Teaching Regulation Agency

Mr Scott Towers: Professional conduct panel meeting outcome

Panel decision and reasons on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education

November 2026

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Professional conduct panel decision and recommendations, and decision on behalf of the Secretary of State

Teacher:	Mr Scott Towers
Teacher ref number:	0055133
Teacher date of birth:	30 November 1978
TRA reference:	24879
Date of determination:	6 November 2026
Former employer:	New College Leicester, Leicester

Introduction

A professional conduct panel ("the panel") of the Teaching Regulation Agency ("the TRA") convened on 6 November 2026 by way of a virtual meeting, to consider the case of Mr Scott Towers.

The panel members were Mr Carl Lygo (lay panellist – in the chair), Mrs Julie Wells (teacher panellist) and Ms Amanda Johnston (teacher panellist).

The legal adviser to the panel was Mrs Luisa Gibbons of Eversheds Sutherland (International) LLP Solicitors.

In advance of the meeting, after taking into consideration the public interest and the interests of justice, the TRA agreed to a request from Mr Towers that the allegation be considered without a hearing. Mr Towers provided a signed statement of agreed facts and admitted conviction of a relevant offence. The panel considered the case at a meeting without the attendance of the presenting officer, Ms Allana Edwards of Brabners LLP, Mr Towers, or his representative.

The meeting took place in private.

Allegations

The panel considered the allegation set out in the notice of meeting dated 18 August 2026.

It was alleged that Mr Towers was guilty of having been convicted of a relevant offence, in that:

1. On 14 March 2025, he was convicted at Leicester Magistrates' Court of:

    a) one count of common assault against Person A contrary to section 39 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988; and

    b) one count of assault occasioning actual bodily harm to Person A contrary to section 47 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861.

Mr Towers admitted the facts of the allegation and that he had been convicted of a relevant offence.

Summary of evidence

Documents

In advance of the hearing, the panel received a bundle of documents which included:

Section 1: Anonymised person list – page 2

Section 2: Notice of referral and response – pages 3 to 21

Section 3: Statement of agreed facts – pages 22 to 24

Section 4: Teaching Regulation Agency documents – pages 25 to 70

Section 5: Teacher Documents – pages 71 - 90

The panel members confirmed that they had read all of the documents within the bundle, in advance of the hearing.

In the consideration of this case, the panel had regard to the document Teacher misconduct: Disciplinary procedures for the teaching profession 2020, (the "Procedures").

Statement of agreed facts

The panel considered a statement of agreed facts which was signed by Mr Towers on 25 February 2026.

Decision and reasons

The panel announced its decision and reasons as follows:

The panel carefully considered the case before it and reached a decision.

In advance of the meeting the TRA agreed to a request from Mr Towers for the allegation to be considered without a hearing. The panel had the ability to direct that the case be considered at a hearing if required in the interests of justice or in the public interest. The panel did not determine that such a direction was necessary or appropriate in this case.

Mr Towers was employed as a teacher by New College Leicester from 11 April 2016.

He was arrested by Leicestershire Police on 23 July 2024. Mr Towers informed the School of his arrest and he was subsequently suspended from work with immediate effect.

Mr Towers was referred to the TRA on 12 December 2024.

Findings of fact

The findings of fact are as follows:

The panel found the following particulars of the allegation against you proved, for these reasons:

1. **On 14 March 2025, you were convicted at Leicester Magistrates' Court of:**

    a) **one count of common assault against Person A contrary to section 39 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988; and**

    b) **one count of assault occasioning actual bodily harm to Person A contrary to section 47 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861.**

Mr Towers admitted the allegations in full in his response to the notice of referral on 18 January 2026. In the statement of agreed facts, Mr Towers also admitted the facts of the allegations.

The panel was provided with a court extract certifying the sentence imposed by Leicester Magistrates Court on 6 May 2025. This confirmed that Mr Towers had been convicted on 14 March 2025 of the offences as set out in the allegations. It also stated that Mr Towers had pleaded not guilty to the offences. His sentence consisted of a community order requiring him to comply with a rehabilitation activity requirement up to a maximum of 14 days and an unpaid work requirement of 225 hours to be completed within 12 months. A restraining order was also made.

