



Department
for Education

Draft agenda: North East Advisory Board

This meeting will take place on 26 March 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.NE@education.gov.uk.

Comments must be submitted by email by 13 March 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 North East this month

Redcar and Cleveland

Converter academy orders

- An application for South Bank Community Primary School, URN 134705, Redcar and Cleveland to convert and become an academy and join River Tees Multi Academy Trust.

County Durham

Converter academy orders

- An application for Benfieldside Primary School, URN 114045, County Durham to convert and become an academy and join Stanley Learning Partnership.

Stockton-on-Tees

Converter academy orders

- An application for Durham Lane Primary School, URN 111562, Stockton-on-Tees to convert and become an academy and join Lingfield Education 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.