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Headteacher (Acting)  
Marc Doyle BSc (Hons) NPQH



11<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Dear Parents

## DARTON OFSTED INSPECTION REPORT

Attached is a copy of the OFSTED report following the Inspection of the school on 20 and 21 January 2010.

The overall judgement is that the school is not providing an acceptable standard of education for the children and that the persons responsible for leading, managing or governing the school are not demonstrating the capacity to secure the necessary improvement. Therefore, as a result of these findings the school has been placed in special measures.

Whilst we know that you will be very disappointed with this outcome we wish to assure you that the school and the Local Authority have moved quickly to put in place measures to address this situation. The headteacher, Simon Hill, has left the school by mutual consent. Tony Loveday, the headteacher of Willowgarth High School, is supporting the school as Interim Executive Headteacher and is working closely with Marc Doyle who is currently Acting Headteacher.

The following actions have also been implemented:

- Actions have been taken to improve the quality of learning and teaching in lessons across the school. Further work is planned to ensure all pupils are making greater progress in lessons.
- Staff meetings, supported by local authority officers, have taken place to review and update accurate predictions for every student sitting examinations this summer. This information is being used to ensure each pupil is receiving appropriate support to maximise their success.
- Local authority officers are working with the Interim Executive Headteacher, Acting Headteacher and members of the Leadership Team to draw up a detailed action plan to address the areas of concern identified in the Ofsted report.
- The Local Authority is asking the Secretary of State for agreement to establish an Interim Executive Board (IEB) to take the place of the current Governing Body. The IEB will work with the Local Authority and with the new leadership of the school to drive through rapid improvements.

OFSTED inspectors will revisit the school during the coming twelve months to monitor progress and ensure the necessary improvements are taking place. We will ensure you are kept abreast of the school's progress and the outcome from any monitoring visits.

In the meantime if you have any concerns specific to your child's education please contact the school to arrange an appointment.

Whilst the coming months will be challenging for all concerned we are confident that issues will be tackled appropriately to ensure the school is meeting the needs of every child and is removed from special measures as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely

Edna Sutton

Executive Director for Children,  
Young People and Families

Marc Doyle

Acting Headteacher

Tony Loveday

Headteacher  
Interim Executive Headteacher



humanities



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