



**Lord Nash**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Schools

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Shazia Parveen  
Chair of Governors  
Al-Madinah Education Trust  
Norman House  
Friar Gate  
Derby  
DE1 1NU

17 October 2013

Dear Mrs Parveen,

Thank you for your letters dated 13 October 2013. I have also received the list of staff you sent me on 15 October 2013 and copies of your letters to staff and parents regarding the staff dress code.

It is important to correct a misunderstanding on your part regarding Ofsted's role. Ofsted is not the regulator for your school. It has the function of carrying out inspections of independent schools, including academies. But it is not up to Ofsted to decide if the Trust has breached the undertakings it gave in the funding agreement. That decision rests with the Secretary of State. The Trust is operating an independent, state-funded school. This Department will determine whether you are fulfilling the contractual promises you gave when the funding agreement was signed.

I have read Ofsted's report dated 17 October 2013. It fully confirms the grounds for the very serious concerns raised in my letter dated 8 October 2013. The report is further compelling evidence of the breaches of the funding agreement I have required you to address.

Contrary to your suggestion that I have acted prematurely, I am even more convinced of the need for very decisive and urgent action on the part of the Trust to comply with all your obligations and remedy the serious failings at the school.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN NASH