



**Rt Hon Nicky Morgan MP**  
Secretary of State for Education

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To: STEP Academy Trust

I am pleased to tell you that I have now agreed to enter into a Funding Agreement with you to allow Gloucester School to become a sponsored academy. My officials will forward a copy of the executed Funding Agreement to you.

Academies form an integral part of the Government's education policy to raise attainment for all children and I am delighted that Gloucester School is becoming an academy.

The date the school will open as an academy, will be 1 February 2015. I am writing to the Local Authority to instruct it to cease to maintain Gloucester School from that date (copy of letter enclosed).

Angel Oak Academy will now have the opportunity to benefit from the freedoms and flexibilities of academy status, to share best practice and work with others to bring about sustained improvements to all schools in the area. I would like to thank you for your commitment to, and assistance in, the academy process.

I am copying this letter to the head teacher and chair of governors.

RT HON NICKY MORGAN MP