



'Believe you can'

28th January 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

On 5th November 2019, The Olive Tree Primary School was issued with a Financial Notice to Improve by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). In the interests of transparency, the FNTi was published on the school's website on the same day it was published.

The Trust Board has been actively working to address the points raised by the ESFA for several months. In doing so, the Board had commissioned a review of Governance well before the ESFA's involvement. Subsequently, the Board has formulated a robust plan for improvement which has been scrutinised by an independent legal firm and the ESFA. The Board has also held – and will continue to hold - monthly meetings to ensure its efforts are focussed on addressing the concerns raised by the ESFA with speed and efficiency.

We would therefore like to reiterate to parents that the Trust Board is working closely with the ESFA to make the necessary changes, many of which have already been put in place. The Trust Board is confident that all the areas highlighted will be actioned in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook within the 12 month period allocated by the ESFA.

Monthly updates regarding the school's progress towards meeting the requirements of the FNTi will be published on the school's website. These can be accessed by clicking the following link: <http://www.theolivetreeprimary.com/finance.html>

A full response from the Board of Trustees has also been published on our school website and can be accessed by clicking the following link:
<http://www.theolivetreeprimary.com/newsletters--information.html>

Despite the existence of sensationalised news reports, it is important that nothing detracts from the core purpose of the school – which is to educate its pupils by providing a world class education. Both the FNTi and its accompanying report relate to issues of Governance – not the provision of education – which remains under the leadership of myself and the school's senior leadership team.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. H Asghar
Principal

Principal: Mr. H. Asghar
Adelaide Street, Bolton. BL3 3NY

IT: 01204 322370 IE: admin@theolivetreeprimary.com IW: www.theolivetreeprimary.com

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