



Department
for Education

Draft agenda: East of England

This meeting will take place on 26 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 Representation.RG-EoE@education.gov.uk.

Comments must be submitted by email by 19 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 East of England this month

Bedfordshire

Significant changes to an open academy

- An application for Castle Newnham Primary School [151125], Bedfordshire Schools Trust Limited, Bedfordshire, to amalgamate with Castle Newnham Secondary School [151042], Bedfordshire Schools Trust Limited, Bedfordshire to form an all-through school.

Essex

Trust changes

- An application for Lift Columbus [138122], Essex and Lift Pioneer [138219], Essex to transfer from Lift Schools to The Bridge MAT Ltd.

Trust changes

- An application for Jotmans Hall Primary School [137247], Essex to transfer from Jotmans Hall Primary School to Robus Multi Academy Trust.

Norfolk

Significant changes to an open academy

- An application for Middleton Church of England Primary Academy [141662], The Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust, Norfolk, to amalgamate with Gayton Church of England Primary Academy [146060], The Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust, Norfolk.

Converter academy orders

- An application from Ludham Primary School and Nursery [120830], Norfolk, to convert and become an academy and join Hartismere Family of Schools.

Suffolk

Trust changes

- An application for Westbourne Academy [139288], Suffolk to transfer into a new 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 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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