



**The Rt Hon Baroness Jacqui Smith**

**Minister for Skills**

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT

Nigel Holliday  
Lakes College  
Hallwood Road  
Lillyhall Business Park  
Workington  
CA14 4JN

30<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Mr Holliday,

I am writing following the intervention assessment of Lakes College by the Further Education (FE) Commissioner on 18 June 2024.

I have accepted the recommendations of the FE Commissioner which include:

- reviewing and refreshing governance systems and processes
- implementing systems and processes that will increase quality, financial accountability and transparency at middle leader level
- implementing a new curriculum planning and performance monitoring system
- strengthening financial capacity at a senior level, including regarding the risks and challenges associated with new contracts

I urge the college to ensure these recommendations are now fully implemented.

A copy of the assessment is provided with this letter. The assessment and my letter will be published on GOV.UK and can be found via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/further-education-commissioner-intervention-reports>. Once confirmed, the intended publication date will be shared with you. The college must also publish the summary report on its website within 14 days of it being issued.

I have written separately to Josh MacAlister MP, whose constituency is served by the college, to inform him of the FE Commissioner's findings.

Yours sincerely,

**The Rt Hon Baroness Jacqui Smith**