

26 September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

We wanted to write at our earliest opportunity about the recent Ofsted report which has just been published following a recent two day inspection.

We are delighted to let you know that the Academy has been removed from the special measures category. As you will know from Dr Trevenna, Ofsted has recognised the significant progress that has been made at Sir Herbert Leon over the last two years, with three of the five areas inspected now graded as “Good”; these are the Leadership and Management of the Academy; Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare, and 16-19 programmes (Post-16 provision).

The report points to a number of very positive developments at the academy:

- Dr Trevenna’s resolute and determined leadership, and that together with her senior team, she has led significant improvements in the quality of education;
- Pupils’ good behaviour in lessons, breaks and lunchtime;
- An improvement in the quality and consistency of teaching, particularly in English and Maths. Teaching in the sixth form is also singled out as being particularly strong;
- Progress of pupils who have low prior attainment, Special Educational Needs and disabilities;
- The academy’s broad and balanced curriculum, and noting pupils’ strong progress in a range of vocational subjects;
- Well-considered changes made to the school’s governance by Academies Enterprise Trust (AET), including introducing far greater educational expertise on the Local Governing Body (LGB) which has contributed to the academy’s rapid improvement; and
- The support and challenge provided by AET in a number of ways, including dedicated support from the national education team, and the addition of two AET Heads and Safeguarding lead sitting on the LGB.

We are delighted that the impact of improvements made has been formally noted by Ofsted. This is a significant achievement, but we are clear about the areas that need further development at Sir Herbert Leon, notably:

- Further improving the quality and consistency of teaching and ensuring that all pupils are given work that is demanding and meets their needs;
- Further improving outcomes so that all pupils – particularly the most disadvantaged pupils, boys and the most able – make the progress that they should; and
- Continuing to focus on improving attendance.

Overall, the Academy has been graded as “Requires Improvement” in recognition of the further work that needs to be done, and we want to reassure you that working with Dr Trevenna, we have a clear plan of action to make these improvements at pace so that the academy provides the very best education for each and every child.

As part of the new leadership team – as the Chair of Governors and the National Director of Secondary Schools with AET - we would like to stress in particular our own personal commitment to supporting Sir Herbert Leon through this next, exciting phase in its development.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Hatchett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**David Hatchett**  
**National Director of Secondary Schools**  
**Academies Enterprise Trust**

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

**Beverley Perin**  
**Chair of Governors**  
**Sir Herbert Leon Academy**