

Serco Inspections
Colmore Plaza
20 Colmore Circus Queensway
Birmingham
B4 6AT

T 0300 123 1231
Text Phone: 0161 6188524
enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
www.ofsted.gov.uk

Direct T: 0121 679 9158
Direct email: rachel.dayan@serco.com

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Dave Smith (Interim Principal)
The Ormiston Ilkeston Academy
King George Avenue
Ilkeston
DE7 5HS

Dear Mr Smith

Special measures monitoring inspection of The Ormiston Ilkeston Academy

Following my visit to your academy on 14 February 2013, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm the inspection findings. Thank you for the help you gave during the inspection and for the time you made available to discuss the actions which have been taken since the academy's recent section 5 inspection.

This inspection was the first monitoring inspection since the academy became subject to special measures following the inspection which took place in November 2012.

Evidence

During this inspection, meetings were held with the headteacher and members of the senior leadership team, the Chair of the Governing Body, a representative of the academy sponsor and the education advisers currently working with the academy. The sponsor's statement of action and the academy's action plan were evaluated.

Context

Since the November 2012 inspection, the Ormiston Academy Trust has completed the consultation about a merger with Ormiston Enterprise Academy. This has now been approved to take place from 1 September 2013. The trust has also arranged for the secondment of an acting Principal to the academy from 1 January 2013. The

temporary head of mathematics left the academy at the end of the autumn term. Two teachers have been appointed temporarily in science.

Quality of Leadership and Management

The Ormiston Academy Trust has taken decisive and positive action following the November 2012 inspection. The governing body has been reorganised and a new Chair has been appointed. Two separate groups have been set up so that one can focus entirely on raising standards at the academy. Another group will concentrate on matters related to the merger. Additional education adviser time has been provided to the academy and a mathematics consultant is supporting the mathematics department three days each week. The trust has also arranged for the prompt appointment of an acting Principal, who was able to take up his role at the start of this term, following the planned departure of the previous executive Principal.

Within the senior team, the key roles in driving improvement have been well allocated and the individual leaders responsible have a good grasp of the issues ahead. Suitable support is given where the ability and potential of individual leaders are not yet matched by experience. A full evaluation of the quality of teaching has just taken place and a programme of professional development to bring about improvements is currently being planned. Actions to improve the academy's strategies for promoting literacy and to ensure close monitoring of students' progress are at an advanced stage of development.

The sponsor's statement of action is fit for purpose.

The academy's action plan is fit for purpose.

Having considered all the evidence, I strongly recommend that the academy does not seek to appoint NQTs.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State and the Chair of the Governing Body. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

John Peckham

Her Majesty's Inspector