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.

- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.
- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

## Telford and Wrekin

### Converter academy orders

**Project: An application from:**

- **Coalbrookdale and Ironbridge CofE Primary School, (URN 123542), Telford and Wrekin**
- **John Fletcher of Madeley Primary School, (URN 123526), Telford and Wrekin**

**to convert and become an academy and join Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust.**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- Coalbrookdale and Ironbridge CofE Primary School is an Ofsted “Requires Improvement” and John Fletcher of Madeley Primary School is an Ofsted “Good” School which have requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- Coalbrookdale and Ironbridge Primary School has identified the need for improvements that can be provided by a high-quality trust with a stable governance,

a strong school improvement team, and a proven track record of delivering improvement.

- Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust consists of 18 academies across Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire.
- The board discussed the opportunity presented by the proposal but declined the proposal after a wider discussion on the scale of growth given school improvement, finances and primary and secondary performance data.

**Decision:** Decline.

**Conflicts:** Guy Shears was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Feedback decision to the school/trust detailing the further information required or rationale for deciding.

**Project: An application from:**

- **Woodlands Primary School, (URN 135031), Telford and Wrekin**
- **William Reynolds Primary School, (URN 123433), Telford and Wrekin**
- **Wrockwardine Wood Infant School and Nursery, (URN 123406), Telford and Wrekin**
- **Meadows Primary School and Nursery, (URN 134999), Telford and Wrekin**
- **Millbrook Primary School, (URN 134852), Telford and Wrekin**

**to convert and become an academy and form a new trust called Four Hills Education Trust.**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- Woodlands Primary School, Wrockwardine Wood Infant School and Nursery, Meadows Primary School and Nursery and Millbrook Primary School are all Ofsted “Good” schools and William Reynolds Primary School is an Ofsted “Outstanding” School which have requested to convert and join a Multi Academy Trust.
- This is a proposal for a new MAT formation, Four Hills Academy Trust, with the conversion of 6 maintained schools. All Schools are Good and Outstanding and in close proximity of each other and within a 25-minute drive to Millbrook Primary School where the trust headquarters will be based.
- All of the schools have considered the option of joining an existing trust. However, each school has a strong preference to be part of a new MAT with the opportunity to shape the ethos and values of the trust. Existing relationships between the schools have been further cemented by extensive joint working on the academisation proposals. The schools have a shared vision of working together to support pupils through community partnerships, shared expertise and feel that joining a local new Primary MAT will help to further support each school.

- The trust's vision as a new MAT is for each local school to be at the heart of its local community, providing high quality education, family support and some adult education. It aims to take a partnership approach to address local challenges.
- The trust's says its collaborative environment is expected to boost professional development for staff, drive innovation, and address shared challenges, ultimately improving educational practices.
- The board discussed the trust's finances and growth plans and were supportive of this match.

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

## Birmingham

### Trust changes

**Project: A proposal for St Mark's Catholic Primary School (URN 148973), Birmingham to transfer from The St John Bosco Catholic Academy, Dudley to The Painsley Catholic Academy (to be named St Gabriel the Archangel).**

**Representations received:**

- No representations were made for this project.

**AB discussion:**

- This project brings together six existing Catholic trusts: Painsley Catholic Academy, The Newman Catholic Collegiate, All Saints Catholic Collegiate, Christ the King Catholic Collegiate, St Frances and St Clare Catholic MAC, and The St John Bosco Catholic Academy.
- The newly formed trust will encompass 63 schools across five local authorities: Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, and Wolverhampton. Of these, 56 are already established academies, with seven schools joining as voluntary converters, a further school already has an Academy Order in place.
- This consolidation aims to strengthen Catholic education across the region, leveraging years of collaboration with the Archdiocese of Birmingham to provide a unified, strategic approach.
- The vision for this merger, which gained traction in the summer of 2024, is to create a cohesive, high-performing trust that will serve the needs of pupils, staff, and local communities while ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in line with Catholic educational values.
- The Interim Regional Director and West Midlands Advisory Board members had an in-depth discussion on scale, governance, finances, and accountability. While some risks were identified, these were primarily associated with the nature of the venture and were not considered, individually or collectively, as reasons to withhold support for the merger.

