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3 April 2014

Mrs Sharon Watt
The Headteacher
Winton Community Academy
London Road
Andover
SP10 2PS

Dear Mrs Watt

Special measures monitoring inspection of Winton Community Academy

Following my visit to your school on 2 April 2014, 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 school's recent section 5 inspection.

The inspection was the first monitoring inspection since the school became subject to special measures following the inspection which took place in December 2013.

Evidence

During this inspection, meetings were held with the headteacher, a member from the governing body, members of the senior leadership team and a representative from the sponsor, Academies Enterprise Trust (AET). Two members of Year 9 escorted me on a tour of the school and together we made a few brief visits to lessons. The sponsor's statement of action and the school's actions were evaluated.

Context

The interim headteacher, who had been in post just a few weeks at the time of inspection, is now well established in post. Several teaching staff have left over the past months and the school has been joined by a few new teachers. A substantive headteacher, who will take over the school on 1 September this year, has been appointed.

The quality of leadership and management at the academy

In appointing an external interim headteacher shortly before the inspection, governors demonstrated an understanding that the academy needed decisive

leadership from an experienced headteacher. They have rightly appointed a second experienced headteacher to undertake the substantive headship in September 2014.

Governors know the areas of improvement needed and have planned for these. They have reorganised the leadership team and determined an appropriate process to ensure that senior leaders in the school have specific areas of responsibility and can be challenged, supported and held to account for achieving the necessary improvements in the school. Governors rightly recognise that, while driving the improvement programme, they also need to maintain oversight of the day-to-day operations of the school and develop a strategic plan for the future.

The headteacher, supported by governors, has taken some bold steps to improve the quality of what the school offers in respect of English, to ensure that the range of subjects on offer better meets the needs of students and to introduce the use of information about pupils' progress to inform teaching.

All senior leaders understand the magnitude and seriousness of the journey ahead. Following the monitoring inspection the following judgement was made.

The sponsor and school have a shared action plan. This plan is not fit for purpose. Although the plan meets requirements in most respects, it lacks some clarity about what is being done, in what order and by whom in respect of one area. Leaders at the school and the sponsor are all aware of this and have undertaken to rectify the issues identified as soon as possible and to share their work with me before the summer half term.

Having considered all the evidence, I am of the opinion that the academy may appoint a current member of staff as a newly qualified teacher (NQT) in the physical education department. The academy might also consider appointing an NQT in the English department, but should only do so having identified how the NQT would be supported throughout his/her induction period.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State, the Chair of the Governing Body and the Director of Children's Services for Hampshire. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Emma Ing
Her Majesty's Inspector