Existing academy: Aspire
URN: 143574
Predecessor school: Aspire
URN: 110205

56 Amersham Hill
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP13 6PQ

Academy conversion and predecessor schools

Under the Academies Act 2010, schools may apply to the Secretary of State to convert to academy status. Such schools are known as academy converters.

Upon conversion to academy status the existing school closes and a new school opens in its place. Although little may have changed, the academy converter is a new legal entity.

Most academy converters have yet to have a section 5 inspection. However, to assist parents and other interested parties, information about, and the inspection history of the school which preceded the new academy are available **here**. The link to the predecessor school will be removed when the school has been closed for either three or five years depending on the date of closure, and removed from the Ofsted website. Information about when closed providers are removed from the website is online at http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/about-us/faqs

It is important to note that, as the academy converter is a new school, which may not yet have been inspected, the inspection judgements of the predecessor school are not those of the new academy. However, the most recent inspection judgements of the predecessor school are taken into account by Ofsted for the purpose of scheduling the first inspection of the new academy converter.

Some academy converters have replaced schools which were judged to be outstanding at their most recent Ofsted inspection. Under the Education Act 2011, most schools previously judged to be outstanding will be exempt from routine inspection. This means they will not be subject to inspection at regular intervals. However, three years after the predecessor school was last inspected it will be subject to Ofsted's formal risk-assessment process, which may lead to an inspection.

Finally, under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 Her Majesty's Chief Inspector (HMCI) may decide to inspect any school in England if, based on information received by Ofsted, HMCI judges that a school would benefit from inspection. HMCI will also inspect any school if requested to do so by the Secretary of State.

Sean Harford
National Director, Education