



Regulation of school managers and governors: prohibition direction

Name: Syed Hoque

Former position: Probation officer

Prescribed grounds on which the direction has been issued:

Under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008, the “appropriate authority” (in this case the Secretary of State) may give a direction prohibiting a person from taking part in the management of an independent school on prescribed grounds connected with the person’s suitability. The grounds on which a person may be prohibited are prescribed in the Independent Education Provision in England (Prohibition from Participation in Management) Regulations 2014.

A direction was given in respect of Syed Hoque on 14 June 2021. The Secretary of State found that Mr Hoque had been convicted of a relevant offence, and because of this he is unsuitable to take part in the management of an independent school (including an academy or Free School). The direction also has the effect of disqualifying Mr Hoque from being a governor at a maintained school.

Summary

Mr Hoque has been convicted of relevant offences, namely being involved in funding arrangements for terrorism, contrary to section 17 of the Terrorism Act 2000. Mr Hoque has not previously worked in the education sector, but had expressed interest in opening his own school. In the opinion of the Secretary of State these offences are also relevant to Mr Hoque’s suitability to take part in the management of an independent school.