The court extract stated that the common assault related to an offence committed on 22 July 2024 and the assault occasioning actual bodily harm was committed on 9 February 2024.

Although the court extract had not been signed, given that it was consistent with other evidence before the panel, the panel was content to accept it as conclusive proof of both the convictions and the facts necessarily implied by the convictions.

A police report stated that Person A [REDACTED] had reported that on 22 July 2024, Mr Towers had been drunk and followed her [REDACTED], that it had worried her and she said that she was going to call [REDACTED], and as she did so and put the telephone down, Mr Towers had said “I will do you in”. Person A stated that she felt threatened by this and was in fear that he would physically hurt her.

Person A referred to an incident in February 2024 when Person A had challenged Mr Towers about his amount of drinking the night before. She stated that he became angry, put his face in hers and pressed her face such that he caused a nosebleed, then grabbed her arms forcefully causing bruising, for which she provided photographs.

The panel was provided with a witness statement provided by Person A confirming these details and that the earlier offence of actual bodily harm had been committed on 9 February 2024. The panel was also provided with a witness statement of [REDACTED], who was an adult at the time, describing the incident of 22 July 2024.

The police report indicated that Mr Towers provided a pre-prepared statement. The pre-prepared statement provided by Mr Towers was exhibited to the police report. This stated that “the only time he had held Person A by the arms” was to “restrain her” and defend himself.

Based upon the court extract and Mr Towers’ admissions, the panel found the allegation proven in its entirety.

Findings as to conviction of a relevant offence

Having found the allegation proved, the panel went on to consider whether the facts of those proved allegations amounted to conviction of a relevant offence

In doing so, the panel had regard to the document Teacher misconduct: The prohibition of teachers, which is referred to as “the Advice”.

The panel first considered whether the conduct of Mr Towers in relation to the facts found proved, involved breaches of the Teachers’ Standards.

The panel considered that, by reference to Part 2, Mr Towers was in breach of the following standards:

- Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by
    - having regard for the need to safeguard pupils’ well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions
    - showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others
    - not undermining fundamental British values… the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect…
- Teachers must have an understanding of, and always act within, the statutory frameworks which set out their professional duties and responsibilities.

With respect to the safeguarding of pupils, the panel noted there was conflicting evidence as to whether [REDACTED] witnessed the incidents. The panel noted that Mr Towers has stated in representations to the panel that “the offence does not involve children”.

The Pre-Sentence Report stated that Mr Towers’ [REDACTED] was present during the incident on 9 February 2024. It also referred to Person A taking [REDACTED] following the incident on 22 July 2024. It was implicit they remained [REDACTED] for several hours since it stated that it was a few hours later after Mr Towers woke that Person A [REDACTED] until officers spoke with them at the police station.

With respect to the incident on 9 February 2024, the police report recorded that [REDACTED] had been present and had been asking [REDACTED] about it ever since. However, the panel noted that the age of the [REDACTED]was not recorded, so the panel could not determine if she was an adult or a child. With respect to the 22 July 2024 incident, the police report referenced that Person A had taken [REDACTED] and that a few hours later they were still sat [REDACTED].

The panel considered that with respect to the incident on 9 February 2024, Mr Towers had failed to safeguard [REDACTED] welfare as his actions resulted in them [REDACTED] for several hours. The panel had insufficient evidence to make any conclusion as to whether any child was present during the incident on 22 July 2024.

[REDACTED]

The panel also noted that in the pre-sentence report, Mr Towers described himself as being disappointed with himself for becoming embroiled in arguments, “especially when they occurred in front of children, which he recognises can have a detrimental impact on their feelings of safety, security and emotional well-being”.

The panel was therefore satisfied that Mr Towers failed to have regard for the need to safeguard pupils’ wellbeing, [REDACTED].

The panel noted that the individual’s actions were relevant to teaching, working with children and/or working in an education setting. The panel noted that Mr Towers referred in submissions to the panel that the “offence is not a work-related offence”. Nevertheless, the panel was concerned that Mr Towers had behaved in a way that indicated that he may be unsuitable to work with children. Mr Towers is required to act as a role model, and his behaviour in the context of a relationship, casts doubt upon his ability to convey messages to pupils around the importance of positive relationships and that violence is unacceptable. Given that Mr Towers had failed to safeguard [REDACTED] children’s welfare, it calls into question his ability to safeguard the welfare of other children.

