



Education & Skills
Funding Agency

Education and Skills Funding Agency
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

Tel: 0370 000 2288

www.education.gov.uk/efa-enquiry-form

11 May 2020

Mr D Rubin
Chair of Trustees
Bright Futures Educational Trust
Lodge House
Cavendish Rd
Altrincham
Wirral, WA14 2NJ

Dear Mr Rubin

Financial Notice to Improve

On 23 February 2016, Sue Baldwin wrote to the former Chief Executive of Bright Futures Educational Trust to serve notice that the trust was required to improve financial management and governance at the trust.

This was as a consequence of the trust's weak financial position, and weak financial management and governance. Specifically, the trust had not achieved a balanced budget and had not returned its 2014/15 financial statements.

The Financial Notice to Improve (FNtl) set out the actions that were needed to be taken by the trust to make sure necessary improvements were made.

We have closely monitored the trust's progress against the conditions set out in the notice, which included:

- preparing a recovery plan which achieves a sustainable balanced budget
- repaying advances of funds and PNA
- the submission of unqualified financial statements and management letter
- the strengthening of financial management and governance

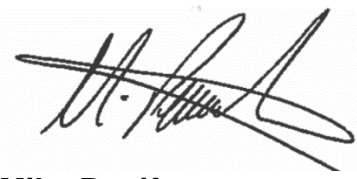
I am pleased to inform you that I am satisfied that either the FNtl conditions have been met or where this has not been possible alternative action has been agreed with the Education and Skills Funding Agency. As a result, the FNtl will be lifted with effect from the date of this letter.

This letter will be published on the GOV.UK website. I am copying this letter to John Stephens, Accounting Officer of the trust and Vicky Beer, Regional Schools Commissioner for Lancashire and West Yorkshire.

It is important that the trust continues to embed the controls and processes which have led to this improvement and continues to exercise strong financial oversight. I would also

request that the trust maintains regular contact with the Education and Skills Funding Agency. I would like to thank you for your contribution in ensuring the trust has reached this position.

Yours sincerely.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Pettifer', written over a light grey grid background.

Mike Pettifer
Director, Academies and Maintained Schools Directorate