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18 July 2008

Mr N Scruton
Headteacher
The Elton High School Specialist Arts College
Walshaw Road
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Dear Mr Scruton

Ofsted survey inspection programme: the extent and quality of provision for pupils from day 6 of exclusion

Thank you for meeting with me at Athenaeum House on Monday 30 June 2008 and at your school on Tuesday 01 July 2008 so that I could hear about the work of your school in relation to the extent and quality of provision for pupils from day 6 of exclusion.

We had a detailed discussion about the provision you have made for pupils excluded for six days or more. The provision you have made is on your site and solely for your students and does not meet requirements. As such it is unsatisfactory. I was able to draw your attention to the guidance from the Department for Children, Schools and Families which states that the school must provide full-time education (off-site or in shared provision) from the sixth day of any period of fixed-term exclusion of six days or longer. As the provision has not been activated because none of the nine students has attended from day 6 of their exclusions, I was not in a position during the visit to see the provision or make judgements on its quality.

I have informed the local authority that the provision at your school does not comply with requirements and I know you intend to discuss this situation with officers of the local authority as you feel they could have provided more guidance and co-ordination on this matter. You informed me that you would rectify this situation as soon as possible.

The visit will provide useful evidence for our survey. The Elton High School Specialist Arts College will not be named in any publication without your permission. Most evidence will be used at a general level to ascertain if

schools and local authorities are complying with legislation and to identify the quality and extent of their provision.

Thank you once again for your co-operation to help me gain an insight into the work of your school.

I hope our discussion will prove useful in helping you make appropriate provision for pupils who are excluded for more than five days.

As I explained in my previous letter, a copy of this letter will be sent to your local authority and will be published on the Ofsted website. It will also be available to the team for your next institutional inspection.

Yours sincerely

Eric Craven Her Majesty's Inspector