



Regional Schools Commissioner for the
West Midlands
Regional Delivery Directorate
Department for Education
Cheylesmore House
Quinton Road
Coventry
CV1 2W

Mr Ged Rowney
Interim Director of Children's Services
Cheshire East Council
Westfields
Middlewich Road
Sandbach
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16 September 2021

ACADEMY ORDER FOR OAKFIELD LODGE SCHOOL

Following the recent application of the management committee of Oakfield Lodge School to become an academy, I am delighted to confirm that I am agreeable to the conversion of this school to an academy.

I enclose a copy of an Academy Order, which will enable the school to convert to an academy. For conversion to take place, I will need to agree, with the Academy Trust that will run the academy, a Funding Agreement and the Articles of Association of the Academy Trust. The Funding Agreement will record the date on which the school will convert into an academy.

Formal TUPE consultations with staff, unions, and the employer should start as soon as possible. For schools where the management committee is the employer of staff, the management committee will lead on the TUPE process, but they may require your support to do so. In all cases, you should please ensure that any personnel files which you hold for the schools are fully up-to-date, and that you have an accurate record of the staff employed at the schools and the terms and conditions of their employment.

It will be necessary for the land and buildings occupied by the school to be transferred to the Academy Trust so that they are available for use by the academy from the conversion date. The exact arrangements for achieving this will depend on whether the school is a community, foundation or trust school, or a voluntary school, and whether the land used by the school is public land, private land or a combination of the two.

In cases where you own the land and buildings currently occupied by the school, I am asking you to agree to lease these to the Academy Trust through a 125-year lease similar to that used for existing academies. As a first step, you should please start to gather land ownership and land registration documentation and information if you have not already done so. My officials will also discuss with you the implications of any schools proposing to convert to academies that are involved in an existing PFI contract or BSF scheme. Model lease documents for Academy Trusts and local authorities to use as the basis for negotiations are available on the Department's website at <http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/typesofschools/academies>

I am writing to the management committee, copied to the head teacher, to give my agreement to the conversion.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Warren', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Warren,

Regional Schools Commissioner, West Midlands



Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP
Secretary of State

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tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

To: The Management Committee of Oakfield Lodge School

Cheshire East Council

ACADEMY ORDER

1. This is an Academy Order made further to section 4 of the Academies Act 2010.
2. I hereby order that on the conversion date Oakfield Lodge School shall be converted into an Alternative Provision Academy.
3. The conversion date shall be the date that the PRU opens as an Alternative Provision Academy further to and as provided for in Academy arrangements made further to section 1 of the Academies Act 2010.
4. On the conversion date Cheshire East Council shall cease to maintain Oakfield Lodge School.
5. The independent school standards (as defined in section 157(2) of the Education Act 2002) are to be treated as met in relation to the Alternative Provision Academy on the conversion date.

Signed on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education by:

Signed:.....

Date: 16 September 2021

Andrew Warren,
Regional Schools Commissioner