



Department
for Education

Note of decisions: North West Advisory Board

Date of planned meeting: 12 February 2026

Advice

No meeting was held. AB advice was sought by correspondence. The views of members that sent in advice are reflected in the AB discussion sections below, unless the AB member(s) declared a conflict of interest.

Regional Director (RD)

- Vicky Beer

Advisory Board (AB) members that provided advice

- Helen O'Neill
- Nic Brindle
- Annette Williams
- Karen Burns
- Tania Lewyckyj-Wood

Decisions taken outside of AB meeting

List of decisions taken outside of AB meetings.

Converter Academy Order

Project: Hilton Lane Primary School (105914) and Clarendon Road Community Primary School (105902) Salford local authority to convert and join The Link Education Trust.

Decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to School/Trust

Project: Egerton Primary School (105192) Bolton local authority to convert and join The Bolton impact Trust.

Decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to School/Trust

Project: J H Godwin Primary School (110983) Chester West & Chester local authority to convert and join Concordia Multi Academy Trust.

Decision: Approve with conditions

Conditions: Trust to recruit trustee with an accountancy qualification

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to School/Trust

Project: Overchurch Infants School (105043) Wirral local authority to convert and join The Peoples Learning Trust.

Decision: Approve with conditions.

Conditions: No further growth until the trust has returned to an in-year balanced budget.

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to School/Trust

Project: Waterhead Academy (144508) Oldham local authority to convert and join The Co-operative Academies Trust.

Decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to School/Trust

Project: Penwortham Primary School (119157) Lancashire local authority to convert and join Odyssey Academy Trust.

Decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to School/Trust

Trust Changes

Project: Lostock Hall Academy (137111) and Penwortham Priory Academy (138948) Lancashire local authority and to create and join Odyssey Academy Trust.

Decision: Approve

Conflicts: None

Further actions required: Feedback decision to School/Trust

Project: A discussion regarding the options for the following schools in South Cumbria Multi Academy Trust, Westmorland and Furness local authority.

- Chetwynde School (141106)
- Vickerstown School (149244)
- Ormsgill Nursery and Primary School (149295)
- South Walney Junior School (149960)
- Newbarns Primary and Nursery School (149961)
- Cambridge Primary School (150005)

Decision: Defer – comments received on the options considered in relation to the transfer of the six South Cumbria Multi Academy Trust schools. The Regional Director advised that a decision will be made outside of Advisory Board.

Conflicts: George Beveridge as Chair of the Board for Cumbria Education Trust (CET) did not receive any papers and did not provide advice on this project due to a conflict of interest. CET has been providing support to schools in South Cumbria Multi Academy Trust.

Further actions required: Feedback outcome to School/Trust

Significant changes to an open academy

Project: Tonge Moor Primary Academy, The Quill Church of England Trust, Bolton Local authority – Expansion of nursery school by more than 30.

Decision: Approve

Project: Cromwell High School, Kingfisher Learning Trust, Tameside local authority. – Satellite site to a special school for 40 places.

Decision: Approve with conditions

Conditions:

- Confirmation of the funding from Tameside Executive Cabinet on 18th February.
- At the point of the break clause in the lease (5 years) a commitment from the LA for the DfE to be consulted on the future of the provision.

Project: Werneth Primary School, Pinnacle Learning Trust, Oldham local authority. – Adding a SEN unit.

Decision: Approve

Project: Church Lawton School, Liberty Academy Trust, Cheshire East local authority. – Increase in PAN at Special School from 74 to 104.

Decision: Approve

Project: Broken Cross Primary Academy, The Halliard Trust, Cheshire East local authority. – Adding a SEN unit.

Decision: Approve

Project: St Mary's Catholic Primary School, The Blessed Edward Bamber Catholic Multi Academy Trust, Lancashire local authority. – Change of age range and adding a nursery.

Decision: Approve

Project: Statham Primary School, The Beam Education Trust, Warrington local authority. – Adding a SEN unit.

Decision: Approve

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

Converter academy orders

Project: Redgate Community Primary School (104885), Sefton local authority to voluntary transfer to The Lydiate Learning Trust.

Reason for removal: Rescheduled for the March Advisory Board meeting.