- The West Midlands team provided assurances of the support and the plans in place as the project progresses.

**Decision:** This case has been escalated to the Minister due to its novel nature.

**Conflicts:** Tom Leverage was not present and did not receive papers for this item due to a professional connection.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

## Decisions taken outside of AB meeting

List of decisions taken outside of AB meetings.

### Converter academy orders

**Project: An application from:**

- Weston Lullingfields CofE School, (URN 123513), Shropshire
- West Felton CofE Primary School, (URN 123512), Shropshire
- Kinnerley Church of England Controlled Primary School, (URN 123481), Shropshire
- St Andrew's CofE Primary School, (URN 123477), Shropshire

**to convert and become an academy and join Marches Academy Trust.**

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

**Project: An application from:**

- Potters Green Primary School, (URN 103659), Coventry
- Little Heath Primary School, (URN 103647), Coventry

**to convert and become an academy and join Castle Phoenix Trust.**

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

**Project: An application from:**

- Old Church Church of England C Primary School, (URN 104224), Walsall
- Little Bloxwich Primary School, (URN 104222), Walsall
- Abbey Primary School, (URN 104168), Walsall

**to convert and become an academy and join St Bartholomew's CE Multi Academy Trust.**

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

**Project: An application from:**

- **Tibberton Church of England Primary School, (URN 123505), Telford and Wrekin**
- **St Lawrence Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, (URN 123496), Telford and Wrekin**

**to convert and become an academy and join St Bartholomew's CE Multi Academy Trust.**

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

**Project: An application from:**

- **St Teresa's Catholic Primary School, (URN 103456), Birmingham**
- **St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary, (URN 103465), Birmingham**
- **St Clare's Catholic Primary, (URN 103476), Birmingham**
- **St Francis Catholic Primary, (URN 103437), Birmingham**
- **St Augustine's Catholic Primary, (URN 103431), Birmingham**
- **St Vincent's Catholic Primary, (URN 103417), Birmingham**

**to convert and become an academy and join St Teresa of Calcutta Multi Academy Company.**

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** Delivery Officer to inform school / trust of the decision.

## **Significant changes**

**Project: St Edmund Campion Catholic School, Birmingham**

- **To increase the physical capacity from 1043 to 1240 places with effect from 01 September 2025.**

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** None.

### **Project: Queen's Church of England Academy, Warwickshire**

- To open a SEN Resource Provision at Queen's Church of England Academy in April 2025.

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** None.

### **Project: Belgrave St Bartholomew's Academy, Kingsland CofE Academy and Priory CofE Academy, Stoke-on-Trent**

- Church Avenue SEN Unit to be closed at Belgrave St Bartholomew's Academy and Kings Avenue SEN Unit to be closed at Belgrave St Bartholomew's Academy.
- Church Avenue SEN Unit opened at Priory C of E Academy (the academy it currently shares a site with)
- Kings Avenue SEN Unit opened at Kingsland C.E Academy (the academy it currently shares a site with)

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** None.

### **Project: Lakey Lane Primary School, Birmingham**

- To add a resource base within Lakey Lane Primary School.

**Decision:** Approve.

**Conflicts:** None.

**Further actions required:** None.

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

### **Converter academy orders**

**Project: An application from:**

- **Perryfields Primary PRU, (URN 130984), Worcestershire**
- **The Beacon Primary Pupil Referral Unit, (URN 130987), Worcestershire**
- **The Forge Secondary Short Stay School, (URN 136161), Worcestershire**

**to convert and become an academy and form a new trust called Perryfields Multi Academy Trust.**

**Reason for removal:** Project has been deferred.