The panel noted that the behaviour involved in committing the offence had an impact on the safety and security of a member of the public, [REDACTED]. The pre-sentence report assessed Mr Towers as posing a medium risk of harm to Person A and that this transcended [REDACTED].

The panel also took account of the way the teaching profession is viewed by others. The panel considered that Mr Towers’ behaviour in committing the offence could affect public confidence in the teaching profession, given the influence that teachers may have on pupils, parents and others in the community.

The panel noted that Mr Towers’ behaviour did not lead to a sentence of imprisonment, which was indicative that the offence was towards the lower end of the possible spectrum, but did involve a community order of 225 hours of unpaid work, which indicated that the offences were sufficiently serious to warrant a significant penalty.

The panel also considered the offences listed on pages 12 and 13 of the Advice.

This was a case concerning an offence involving violence and serious offences involving alcohol which the Advice states are likely to be considered relevant offences. The panel noted that the offence on 22 July 2024, which the panel considered to be serious, was committed at a time that Mr Towers was intoxicated from alcohol.

The panel was provided with representations from Mr Towers. He stated that he had worked in teaching for 25 years with a good track record of attendance, good appraisal reports and no complaints against him. The panel had no independent evidence to confirm this position save for the School's referral which confirmed there had been no previous complaints against Mr Towers save for one matter which resulted in no further action and which the panel disregarded.

[REDACTED]

With respect to the incident in February 2024, he stated that Person A had blocked the exit and would not let him leave and that she had pushed her head against. [REDACTED]. The panel noted that Mr Towers' position that he had acted in self-defence must have been rejected by the court, given that he was convicted of assault occasioning actual bodily harm.

With respect to the incident in July 2024, he stated that he was unable to remember saying that he would "do her in" due to his levels of intoxication, but accepted that it was possible he said that [REDACTED]

- a rigorous Ofsted inspection for which they were on standby for the whole of the academic year;

[REDACTED]

The panel noted that, in the pre-sentence report, Mr Towers was assessed as low risk of harm to the public with the exception of [REDACTED]. The report stated that [REDACTED] when Mr Towers is in a heightened emotional state the risk of serious offending could be increased".

Mr Towers stated that he had completed all of the unpaid work requirements and several of the rehabilitative activity requirement days which had helped him gain a different sense of perspective around managing conflict [REDACTED]. He also referred to having worked hard to reduce his alcohol consumption significantly.

The panel was provided with a letter dated 14 July 2026 from The Probation Service confirming that Mr Towers' case had been considered and approved for early termination due to the good progress he had made during his period of supervision. The letter

confirmed that Mr Towers had completed all of the required elements of his Community Order and that no further probation objectives were required.

Although the panel found that the evidence of Mr Towers' teaching experience was of note, as was his early completion of his Community Order the panel also found that the mitigating circumstances put forward by Mr Towers did not excuse his behaviour and that the seriousness of the offending behaviour that led to the conviction was relevant to Mr Towers' ongoing suitability to teach. The panel considered that a finding that these convictions were for relevant offences was necessary to reaffirm clear standards of conduct so as to maintain public confidence in the teaching profession.

Panel's recommendation to the Secretary of State

Given the panel's findings in respect of a conviction of a relevant offence, it was necessary for the panel to go on to consider whether it would be appropriate to recommend the imposition of a prohibition order by the Secretary of State.

In considering whether to recommend to the Secretary of State that a prohibition order should be made, the panel had to consider whether it would be an appropriate and proportionate measure, and whether it would be in the public interest to do so. Prohibition orders should not be given in order to be punitive, or to show that blame has been apportioned, although they are likely to have a punitive effect.

The panel had regard to the particular public interest considerations set out in the Advice and, having done so, found a number of them to be relevant in this case, namely, the safeguarding and wellbeing of pupils; the protection of other members of the public; the maintenance of public confidence in the profession; and declaring and upholding proper standards of conduct.

