

# Notes of Meeting: North Headteacher Board

02 May 2019

## Attendance\*

RSC, Chair	Janet Renou RSC for North	Guests
Headteacher Board (HTB) Members	Elizabeth Horne (HTB) Andy Bayston (HTB) Nick Hurn (HTB) George Beveridge (HTB) Chris Clarke (HTB) Lesley Powell (HTB) Zoe Carr (HTB) Sir Michael Wilkins (HTB)	Apologies**
DfE Senior Civil Servants	Katherine Cowell (Interim Director)	*Attendance data is published annually on gov.uk  **Members of the board who apologised have been consulted on all projects, where available, prior to the meeting (excluding items where there were conflicts). Their views are reflected in the discussion at the meeting (where appropriate).

## General Discussion Points

Item	Discussion Point
RSC Update	RSC welcomed board members to the meeting, there were three conflicts of interest declared. RSC updated the board on a number of departmental policies.

## Discussion of projects, including decisions made by RSC with advice from HTB:

All decisions are made in reference to relevant legislation and the published criteria.

### Converter Academy Orders

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
<b>Wreay CofE Primary School, Cumbria to join The Good Shepherd Multi Academy Trust (GSMAT)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This is a proposal for Wreay CofE Primary School to convert and join The Good Shepherd MAT</li><li>• The school was rated Ofsted 'Outstanding' in 2011.</li><li>• The board was advised that performance is strong, with pupils achieving the expected standard in RWM which are above both the national and local authority averages.</li><li>• The board was advised that the newly appointed CEO will relinquish her role as executive head if the conversion of Wreay is approved.</li><li>• The board approved this proposal.</li></ul>	Approve	
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Inform the school/trust of the decision		

## Any 'other' RSC decisions not covered above (HTB to discuss sponsor options)

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Further Action Required	Conflicts
<b>Tanfield School, Durham – discuss sponsor options</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a proposal to discuss sponsor match options for Tanfield School.</li> <li>• This school was issued with an Academy Order in March 2019 following an 'Inadequate' Ofsted judgement.</li> <li>• 2018 performance remains a concern.</li> <li>• The board discussed a number of sponsor options and agreed on a preferred option, in principle. Further due diligence will be carried out prior to the official sponsor match.</li> </ul>	Approve in principle		Lesley Powell did not receive the paperwork and was not present during this discussion.
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Inform the academy/trust of the decision			

## Sponsored Route

<p><b>Brayton CofE VC Primary School, North Yorkshire to be sponsored by The Star MAT</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a proposal to approve the sponsor match for Brayton CofE VC Primary.</li> <li>• This case has previously been considered by the board on 14 February 2019, RSC gave approval in principle to The Star MAT as the preferred sponsor pending due diligence.</li> <li>• Ofsted inspected the school in October 2018 and found the school to be 'Inadequate'</li> <li>• The board was advised that Star MAT is a relatively new trust with primary expertise and has recent experience in sponsoring schools.</li> <li>• The trust has 8 primary schools all of which form a hub that will support Brayton Primary.</li> <li>• The board approved this proposal and suggested The STAR MAT working with an experienced trust within the region.</li> </ul>	<p>Approve</p>	
<p><b>Further Actions Required</b></p>	<p>Inform the school/trust of the decision</p>		
<p><b>Friarage Community Primary School, North Yorkshire to be sponsored by Scalby Learning Trust</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This school was issued with an Academy Order in December 2018, following an inadequate Ofsted judgement.</li> <li>• This case has previously been considered by the board on 14 February 2019, RSC gave approval in principle to Scalby Learning Trust as the preferred sponsor pending due diligence.</li> <li>• The board was advised that following due diligence the</li> </ul>	<p>Approve</p>	

<p><b>Brayton CofE VC Primary School, North Yorkshire to be sponsored by The Star MAT</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a proposal to approve the sponsor match for Brayton CofE VC Primary.</li> <li>• This case has previously been considered by the board on 14 February 2019, RSC gave approval in principle to The Star MAT as the preferred sponsor pending due diligence.</li> <li>• Ofsted inspected the school in October 2018 and found the school to be 'Inadequate'</li> <li>• The board was advised that Star MAT is a relatively new trust with primary expertise and has recent experience in sponsoring schools.</li> <li>• The trust has 8 primary schools all of which form a hub that will support Brayton Primary.</li> <li>• The board approved this proposal and suggested The STAR MAT working with an experienced trust within the region.</li> </ul>	<p>Approve</p>	
	<p>trust has identified a school improvement and support plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CEO will have strategic oversight of school improvement strategy; the trust's school improvement leader will provide support to Friarage.</li> <li>• The board recognised that there has been a history of poor performance at this school, which requires significant intervention.</li> <li>• The board discussed the revised finance figures, which showed improvements. ESFA confirmed that both the school and the trust were financially stable.</li> <li>• The board approved this proposal.</li> </ul>		

