

PROTECT – INSPECTION

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Headteacher and Chair of the Governing Body
Arden Academy
Station Road
Knowle
Solihull
B93 0PT

Our reference: 136333

Dear Colleague

Arden Academy: Ofsted's interim assessment

I am pleased to provide some important information about Arden Academy.

As you are aware, during its last inspection in March 2008, Ofsted inspectors judged your school to be outstanding. The 2011 Education Bill proposes that, from January 2012, schools that were previously judged to be outstanding will not be subject to routine inspection unless concerns are raised about their performance. In order for Ofsted to decide whether an outstanding school needs an inspection in the coming months, Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI) look at, and evaluate, various sources of information as listed below. This is called an 'interim assessment' and is carried out about three years after a school's last inspection and annually thereafter if no inspection takes place.

The results of the interim assessment

In carrying out the interim assessment, Ofsted considered the following:

- pupils' academic performance
- pupils' attendance
- any inspection visits carried out by Ofsted since the last routine inspection
- qualifying complaints¹ about the school by parents or carers
- any other significant concerns brought to Ofsted's attention.

I am pleased to inform you that our interim assessment indicates performance has been sustained and that we will not be inspecting your school unless we receive

¹ Ofsted has specific powers (under section 11A-C of the Education Act 2005, as amended) to investigate certain complaints, known as qualifying complaints.

further information that raises concerns. We will continue to undertake annual assessments of the school's performance.

Ofsted is committed to giving parents and carers regular information and we have sent you an interim assessment letter for distribution to the parents and carers of children registered at your school.

We would ask² that you distribute the parents' and carers' letter to all 'registered parents' within five working days. It will be placed on the Ofsted website at: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

I wish everyone involved in the school continued success in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine Gilbert". A horizontal line is drawn below the signature.

Christine Gilbert

²It is a statutory requirement under section 14A(4)(C) of the Education Act 2005, as amended, for schools that are interim assessed to distribute the interim assessment 'statement' to all registered parents of registered pupils (including parents of pupils who may be sick and excluded pupils who remain on the school roll).