



Department
for Education

The Office of the Regional Schools Commissioner
for North-West London and South-Central Region
34 Clarendon Road
Watford
WD17 1JJ

2nd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Khalsa Secondary Academy: Update on legal proceedings

I am writing to provide you with an update regarding Khalsa Secondary Academy (KSA).

As you will be aware, on 4 June 2020, the Department for Education (DfE) issued a Termination Notice for the Khalsa Academies Trust's (KAT) Funding Agreement relating to KSA.

On 10 August, the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) met with the North-West London and South-Central England Headteachers' Board to discuss the sponsor options for KSA to transfer to. Following the meeting, the Sikh Academies Trust, led by Khalsa Primary School, was announced as the preferred sponsor for KSA.

On 28 August, the KAT filed a claim for judicial review of the decision to issue a Termination Notice for the Funding Agreement of KSA. Judicial review is the process whereby a judge may decide on the lawfulness of the decision to issue the Termination Notice.

Shortly after the claim was filed, the KAT and the DfE agreed a court order. The effect of the order is that the DfE will not take any irreversible step that would terminate the Funding Agreement until the claim is determined by the Court. The DfE has also agreed to the KAT's request for us not to take any further decisions to appoint the new sponsor or consult with pupils, parents, or staff at KSA in relation to the preferred sponsor.

The next stage of the court process will be for a judge to decide whether permission should be granted for the judicial review to continue. We are currently waiting for a judge to make a decision which we hope will be made shortly.

If permission is granted, a court date will be set and there will be a hearing, shortly after which judgment will be handed down. Please note that the process is likely to take a number of months.

In the meantime, please try not to worry about the situation and we will keep you

informed of any relevant information in relation to the legal proceedings.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Dethridge', written in a cursive style.

Dame Kate Dethridge
Regional Schools Commissioner for North-West London and South-Central
England Region