There was a public interest consideration in respect of the safeguarding and wellbeing of pupils, given that the panel considered that Mr Towers had failed to safeguard the wellbeing of his [REDACTED] and were concerned by the transferable risk this poses.

There was a strong public interest consideration in respect of members of the public, given Mr Towers' convictions for actual bodily harm and common assault, and given the pre-sentence report indicated that although risk to the public was low, there was an exception to this for [REDACTED].

Similarly, the panel considered that public confidence in the profession could be seriously weakened if conduct such as that found against Mr Towers were not treated with the utmost seriousness when regulating the conduct of the profession.

The panel was of the view that a strong public interest consideration in declaring proper standards of conduct in the profession was also present as the conduct found against Mr Towers was outside that which could reasonably be tolerated.

In addition to the public interest considerations set out above, the panel went on to consider whether there was a public interest in retaining Mr Towers in the profession. Whilst there is evidence that Mr Towers had ability as an educator given that he had many years of experience, the panel considered that the adverse public interest considerations above outweigh any interest in retaining Mr Towers in the profession, since his behaviour fundamentally breached the standard of conduct expected of a teacher.

The panel considered carefully the seriousness of the behaviour, noting that the Advice states that the expectation of both the public and pupils, is that members of the teaching profession maintain an exemplary level of integrity and ethical standards at all times.

In view of the clear public interest considerations that were present, the panel considered carefully whether or not it would be proportionate to impose a prohibition order, taking into account the effect that this would have on Mr Towers.

The panel took further account of the Advice, which suggests that a prohibition order may be appropriate if certain behaviours of a teacher have been proved. In the list of such behaviours, those that were relevant in this case were:

- serious departure from the personal and professional conduct elements of the Teachers' Standards;
- the commission of a serious criminal offence, including those that resulted in a conviction or caution, paying particular attention to offences that are 'relevant matters' for the purposes of the Police Act 1997 and criminal record disclosures;
- misconduct seriously affecting the education and/or safeguarding and well-being of pupils, and particularly where there is a continuing risk;
- failure in their duty of care towards a child, including exposing a child to risk or failing to promote the safety and welfare of the children (as set out in Part 1 of KCSIE);
- violation of the rights of pupils; and
- actions or behaviours that…undermine fundamental British values of … the rule of law…

Even though some of the behaviour found proved in this case indicated that a prohibition order would be appropriate, the panel went on to consider the mitigating factors.

Mitigating factors may indicate that a prohibition order would not be appropriate or proportionate.

The panel considered that there was evidence that Mr Towers' actions were deliberate, in that he had chosen to act in the manner found proven. He was intoxicated at the time of the offence in July 2024 and it had been his choice to consume alcohol sufficient to render him unable to remember the incident. Given that he thought it was entirely possible that, in that condition, he had used the words alleged, this suggested Mr Towers had some awareness of how he may act when under the influence of alcohol.

There was no evidence to suggest that Mr Towers was acting under extreme duress, e.g. a physical threat or significant intimidation. The panel noted that Mr Towers' position that he had acted in self-defence must have been rejected by the court, given that he was convicted of assault. The panel did not consider that any of the other matters raised by Mr Towers constituted "extreme duress".

There was no evidence that Mr Towers had demonstrated exceptionally high standards in his personal and professional conduct or that he had contributed significantly to the education sector.

Mr Towers stated that there had been no complaints against him during the course of his career. Mr Towers referred to having had a passion for teaching from an early age and providing details of his teaching career as both a PE and mathematics teacher over a 25 year period. This included:

- sporting achievements he had led;
- achieving outstanding on lesson observations over a 5 and a half year period at a previous school;
- mentoring trainee teachers and newly qualified teachers;
- leading an academy to their best ever GCSE results and setting up an A level course in PE;
- working at his latest school for nine years, and helping the school through two Ofsted inspections graded as good including where maths was targeted for a deep dive;
- working as numeracy champion embedding numeracy into the curriculums of other departments across the school.

The panel was not provided with any independent evidence of the above. The panel received no character statements attesting to his character or ability as a teacher. The panel noted that no previous concerns were indicated by the School at the time of the referral save for a matter that had resulted in no further action and which the panel disregarded.

