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22 May 2014

Mr Stephen Munday  
Executive Principal  
The Voyager Academy  
Mountsteven Avenue  
Walton  
Peterborough  
PE4 6HX

Dear Mr Munday

### **Special measures monitoring inspection of The Voyager Academy**

Following my visit to your academy on 21 May 2014, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm the inspection findings. Thank you for the help you gave during the inspection and for the time you made available to discuss the actions which have been taken since the academy's recent section 5 inspection.

The inspection was the first monitoring inspection since the school became subject to special measures following the inspection which took place on 12 February 2014.

### **Evidence**

During this inspection, meetings were held with you, four senior leaders, two members of the governing body and a representative of the local authority. The sponsor's statement of action incorporated within the academy's improvement plan was evaluated.

### **Context**

Following the last inspection, the principal left the academy. An executive principal from the Comberton Academy Trust has taken charge. He is in the academy on most days of the week. Three heads of school oversee the day-to-day running of the academy and lead on one of the key priorities included in the academy's improvement plan. An associate principal is employed one day each week to add further capacity to the academy's drive to improve the quality of teaching and learning. One teacher has left the academy.

## **The quality of leadership and management at the school**

The executive principal, with the full support of his governors, responded promptly to the recent inspection report by formulating a 10-point action plan to raise achievement throughout the academy. This has been shared with all parents and carers. A further detailed single plan combining the sponsor's statement of action and the academy's actions for improvement are firmly in place.

Three heads of school are using this plan to improve behaviour, raise achievement and monitor and improve the quality of teaching. Prompt improvements to students' behaviour have been prioritised and senior leaders and governors report a much calmer, purposeful environment in the academy. Current data suggest a modest increase in the proportion of Year 11 students attaining five or more A\* to C grades this year. An associate principal has completed a review of the quality of teaching in each of the core subjects of English, mathematics and science to inform future development.

The governing body has been strengthened by two new appointments. Good working relationships with senior leaders have been quickly established. An external review of governance, including how the academy uses the pupil premium, is under way to assess how this aspect of leadership and management may be improved. The academy has firm links with the local authority to aid its improvement.

Following the monitoring inspection the following judgements were made:

The sponsor's statement of action is fit for purpose.

The academy's improvement plan is fit for purpose.

Having considered all the evidence, I am of the opinion that the academy may appoint newly qualified teachers.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State, the Chair of the Governing Body, the Academies Advisers Unit and the Director of Children's Services for Peterborough. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

John Mitcheson  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**