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11 November 2020

Kevin Green  
Principal  
Manchester Health Academy  
Moor Road  
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Greater Manchester  
M23 9BP

Dear Mr Green

### **Ofsted visit to Manchester Health Academy**

Following my visit with Rachel Goodwin, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 15 October 2020, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm the visit's findings. Thank you for the time you made available to discuss your actions since September 2020, when the government expected all schools to open fully to all pupils.

This visit was conducted under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 (as amended) and in accordance with Ofsted's published procedures for visiting schools while routine inspections are temporarily suspended.

Ofsted's visits to schools during the autumn term are not inspections. We are not giving graded judgements. We did not undertake the usual range of inspection activities and were unable to check other sources of evidence, such as visits to lessons or looking at pupils' work. The content of this letter gives an overview of our discussions about what has happened in your school this term.

During the visit, we spoke to you, the senior leadership team and the leaders responsible for safeguarding. We did not speak to pupils because of the protective measures in place.

### **Context**

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills is leading Ofsted's work into how England's education system is managing the return to full education for pupils, following an extended break in formal schooling due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

In undertaking this focused work, HMI are visiting a broad range of schools. HMI will visit a sample of:

- approximately 1,200 schools across all Ofsted grades (outstanding, good, requires improvement and inadequate)
- maintained schools, academies and free schools, special schools and centres of alternative provision, including those in cities, and coastal, town or rural communities.

The information from this visit will feed into Ofsted's national reporting so that the insights can be shared with the government and the education sector. We did not find any significant concerns during the visit. In such a case, an inspection report would be published on our website and available to parents and carers.

We did not consider your response to COVID-19 during the spring and summer terms 2020, when the school was not open to all pupils.

**From this visit, inspectors noted that:**

- You opened the school for Year 7 pupils on 7 September 2020. Pupils in Years 8 to 11 were asked to return to school by 10 September 2020. Almost all pupils are expected to attend full time. A small number of pupils are currently attending part time.
- You told us that attendance is higher than usual for this time of year.
- All pupils are studying the full range of subjects that are usually on the school's curriculum.
- Pupils in Years 7 to 9 are working through the full content of the curriculum in the majority of subjects. In science, teachers have reordered the topics that pupils are learning, to give them as much access to practical activities as possible at this time. This is because pupils are not able to have all of their science lessons in specialist laboratories.
- You told us that pupils in Years 10 and 11 are studying the full content of their examination courses. This includes subjects which involve practical activities.
- You have asked teachers to find out what all pupils have remembered or forgotten since the start of the 2020 spring term. For Year 7 pupils, you have prioritised the assessment of English, mathematics and science. In all subjects, teachers are using this information to make decisions about what pupils need to learn in order to catch up with the subject content that they have missed.
- You have provided booklets to support pupils' learning in all subjects. These are used in class, and to support pupils' learning when they cannot be in school. You told us that teachers can see the work that pupils are completing

when they are working remotely. This means that teachers can give pupils feedback about their learning.

Thank you again for contributing to this important national work. The views and experiences you have shared will help to inform future policy.

I am copying this letter to the chair of the board of trustees, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Manchester local authority. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Michael Pennington  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**