Whilst Mr Towers did not plead guilty in the criminal trial, the panel recognised that Mr Towers has admitted the allegations in these TRA proceedings and that he had agreed to a meeting, saving the time and expense of a professional conduct panel hearing.

The pre-sentence report indicated that Mr Towers recognised that his responses to the difficulties and frictions [REDACTED] could have been much better. He conceded that whilst he continued to deny the offences, he recognised in hindsight that he should have removed himself from the situation and acknowledged that alcohol may have amplified his emotions and protracted the arguments. He described himself as being disappointed with himself for becoming embroiled in arguments, [REDACTED]. The report stated that Mr Towers expressed remorse and regret [REDACTED]. The report recorded that [REDACTED], Mr Towers reported having cut down on alcohol significantly and presented as motivated to accept help from the probation service [REDACTED]. It was reported that he confines his drinking to social events with friends and that he estimated that he drinks between 2 to 4 pints on Friday and Saturday evening. [REDACTED]. The panel noted that no evidence had been presented as to his attendance at [REDACTED] of his completion [REDACTED] or of its efficacy.

Mr Towers has stated that he has completed all of the unpaid work requirement and several of the rehabilitative activity requirement days which had helped him gain a different sense of perspective around managing conflict [REDACTED]. The panel was provided with a letter dated 14 July 2026 from The Probation Service confirming that Mr Towers' case had been considered and approved for early termination due to the good progress he had made during his period of supervision. The letter confirmed that Mr Towers had completed all of the required elements of his Community Order and that no further probation objectives were required. The letter referred to the possibility of Mr Towers choosing to engage with other services or community support. The panel has not, however, received any independent evidence of Mr Towers engaging with any such services or support. There was no evidence of steps taken by Mr Towers that would better equip him to control his behaviour going forwards.

Mr Towers accepted the findings of the court that he assaulted Person A by using excessive force to restrain her, and that his actions caused bruising to her arms. He accepted that he should have handled that situation differently. He accepted that, on the

occasion he threatened Person A, that it was possible that he had said that he would “do her in”. [REDACTED].

The panel was concerned that Mr Towers had provided submissions as to why he considered that a Prohibition Order would not be appropriate which included that “the offence is not a work related offence”, which appeared to demonstrate a lack of understanding of his obligation to maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour within and outside school, and thereby be a role model for pupils.

He also submitted that “the offence does not involve children”. The panel was concerned that, although Mr Towers had at the time of the pre-sentence report recognised [REDACTED], he has now made representations that the offences did not involve children, when it is clear that [REDACTED] were impacted, and that he failed to safeguard their welfare.

He also made representations that his “probation report shows that statistically I have a very low risk of re-offending”. The pre-sentence report seen by the panel stated that Mr Towers was assessed as posing a medium risk of harm to Person A and that this transcended to [REDACTED]. He was assessed as low risk of harm to the public with the exception of [REDACTED]. The report stated that “[REDACTED] when Mr Towers is in a heightened emotional state the risk of serious offending could be increased”.

The panel first considered whether it would be proportionate to conclude this case with no recommendation of prohibition, considering whether the publication of the findings made by the panel would be sufficient.

The panel was of the view that, applying the standard of the ordinary intelligent citizen, it would not be a proportionate and appropriate response to recommend no prohibition order. Recommending that the publication of adverse findings would be sufficient would unacceptably compromise the public interest considerations present in this case, despite the severity of the consequences for Mr Towers of prohibition.

The panel was of the view that prohibition was both proportionate and appropriate. The panel decided that the public interest considerations outweighed the interests of Mr Towers. The seriousness of the offences, and the absence of any evidence of steps that Mr Towers has undertaken to control his behaviour was a significant factor in forming that opinion. Accordingly, the panel made a recommendation to the Secretary of State that a prohibition order should be imposed with immediate effect.

The panel went on to consider whether or not it would be appropriate for it to decide to recommend a review period of the order. The panel was mindful that the Advice states that a prohibition order applies for life, but there may be circumstances, in any given

case, that may make it appropriate to allow a teacher to apply to have the prohibition order reviewed after a specified period of time that may not be less than 2 years.

The Advice indicates that there are certain types of case where, if relevant, the public interest will have greater relevance and weigh in favour of not offering a review period.

