



Education & Skills  
Funding Agency

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Sanctuary Buildings  
Great Smith Street  
London  
SW1P 3BT  
Tel: 0370 000 2288  
[www.education.gov.uk/efa-enquiry-form](http://www.education.gov.uk/efa-enquiry-form)

24 August 2021

Michael Boland  
Chair of Trustees  
Newton Academy Trust  
Hope Academy  
Ashton Road  
Newton-le-Willows  
Merseyside  
WA12 0AQ

Dear Mr Boland

### **Financial Notice to Improve**

On 17 May 2021, I wrote to you in your capacity as the Chair of Trustees at Newton Academy Trust to serve notice that Newton Academy Trust (‘the trust’) was required to improve the financial management, control and governance at the trust.

This was as a consequence of the weak financial position of the trust and continued concerns on governance and oversight of financial management by the Board. 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. I am pleased to inform you that I am satisfied that the FNtl conditions have been met. 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 the Accounting Officer (Marie Adams), Trust Member and Acting Director of Education for the Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool (Father Michael Fitzsimons), Trust Member and Acting Director of Anglican Diocese of Liverpool (Stuart Harrison), Trust Member (Kenneth Newport), and the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) for Lancashire and West Yorkshire (Vicky Beer).

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 of the trust. I would like to thank you for your contribution in ensuring the trust has reached this position.

Yours sincerely



**Warwick Sharp**  
**Director, Academies and Maintained Schools Directorate**

- CC. Marie Adams, Accounting Officer  
Father Michael Fitzsimons, Acting Director of Education for the Catholic  
Archdiocese of Liverpool and Trust Member  
Stuart Harrison, Acting Director of Anglican Diocese of Liverpool and Trust Member  
Kenneth Newport, Trust Member  
Vicky Beer, Regional Schools Commissioner for Lancashire and West Yorkshire