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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T 0300 123 1231
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Katherine Howe
Executive Headteacher
All Saints Academy
Wretton Road
Stoke Ferry
King's Lynn
Norfolk
PE33 9QJ

Dear Mrs Howe

Requires improvement monitoring inspection of All Saints Academy

This letter sets out the findings from the monitoring inspection of your school that took place on 19 January 2023, on behalf of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills. The monitoring inspection was carried out under section 8(2) of the Education Act 2005 and took place because the school has received two successive judgements of requires improvement at its previous graded (section 5) inspections.

During the inspection, I discussed with you, other senior leaders, the chief executive officer of the multi-academy trust, trust leaders and the chair of the governing board the actions that have been taken to improve the school since the most recent graded inspection. We discussed the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. I also met with teachers, visited lessons, spoke with groups of pupils and scrutinised improvement plans. I have considered all this in coming to my judgement.

All Saints Academy continues to require improvement. Leaders have made progress to improve the school, but more work is necessary for the school to become good.

Main findings

Since the previous inspection, you and your team have acted swiftly and decisively to bring about improvement in the quality of education. You have maintained a stable team of highly committed staff, bringing them on the journey of improvement with you.

The redesigned curriculum in a number of subjects now sets out the precise knowledge pupils need to know and remember. This provides great clarity for teachers. There is a

shared understanding of how subjects will be taught. Much training has been provided for teachers to strengthen their subject knowledge. This is paying great dividends. In many subjects, teachers are now skilled at presenting information clearly. They check that pupils know and remember vocabulary and knowledge before moving on to new learning. Consequently, most pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, develop a detailed knowledge in subjects such as science and geography. You also know that some older pupils have significant gaps in their knowledge, where they have not learned as well in the past. Many are not yet ready for their next phase of education.

While you have brought about improvement, you have not let the strengths in the curriculum identified at the previous inspection slip. The youngest pupils continue to learn to read well. This is because the ambitious phonics programme is skilfully taught by staff. Pupils who need additional support with reading receive this promptly, helping them to become confident and fluent readers.

School and trust leaders work in partnership. There is a shared ambition to continue to improve the quality of education. The support and training that staff receive through the trust are of high quality; teachers value this training. You are right that there remains work to be done to ensure that the improvements seen so far are mirrored across the whole curriculum. Some areas of the curriculum are not yet well designed. The successful developments made to the curriculum that you have led show that you and your team have the capacity to continue improving the quality of education in the school.

I am copying this letter to the chair of the board of trustees and the chief executive officer of the Diocese of Ely Multi-Academy Trust, the director of education for the Diocese of Ely, the Department for Education's regional director and the director of children's services for Norfolk. This letter will be published on the Ofsted reports website.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Lowe
His Majesty's Inspector