



20<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware Shenley Academy was inspected by Ofsted on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018. The final report has been published by Ofsted on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

I write to inform you that unfortunately Ofsted has judged the academy to require special measures. I am naturally disappointed by this news, as I'm sure you will be. Whilst we do not agree with all of the points made in the report, there are clearly shortcomings at the academy that we accept and have already begun to address with urgency.

A robust plan of action is already in place, and we are clear that the impact of our plans must be felt by all pupils right away. Furthermore, we have every confidence in our new academy leadership, led by Mr Fuzel Choudhury, E-ACT's Birmingham cluster collaborative secondary leader.

Mr Choudhury brings with him a wealth of experience in school improvement, and has overseen a dramatic rise in GCSE results at Heartlands Academy, which is rated outstanding by Ofsted. He has strategic oversight of Shenley Academy and has already put in place a detailed plan focussing on rapid school improvement and improving the effectiveness of leadership and management. This includes the following specific actions:

Relentless focus on improving the quality of teaching, and ensuring that teachers have consistently high expectations of all pupils and that underperformance is tackled quickly.

An overhaul of SEND provision by focusing on individualised and targeted support overseen by trust experts in SEND pupil educational needs.

New attendance monitoring and management processes, and an uncompromising focus on pupil attendance.

An overhaul in the way pupil exclusions are managed with greater focus on behaviour management.

In their inspection report, Ofsted have acknowledged that:

Mr Choudhury's school improvement plans are robust. He has devised clear and accurate plans to tackle weaknesses around teaching, assessment and behaviour, whilst at the same time setting the very highest standards for staff and pupils.

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Effective monitoring of the quality of teaching has led to accurate pinpointing of the areas within the academy that need greatest attention.

The trust has accurately identified weaknesses at the academy, and action plans are in place to tackle these weaknesses.

I would also like to make it clear that the trust considers the practice of off-rolling to be completely unacceptable. We are conducting a thorough investigation into the incident that occurred in September 2017.

Whilst the report does not make for pleasant reading, we strongly believe that Shenley Academy is a good school, and we will work hard to ensure that our pupils feel the same way. We remain absolutely committed to turning Shenley around, and with your support, we want to provide every one of our pupils with the quality of education they deserve.

We would therefore like to invite parents and carers to the academy on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 6.00pm to meet Mr Choudhury. He will be taking the opportunity to outline our school improvement plans and will be able to answer any questions that you may have.

In the meantime I would like to thank you for your continued support. Should you have any questions please contact Mr Horgan using the email address [ian.horgan@e-act.org.uk](mailto:ian.horgan@e-act.org.uk) or Mr Berry using the email address [matthew.berry@e-act.org.uk](mailto:matthew.berry@e-act.org.uk).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joanna Hall'.

Joanna Hall  
Regional Educational Director - Midlands

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