



Department for Education
Regions Group
Sanctuary Buildings
London
SW1P 3BT

Date: 29 July 2026

The Lubavitch Multi-Academy Trust
107-115 Stamford Hill
London
N16 5RP
Company Number: 11211005
By email: sb.sudak@lubavitchmat.uk

Dear Rabbi Sudak,

Lubavitch Multi-Academy Trust: requirements under a Notice to Improve

Thank you for confirming receipt of the Notice to Improve (Ntl), issued on 1 June 2026. I am writing to you as the lead case officer for Regions Group and I will work with you to ensure that the Trust is compliant with the terms of the Ntl.

Trusts who are subject to an Ntl, are required to publish the Ntl on its website within 14 days of it being published by Department for Education (DfE) and retain it on the website until the Ntl is lifted by DfE. Please note, as previously mentioned, the Department has delayed publication of this Ntl until September 2026, due to the current sensitivities around the Jewish community. You are therefore not required to publish the Ntl on your website at the present time and we will contact you again to confirm the date by when this should be done.

Action plan

As the first action under the Ntl, DfE expects to receive an action plan from you by **4 September 2026**. The action plan should include:

- Details of how the Trust intends to implement each condition of the Ntl
- State which individuals are responsible for each proposed action
- Provide enough detail to demonstrate how the Trust will fully address all the conditions of the Ntl
- Identify the milestones the Trust needs to achieve to sustain compliance with the Academies Trust Handbook (ATH)
- Give clear timescales and set deadlines for the completion of each phase and indicate how the Trust will monitor the plan to keep their progress on track (as shown in the conditions table below).

Updates to Regions Group

As set out in the Ntl, DfE will require you to provide regular updates on progress against the conditions in Annex B and the delivery of your action plan. I ask that you send these updates to the Regions Group via email to sarah.khan@education.gov.uk by the **5th of each month**.

Delegated authorities

As a result of the Ntl, certain delegated authorities, as defined by the ATH, have been revoked. All transactions previously covered by these delegations, regardless of their size, must now be **approved in advance** by DfE, specifically:

- special staff severance payments
- compensation payments
- writing off debts and losses
- entering into guarantees, indemnities or letters of comfort
- disposals of fixed assets beyond any limit in the funding agreement
- taking up a leasehold or tenancy agreement on land and buildings of a duration beyond any limit in the trust's funding agreement
- GAG carry forward from one year to the next beyond any limit in the funding agreement and the pooling of GAG by MATs

Please be aware that failure to seek prior approval for any of these transactions will amount to a breach of the ATH which will prevent the Ntl being lifted and could result in adverse opinion from your auditor. Furthermore, this failure to comply with the terms of the Ntl would represent a further breach of your Funding Agreement and could ultimately lead to the termination of that agreement.

The table below shows a [summary of the freedoms and delegations](#) which will now require prior approval from DfE.

Transaction		General approval requirements	Approval requirements under an Ntl
Novel, contentious and repercussive	Novel, contentious and repercussive transactions	DfE agreement required [5.5]	DfE agreement required
Special payments	Staff severance and compensation	DfE agreement required if £50,000 or more before tax [5.10 and 5.15]	DfE agreement required
	Ex gratia payments	DfE agreement required [5.16]	
Write-offs and liabilities (subject to £250,000 ceiling)	Writing-off debts and losses	DfE consent required if exceeds: • 1% of annual income or £45,000 individually; or • 2.5% or 5% of annual income cumulatively [5.19 and 5.20]	DfE agreement required
	Entering into guarantees, indemnities or letters of comfort		
Acquisition and disposal of fixed assets	Acquiring freehold land/buildings	DfE agreement required [5.22]	DfE agreement required
	Disposing of a freehold on land/buildings	DfE agreement required [5.22]	
	Disposing of	DfE agreement required	

	heritage assets	[5.22]	
	Other disposals	Trust has full discretion [5.23]	DfE agreement required for other disposals <u>beyond any limit in the funding agreement</u>
Leasing	Taking up a finance lease	DfE agreement required [5.25]	DfE agreement required
	Taking up a leasehold on land and buildings	DfE agreement if lease term seven years or more [5.25]	
	Taking up any other lease	Trust has full discretion [5.26]	Trust retains full discretion for taking up any other lease
	Granting a lease on land and buildings	DfE agreement required [5.25]	DfE agreement required
GAG	GAG carry forward	No limits if trust eligible [5.28]	DfE agreement required for other disposals <u>beyond any limit in the funding agreement</u>
	Pooling by MATs	No limits (except PFI) if trust eligible [5.30]	DfE agreement required
Borrowing	Loan, overdraft	DfE agreement required [5.32]	DfE agreement required
	Credit cards (for business use)	Trust has full discretion provided charges not incurred [5.32]	Trust has full discretion provided charges not incurred [5.32]
Related party transactions	Supplies to the trust from related parties	DfE agreement required over £40,000 and over associated limits in [5.41]	DfE agreement required over £40,000 and over associated limits in 5.41.

Transaction authorisation

The attached Transaction Authorisation form must be submitted through our online [enquiry form](#) should you wish to seek approval for any of the above transactions. We will notify you of our decision within 15 working days.

If you wish to seek approval for any transactions which would ordinarily require consent from the DfE please follow the normal process without using the Transaction Authorisation Form. Any such requests should also be submitted through the [enquiry form](#).

I hope this information is helpful but, if you have any questions arising from this letter, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Khan
Delivery officer
London Region; Regions Group