



Note of meeting and decisions: London Advisory Board

Date of Advisory Board meeting: 27 November 2025

Attendance at Advisory Board Meeting

Acting Regional Director (RD) - Chair

- Alan Parnum

Advisory Board (AB) members

- Penny Barratt
- Emma Bradshaw (left the meeting before the Sutton item)
- Cassie Buchanan
- Lee Mason-Ellis
- Dr Vanessa Ogden
- Rama Venchard

Apologies

- Susan Douglas

List of decisions taken at the meeting

Camden

Convertor Academy Order

An application for St Eugene De Mazenod Roman Catholic Primary School (100047) and Our Lady Roman Catholic Primary School (100048) to convert and become academies and join All Saints' Trust (TR03162)

Representations received: Yes - concerns were raised about the potential impact of academisation on the schools' strong collaborative ties within Camden Learning, as well as wider issues including financial sustainability. The Regional Director (RD) and Advisory Board (AB) noted the concerns but concluded that joining All Saints' Trust provides a strong framework for sustaining the schools' ethos, educational outcomes and financial viability underpinned by credible financial forecasts.

Decision: Approved with an expectation that the schools will continue their collaboration with the Camden Learning partnership, which supports positive outcomes.

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the schools/trust

Hammersmith and Fulham and Westminster

Converter Academy Order

An application for St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School (100357) in Hammersmith and Fulham and St Vincent's Catholic Primary School (101143) and St Vincent De Paul Catholic Primary School (101144) in Westminster to convert and become academies and join Saint John Southworth Catholic Academy Trust (TR03141)

Representations received: None

Decision: Approved subject to a School Resource Management Adviser (SRMA) being appointed (subject to availability).

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Tower Hamlets

Trust Change

An application for all three academies in Canary Wharf College Ltd (TR00383) to transfer into University Schools Trust (TR02349)

Representations received: Yes - around 100 representations were received. These were shared with all attendees in advance of the meeting and considered alongside the application.

The Regional Director (RD) and Advisory Board (AB) noted the concerns raised in the representations and the strength of feeling from a number of CWC families, notably regarding operational matters such as the timing of the school day and year. It was also noted, however, that operational issues such as these are a matter for the academy trust, based on the authority devolved through legislation and the funding agreement. The RD concluded that CWC and UST trusts had made the case that the transfer will contribute to maintaining and improving the performance of all schools in the amalgamated trust.

Decision: Approved on the condition that support is provided to the Chief Executive Officer of UST by an experienced CEO of a larger, established multi-academy trust (MAT) to share good practice and ensure that the trust's growth is successfully embedded. DfE to review progress with integrating the two trusts. UST to implement any changes recommended by their recently commissioned external review of governance arrangements.

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the trusts

Sutton

Trust Change

An application for Wandle Valley Academy (137507), part of Parallel Learning Trust (TR02687), to transfer into Alternative Learning Trust (TR03900)

Representations received: None

Decision: Approve

Conflicts: Emma Bradshaw did not participate in discussions or provide advice on this project due to her current work with the Trust.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

List of decisions taken outside the Advisory Board meeting

Brent

Significant Changes

An application for Ark Elvin Academy (141019), part of Ark Academies (TR00081) to add a Specialist Resource Provision

Decision: Approve

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

An application for The Avenue School (14373), part of The Rise Partnership Trust (TR03726), to increase capacity in their special/alternative provision by 46 pupils over three years and add a satellite site

Decision: Approve

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

An application for The Manor School (143731), part of The RISE Partnership Trust (TR03726) to increase capacity in their special/alternative provision by 64 pupils over three years and add a satellite site

Decision: Approve

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Hounslow

Significant Change

An application for Westbrook Primary School (139889) to increase capacity to 630 places, increase nursery capacity to 39 places, add 10 places for a Visual Impairment resource base and extend the age range of the school from 3-11 to 2-11

Decision: Approve

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school/trust

Wandsworth

Convertor Academy Order

An application for Bradstow School (101095) to convert and become an Academy and join The Bridge MAT (TR03056)

Decision: Decline

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the local authority, school and trust

Convertor Academy Order

An application for Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (142729) to convert and become an Academy and to join Christ the Redeemer Catholic Education Trust (TR04011)

Decision: Following deferral in September, this decision has been approved with the following conditions:

1. Trust to provide confirmation that all key roles, currently not salaried, are on the payroll by summer term 2026.
2. School Resource Management Adviser (SRMA) to be appointed and a date agreed (subject to availability) by 1 April 2026.
3. Trust to consolidate for the remainder of this academic year. No further applications for growth will be considered this year except for schools planning to join the trust from September 2026 onwards. To be reviewed on a rolling 12-month basis.

Further actions required: Feedback decision to the school and trust

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

Sutton

Convertor Academy Order

An application for Foresters Primary School (102986) to join Leo Academy Trust TR00456. The project has been deferred whilst further information is sought.

© Crown copyright 2026