

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

07 October 2021

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 28 August 2020, 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. On 6 and 7 July 2021 a judicial review hearing took place. On 5 October, the judge rejected all four grounds of challenge and dismissed the application for judicial review in its entirety.

The decision to issue a Termination Notice was taken in the best interests of pupils, staff, parents, and carers in mind. The Court's decision means that the Department can now proceed with the steps which we consider necessary to secure the future of the academy.

The Department will now begin the process of transferring KSA to the Sikh Academies Trust who run the Ofsted outstanding Khalsa Primary School. We will continue to work with both Trusts to ensure that there is minimal disruption to pupils, staff, and parent/carers and that the transfer takes place as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Dame Kate Dethridge

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Regional Schools Commissioner, North West London and South Central England