None of the listed characteristics were engaged by the panel's findings.

The Advice also indicates that there are certain other types of cases where it is likely that the public interest will have greater relevance and weigh in favour of a longer period before a review is considered appropriate.

One of these include**:**

- violence.

Whilst there was some evidence of insight in the pre-sentence report, this was less evident in Mr Towers' recent representations for this panel. The panel saw no evidence of any steps Mr Towers has satisfactorily taken to control his behaviour going forwards, and as such the panel remained concerned regarding the risk of repetition, and how his behaviours in his private life would affect his ability to act as a role model in the school environment.

The panel decided that the findings indicated a situation in which a review period would be appropriate and, as such, decided that it would be proportionate, in all the circumstances, for the prohibition order to be recommended with provisions for a review period after 3 years.

Decision and reasons on behalf of the Secretary of State

I have given very careful consideration to this case and to the recommendation of the panel in respect of both sanction and review period.

In considering this case, I have also given very careful attention to the Advice that the Secretary of State has published concerning the prohibition of teachers.

In this case, the panel has found the allegations proven and found that those proven facts amount to a relevant conviction.

The panel has made a recommendation to the Secretary of State that Mr Scott Towers should be the subject of a prohibition order, with a review period of three years.

In particular, the panel has found that Mr Towers is in breach of the following standards:

- Teachers uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, by
    - having regard for the need to safeguard pupils' well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions
    - showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others
    - not undermining fundamental British values… the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect…
- Teachers must have an understanding of, and always act within, the statutory frameworks which set out their professional duties and responsibilities.

The panel was satisfied that the conduct of Mr Towers, involved breaches of the responsibilities and duties set out in statutory guidance '*Keeping children safe in education*'.

The findings of misconduct are serious as they include a teacher being convicted of offences involving violence.

I have to determine whether the imposition of a prohibition order is proportionate and in the public interest. In assessing that for this case, I have considered the overall aim of a prohibition order which is to protect pupils and to maintain public confidence in the profession. I have considered the extent to which a prohibition order in this case would achieve that aim taking into account the impact that it will have on the individual teacher. I have also asked myself, whether a less intrusive measure, such as the published finding of a relevant conviction, would itself be sufficient to achieve the overall aim. I have to consider whether the consequences of such a publication are themselves sufficient. I have considered therefore whether or not prohibiting Mr Towers, and the impact that will have on the teacher, is proportionate and in the public interest.

In this case, I have considered the extent to which a prohibition order would protect children and safeguard pupils. The panel offers this observation:

> "There was a public interest consideration in respect of the safeguarding and wellbeing of pupils, given that the panel considered that Mr Towers had failed to safeguard the wellbeing of his [REDACTED] and were concerned by the transferable risk this poses."

A prohibition order would therefore prevent such a risk from being present in the future.

I have also taken into account the panel's comments on insight and remorse, which it sets out as follows:

> "Whilst there was some evidence of insight in the pre-sentence report, this was less evident in Mr Towers' recent representations for this panel. The panel saw no evidence of any steps Mr Towers has satisfactorily taken to control his behaviour going forwards, and as such the panel remained concerned regarding the risk of repetition, and how his behaviours in his private life would affect his ability to act as a role model in the school environment."

In my judgement, the lack of evidence that Mr Towers has developed full insight means that there is some risk of the repetition of this behaviour and this puts the future wellbeing of pupils in jeopardy. I have therefore given this element considerable weight in reaching my decision.

I have gone on to consider the extent to which a prohibition order would maintain public confidence in the profession. The panel comments:

> "The panel also took account of the way the teaching profession is viewed by others. The panel considered that Mr Towers' behaviour in committing the offence could affect public confidence in the teaching profession, given the influence that teachers may have on pupils, parents and others in the community."

I am particularly mindful of the finding of violent behaviour in this case and the negative impact that such a finding may have on the reputation of the profession.

I have had to consider that the public has a high expectation of professional standards of all teachers and that the public might regard a failure to impose a prohibition order as a failure to uphold those high standards. In weighing these considerations, I have had to consider the matter from the point of view of an "ordinary intelligent and well-informed citizen."

