

APPENDIX 1



Department
for Education

Office of the Regional Schools Commissioner
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By e-mail to:
Cllrs David Stewart & Paul Brading
Isle of Wight Council

27 October 2017

Dear David and Paul,

I am sure you are now both aware that the Minister has provided conditional, in-principle approval to the mutual termination of the funding agreement for Sandown Bay Academy, with effect from 31 August 2018. This decision paves the way for the council to begin the necessary statutory processes to expand the age-range at The Bay CofE Primary School.

The conditions that will be met in order for the Minister to make a final decision on closure are:

- That AET provide the Department with the outline case for closure of the academy and confirmation that the trust board has voted to terminate the agreement
- That the Council provide confirmation that the proposed age-range expansion has received final approval following the conclusion of the statutory consultation process
- That that the RSC office works closely with the council, and the local MP, to ensure that the new all-through provision has robust and effective leadership and governance.

The Minister has also expressed his strong expectations in relation to the school, which are as follows:

- That the school improvement plan for the new school be shared with us for us to comment on
- That the structure of the governance for the new school is shared with us and that the council support the nomination of a DfE representative on the governing body
- That there is no sixth form included in the new provision
- That progress at the school will be jointly monitored by the council and the DfE

- That communications for use with press and parents are agreed between the council, DfE and AET.

I know that Isle of Wight officers and my team are already working closely on this and I am sure that will continue over the coming months to ensure that pupils in the Sandown Bay area receive the highest possible standard of education.

Yours sincerely



Dominic Herrington
Regional Schools Commissioner, South East and South London

c.c. Bob Seely, MP
Steve Crocker, Director of Children's Services
Brian Pope, Assistant Director