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<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Inform the school/trust of the decision		

## Academy Opening Approved in Principle

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
<b>Heaton Manor School, Newcastle</b>	Proposed opening date 01/5/2019	Approve	

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	No further action required		
<b>Our Lady of the Rosary RC, VA Primary, Durham</b>	Proposed opening date 01/05/2019	Approve	
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	No further action required		
<b>Sacred Heart RC Primary School, Newcastle</b>	Proposed opening date 01/05/2019	Approve	
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	No further action required		
<b>St Mary's RC VA Primary School, South Tyneside</b>	Proposed opening date 01/05/2019	Approve	
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	No further action required		

## Significant Change

Project	HTB discussed:	RSC Decision	Conflicts
<b>Valley Road Academy, Sunderland</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a proposal to relocate the 10 place SEND Language Provision Unit from its current base at Highfield Academy to Valley Road Academy; both academies are within the Iris Learning Trust.</li> <li>• Valley Road Academy converted on 1 June 2018 when IRIS Learning Trust was formed along with Highfield Academy.</li> <li>• The board was advised that Valley Road received a short Ofsted inspection in February 2018 and was rated 'Good'</li> <li>• Consultation has taken place, there were no objections to the transfer of the provision and the trust has the full support of the local authority and the NHS Speech and Language Service.</li> <li>• The board approved this proposal.</li> </ul>	Approve	
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Inform the academy of the decision		

<b>Polam Hall School, Darlington</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a proposal to remove Polam Hall School’s sixth form provision and change the upper age range from current 4-19 to 4-16. This request has been made due to low student numbers.</li> <li>• The board was advised that if this proposal was approved the sixth form would not admit any new entrants to year 12 from September 2019. The sixth form will close permanently on 31 August 2020 by which time the current year 12 students will have completed their studies.</li> <li>• Polam Hall School opened as an all through free school on 1 September 2015. It joined Woodard Academies Trust in 1 April 2017.</li> <li>• Polam Hall was judged Ofsted ‘Requires Improvement’ in April 2018.</li> <li>• The board was advised that the trust has carried out the required consultation, the trust has responded to the concerns raised.</li> <li>• The board agreed that the small number of post-16 students makes this provision unviable and therefore approved this proposal.</li> </ul>	Approve	
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Inform the academy of the decision		
<b>Outwood Academy Acklam, Middlesbrough</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a proposal to reduce the academy’s capacity from 1350 to 1200 (the related reduction in PAN from 270 to 210 was consulted upon by the trust in November – December 2017).</li> <li>• The board was advised that if the significant change is not approved, the capacity figure in Outwood Acklam’s funding</li> </ul>	Approve	Sir Michael Wilkins & Andy Bayston did not receive the paperwork and was not present during this discussion.

<p><b>Polam Hall School, Darlington</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a proposal to remove Polam Hall School’s sixth form provision and change the upper age range from current 4-19 to 4-16. This request has been made due to low student numbers.</li> <li>• The board was advised that if this proposal was approved the sixth form would not admit any new entrants to year 12 from September 2019. The sixth form will close permanently on 31 August 2020 by which time the current year 12 students will have completed their studies.</li> <li>• Polam Hall School opened as an all through free school on 1 September 2015. It joined Woodard Academies Trust in 1 April 2017.</li> <li>• Polam Hall was judged Ofsted ‘Requires Improvement’ in April 2018.</li> <li>• The board was advised that the trust has carried out the required consultation, the trust has responded to the concerns raised.</li> <li>• The board agreed that the small number of post-16 students makes this provision unviable and therefore approved this proposal.</li> </ul>	<p>Approve</p>	
	<p>agreement will continue to reflect an inaccurate figure and in turn will continue to result in a reduced basic need funding allocation for Middlesbrough LA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The board discussed the shortfall of secondary places within the Middlesbrough LA. The board was advised that the trust has been working with the LA to address the projected shortfall of places from September 2019.</li> <li>• The board approved this proposal.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Further Actions Required</b></p>	<p>Inform the academy of the decision</p>		

## Decisions taken between HTB meetings

<b>Project</b>	<b>Decision type</b>	<b>RSC Decision</b>	<b>Conflicts</b>
The Hermitage Academy, Durham	Sponsored Route	Approve	Lesley Powell did not receive the paperwork and was not present during previous HTB discussions.
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Project lead to inform school/trust of the decision and action required.		

St Aidan's Catholic Academy, Sunderland – voluntary MAT merger	Trust Change	Approve	
<b>Further Actions Required</b>	Project lead to inform school/trust of the decision and action as required.		