I have considered whether the publication of a finding of a relevant conviction, in the absence of a prohibition order, can itself be regarded by such a person as being a proportionate response to the misconduct that has been found proven in this case.

I have also considered the impact of a prohibition order on Mr Towers himself. The panel comments as follows:

> "There was no evidence that Mr Towers had demonstrated exceptionally high standards in his personal and professional conduct or that he had contributed significantly to the education sector.
>
> Mr Towers stated that there had been no complaints against him during the course of his career. Mr Towers referred to having had a passion for teaching from an early age

and providing details of his teaching career as both a PE and mathematics teacher over a 25 year period. This included:

- sporting achievements he had led;
- achieving outstanding on lesson observations over a 5 and a half year period at a previous school;
- mentoring trainee teachers and newly qualified teachers;
- leading an academy to their best ever GCSE results and setting up an A level course in PE;
- working at his latest school for nine years, and helping the school through two Ofsted inspections graded as good including where maths was targeted for a deep dive;
- working as numeracy champion embedding numeracy into the curriculums of other departments across the school.

The panel was not provided with any independent evidence of the above. The panel received no character statements attesting to his character or ability as a teacher. The panel noted that no previous concerns were indicated by the School at the time of the referral save for a matter that had resulted in no further action and which the panel disregarded."

A prohibition order would prevent Mr Towers from teaching. A prohibition order would also clearly deprive the public of his contribution to the profession for the period that it is in force.

In this case, I have placed considerable weight on both the serious nature of the misconduct found, as well as the panel's comments concerning the lack of insight or remorse and risk of repetition. I have also given weight to the panel's conclusion that his actions were deliberate and committed free of extreme duress.

I have given less weight in my consideration of sanction therefore, to the contribution that Mr Towers has made to the profession. In my view, it is necessary to impose a prohibition order in order to maintain public confidence in the profession. A published decision, in light of the circumstances in this case, does not in my view satisfy the public interest requirement concerning public confidence in the profession.

For these reasons, I have concluded that a prohibition order is proportionate and in the public interest in order to achieve the intended aims of a prohibition order.

I have gone on to consider the matter of a review period. In this case, the panel has recommended a three-year review period

In doing so, it has referenced the Advice as follows:

> "The Advice indicates that there are certain types of case where, if relevant, the public interest will have greater relevance and weigh in favour of not offering a review period.
>
> None of the listed characteristics were engaged by the panel's findings.
>
> The Advice also indicates that there are certain other types of cases where it is likely that the public interest will have greater relevance and weigh in favour of a longer period before a review is considered appropriate.
>
> One of these include**:**
>
> - violence."

I have considered the panel's concluding comments:

> "The panel decided that the findings indicated a situation in which a review period would be appropriate and, as such, decided that it would be proportionate, in all the circumstances, for the prohibition order to be recommended with provisions for a review period after 3 years."

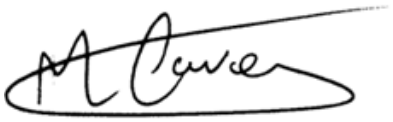
I have considered whether a two-year review period reflects the seriousness of the findings and is a proportionate period to achieve the aim of maintaining public confidence in the profession. In this case, factors mean that allowing a two-year review period is not sufficient to achieve the aim of maintaining public confidence in the profession. These elements are the seriousness of the misconduct found as well as the risk of repetition.

I agree with the panel therefore that a three-year review period is required to satisfy the maintenance of public confidence in the profession.

This means that Mr Scott Towers is prohibited from teaching indefinitely and cannot teach in any school, sixth form college, relevant youth accommodation or children's home in England. He may apply for the prohibition order to be set aside, but not until 16 November 2029, three years from the date of this order at the earliest. This is not an automatic right to have the prohibition order removed. If he does apply, a panel will meet to consider whether the prohibition order should be set aside. Without a successful application, Mr Towers remains prohibited from teaching indefinitely.

This order takes effect from the date on which it is served on the teacher.

Mr Towers has a right of appeal to the High Court within 28 days from the date he is given notice of this order.



Decision maker: Marc Cavey

Date: 11 November 2026

This decision is taken by the decision maker named above on behalf of the Secretary of State.