

Education & Skills Funding Agency Level 5, 2 St Paul's Place 125 Norfolk Street Sheffield S1 2FJ

Mr Martyn Oliver Accounting Officer Outwood Grange Academies Trust Potovens Lane Outwood Wakefield WF1 2PF

26 Mar 2018

Dear Mr Oliver

Review of Financial Management and Governance – Alternative Assurance arrangements at Multi Academy Trusts

The purpose of our remote desk based validation is to confirm that academy trusts are complying with the financial management and governance requirements contained in the academies financial handbook (AFH). We review responses and evidence to confirm that arrangements in overseeing governance arrangements at academies joining MATs, particularly where academies have joined after the accounting year end comply with the AFH.

As part of our assurance work, the following areas were reviewed together with the supporting evidence which was supplied by the trust.

- Financial oversight
- Financial planning
- Internal control
- Financial monitoring and management
- Proper and regular use of public funds
- Audit requirements
- General requirements

Our conclusion

We have reviewed the supporting evidence/documentation and your responses to the specific questions set out in the Alternative Assurance Questionnaire. Our review confirms that the MAT has demonstrated:

That the trust is Compliant within the testing scope. No major issues/ concerns raised.

May I take this opportunity in thanking you and your colleagues for your assistance during this review.

Yours sincerely

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