



Department
for Education

Notes of meeting: East Midlands Advisory Board

Date of planned meeting: 10 September 2025. **Please note that an Advisory Board meeting did not take place.**

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

- Carol Gray – Regional Director

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Sian Hampton
- Chris Wheatley
- Ash Rahman
- Paul Heery
- Julian Scholefield
- Mark Thomas
- Paul West

Guests

- N/A.

Apologies

- N/A

DfE senior civil servants

- N/A

General discussion points

- No discussion points were raised.

Decisions

Lincolnshire

Trust changes

Project: An application for Bracebridge Infant and Nursery School (single-academy trust), URN:139142, Lincolnshire, to join The Priory Federation of Academies.

Representations received:

No representations were made for this project.

Decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school and trust.

Academy opening approved in principle

List of academies approved to open the following month.

Project: Hunsbury Park Primary School.

Points raised in discussion: Proposed school opening date – 1 October 2025.

Conflicts: None.

Further action required: No action required.

Project: Coleby Church of England Primary Academy.

Points raised in discussion: Proposed school opening date – 1 October 2025.

Conflicts: None.

Further action required: No action required.

Project: Farmilo Primary School and Nursery.

Points raised in discussion: Proposed school opening date – 1 October 2025.

Conflicts: None.

Further action required: No action required.

Decisions taken outside of AB meeting

List of decisions taken outside of AB meetings.

Significant changes to an open academy

Project: An application from Warwick Academy (Lion Academy Trust), URN:146413, North Northamptonshire, to make the following change: Change of age range including adding a nursery for 2–4-year-olds.

Decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school, trust and to North Northamptonshire Council.

Project: An application from Olympic Primary (Lion Academy Trust), URN:146415, North Northamptonshire, to make the following change: Change of age range by expanding the existing nursery to accommodate 2–4-year-olds.

Decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school, trust and to North Northamptonshire Council.

Project: An application for Dorothy Goodman School Hinckley (Open Thinking Partnership), 138156, Leicestershire to make the following change: increasing the planned number of pupils in a special or AP academy by 40 places, from 380 to 420.

Decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school, trust and to Leicestershire County Council.

Project: An application for St Martins School, URN:147143 (The Shaw Education Trust), Derby, to make the following significant changes:

- Acquiring an additional satellite site (closing existing satellite site and transferring to a new location).
- Retrospectively increasing the number of planned places from 165 to 248 (including 50 at sixth form).

Decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school, trust and to Derby City Council.

Project: An application for St Andrew's Academy (The Shaw Education Trust), Derby, URN:147132, to make the following significant changes:

- Acquiring a satellite site.
- Increasing the number of planned places from 101 to 170.

Decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school, trust and to Derby County Council.

Project: An application for Prince William School, North Northamptonshire, URN:142063 (East Midlands Academy Trust) to make the following significant change: Adding a SEN unit or resourced provision with a capacity of 48 for pupils aged 11-16.

Decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school, trust and to North Northamptonshire Council.

Project: An application for St Anne's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Derbyshire, URN:146109, (St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi-Academy Trust) to make the following significant change: Change of age range (including adding or removing a nursery or sixth form provision) from 5–11 to 2–11 by introducing a 20-place nursery.

Decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school, trust and to Derbyshire County Council.

Project: An application for University Academy Holbeach (University of Lincoln Academy Trust), URN:137282, Lincolnshire, to make the following significant change: Expansion (increasing physical capacity including increasing sixth forms and nurseries) expanding from 1,200 to 1,350 places from September 2026.

Decision: Approve.

Conflicts: None.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school, trust and to Lincolnshire County Council.