



Department
for Education

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Our ref: 826/6002

18 July 2018

The Proprietor
The Grove Independent School
Redland Drive
Loughton
Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK5 8HD

Dear Proprietor

I refer to the inspection by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) that was carried out at the above school under section 109 of the Education and Skills Act 2008 between 25 and 26 April 2018. You will see from the enclosed report that ISI noted serious regulatory failings.

In these circumstances I enclose a Notice, served by the Secretary of State for Education under section 114(5) of the 2008 Act, requiring an Action Plan which details the steps that will be taken to meet all of the standards set out in the Annex to the Notice and the time by which each step will be taken, to be submitted by 29 August 2018.

[REDACTED]

The Action Plan should include the steps you have taken, or will take with timescales, to address the security matters as set out above.

You are reminded that the independent school standards require that a copy of the inspection report is sent to parents and a copy is published on the school's website or, where no such website exists, is provided to parents on request. This will be checked at the next inspection.

The Action Plan must contain reasonable timescales for implementation within which the necessary action will be taken and it is expected that the implementation dates given in the Action Plan should not extend beyond 18 October 2018. A template and supporting advice is enclosed which may help you in drawing up a satisfactory Action Plan. Please can you ensure that you copy your action plan to ISI at the same time as sending it to me.

The deadline by which the Action Plan must be received by me is 29 August 2018. If this

date is not met, the Secretary of State may remove the school from the Register of Independent Schools or may impose a requirement restricting the school's operations (from a date following the period during which you may appeal).

I must warn you that the Secretary of State may reject an Action Plan, and in these circumstances the Secretary of State may remove the school from the Register of Independent Schools or may impose a requirement restricting the school's operations (from a date following the appeal period).

If an Action Plan is accepted, ISI may be asked to visit the school again to check that the school has fully implemented the plan and that it is fully meeting the independent school standards.

You may wish to note that this letter, the enclosed Notice and Annex will be published shortly on the Gov.uk website.

Yours faithfully



Independent Education and Boarding Team

SECTION 114(5) OF THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS ACT 2008

NOTICE BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

**IN RELATION TO
THE GROVE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL, REDLAND DRIVE, LOUGHTON, MILTON
KEYNES, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, MK5 8HD
("the School")**

WHEREAS

The Secretary of State for Education, being the keeper of the register of independent schools in England¹ –

- (i) has taken into account a report in respect of an inspection of the School by the Independent Schools Inspectorate which was conducted between 25 and 26 April 2018; and
- (ii) is satisfied that the independent school standards, as prescribed in the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, specified in the Annex to this Notice are not being met in relation to the School.

NOW THEREFORE

In exercise of the power conferred upon him by section 114(5) of the Education and Skills Act 2008, the Secretary of State serves the following Notice on the proprietor of the School:

(1) the independent school standards set out in the Annex to this Notice are not being met in relation to the School; and

(2) the proprietor of the School is required to submit an action plan² to the Secretary of State specifying the steps that will be taken to meet the standards, and the time by which each step will be taken, on or before 29 August 2018.


Independent Education and Boarding Team

18 July 2018

¹ The Secretary of State is required to keep a register of independent educational institutions in England under section 95(1) of the Education and Skills Act 2008. "Independent educational institution" is defined in section 92(1) of that Act as an independent school and an independent provider of part-time education. Independent providers of part-time education are not currently regulated so effectively the requirement under section 95(1) is for the Secretary of State to keep a register of independent schools.

² An action plan is defined in section 114(4) of the Education and Skills Act 2008.

ANNEX TO NOTICE

**The Grove Independent School, Redland Drive, Loughton, Milton Keynes,
Buckinghamshire, MK5 8HD
("the school")**

The following independent school standards, as prescribed in the Schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, are not being met in relation to the school:

PART 3: Welfare, health and safety of pupils

6. The standards about the welfare, health and safety of pupils at the school are those contained in this Part.

10. The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that bullying at the school is prevented in so far as reasonably practicable, by the drawing up and implementation of an effective anti-bullying strategy.

15. The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that an admission and attendance register is maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006³.

16. The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that—

(a) the welfare of pupils at the school is safeguarded and promoted by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written risk assessment policy; and

(b) appropriate action is taken to reduce risks that are identified.

PART 5: Premises of and accommodation at schools

22. The standards about the premises of and accommodation at the school are those contained in this Part.

25. The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that the school premises and the accommodation and facilities provided therein are maintained to a standard such that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of pupils are ensured.

PART 6: Provision of information

32. (1) The standard about the provision of information by the school is met if the proprietor ensures that—

³ S.I. 2006/1751, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(b) the information specified in sub-paragraph (3) is made available to parents of pupils and parents of prospective pupils and, on request, to the Chief Inspector, the Secretary of State or an independent inspectorate.

(3) The information specified in this sub-paragraph is—

(e) particulars of the school's academic performance during the preceding school year, including the results of any public examinations.

PART 8: Quality of leadership in and management of schools

34. (1) The standard about the quality of leadership and management is met if the proprietor ensures that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school—

(a) demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently; and

(b) fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently.