



Department
for Education

Office of the Regional Schools Commissioner for
North West London and South Central
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Email: RSC.SCNWLON@education.gov.uk

Anonymous
By email: helenjosue@btinternet.com

29 June 2022

Dear 316 HPS Parents

Thank you for your email of 16 June 2022 regarding Holland Park School (HPS) to the National Schools Commissioner. I am replying as the Regional Schools Commissioner for North-West London and South Central England.

As you will be aware, Holland Park School (HPS) has now been judged by Ofsted to be inadequate, an inadequate Ofsted judgement for an academy triggers a new process, which supersedes the voluntary SAT to MAT process that the trustees had been taking forward. When an academy is judged to be inadequate by Ofsted, the Department for Education (DfE) is responsible for taking action to address the issues at the school, and I as Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) will now be considering the next steps for the school.

Information regarding academies that are judged as inadequate can be located in the Schools Causing Concern guidance [Schools causing concern - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/schools-causing-concern). Where an academy that was judged inadequate was previously a 'standalone' academy, as Holland Park is, this will generally mean it will join a strong trust that has been assessed as having the capacity to improve the school. I will seek a view from trustees on the academy's ability to improve before deciding whether the academy should remain as a standalone trust or transfer to another trust.

If as RSC I decide to transfer the school, I will review the trusts already operating nearby with an open mind against a consistent set of criteria that are available online [Regional Schools Commissioners' Approach to Sponsor Matching publishing.service.gov.uk](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/108422/Regional_Schools_Commissioners_Approach_to_Sponsor_Matching_publishing.service.gov.uk)

If I have identified a preferred academy trust to run HPS, I will discuss this with my Advisory Board (which is comprised of experienced serving or former head teachers and successful trust leaders and trustees) before making a recommendation to the Schools Minister, who will make the final decision on the school's future.

The announcement of the preferred trust will be made in the agenda for the Advisory Board meeting, which will be published in advance. A dedicated inbox will be opened and details of how you can email with your thoughts will be shared in advance.

Any decision made will be taken in the best interests of pupils, staff, parents / carers and the local community to ensure that there is rapid and sustained improvement at Holland Park School.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "K. Dethridge". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a horizontal line at the end.

Dame Kate Dethridge
Regional Schools Commissioner, North West London and South Central