



Department
for Education

Draft agenda: South East Advisory Board

This meeting will take place on 19 February 2026.

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 RG.SE@education.gov.uk.

Comments must be submitted by email by 12 February 2026. 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 South East this month

Kent, Medway and Surrey Sub-Region

Converter academy orders

- An application from Staplehurst School, URN: 118313, Kent, to convert and become an academy and join Coppice Primary Partnership.
- An application from St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, URN: 125204, Surrey, to convert and become an academy and join Xavier Catholic Education Trust.

Coastal Sub-Region

Significant changes to an open academy

An application for Fawley Infant School, URN: 141473, and Blackfield Primary and Nursery School, URN: 141474, Inspire Learning Partnership, Hampshire, to make the following change:

- Significant Change – Amalgamating 2 or more academies

West Sub-Region

Converter academy orders

- An application from Streatley C.E. Voluntary Controlled School, URN: 109979, West Berkshire, to convert and become an academy and join Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust.

Trust Changes

- An application to merge Bonitas Multi-Academy Trust Ltd, Bracknell Forest, and Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust, Oxfordshire.

Significant changes to an open academy

An application for Walton High, URN: 136842, Milton Keynes, 5 Dimensions Trust, to make the following change:

- Significant Change – De-amalgamating an academy

Establishing a new academy through the free school presumption route

- A proposal for a sponsor for Elverby School, Milton Keynes.
- A proposal for a sponsor for Whitehouse South School, Milton Keynes.

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 trusts are moving to the new trust. It also includes where a single academy trust applies to become a multi academy trust.

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