



Education & Skills  
Funding Agency

**Education and Skills Funding Agency**  
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London, SW1P 3BT

**Tel: 0370 000 2288**

**[www.education.gov.uk/efa-enquiry-form](http://www.education.gov.uk/efa-enquiry-form)**

**Reference: 2017-0046004**

**06 October 2017**

**Sent via email : [request-432791-404ff74e@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-432791-404ff74e@whatdotheyknow.com)**

**Dear Ms Cope**

### **Freedom of Information request**

Thank you for your request for information, which was received on 18 September 2017. You requested information on the pre-opening costs of Trafalgar College free school, which was opened in 2016 by the Inspiration Trust in Great Yarmouth and the total agreed post-opening grant for the same free school. I have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act").

The Department holds the information you requested, but it is being withheld under Section 22 of the Act. Section 22 provides for information to be exempt from disclosure where the information is held by the Department with a view to its publication by the Department or any other person at some future date. It was so held at the time your request was made, and it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information should be withheld until that date.

Section 22 of the Act is a qualified exemption which means that a public interest test needs to be carried out, and in doing so the following factors have been considered:

- It is acknowledged that there is a general public interest in disclosure because of the need for there to be open and transparent government and that the sharing of information with the public should be free and open.
- The Government has already determined that it will publish this information on Gove.uk in due course.
- It is not reasonable for the Government to be expected to release piecemeal information in advance of its planned timetable, and there is a strong argument in favour of allowing everyone to view this information at the same time. If it were to release this information as requested on varying occasions this would result in partial information being released over a protracted period leading to confusion and inaccuracy.

The arguments for and against release have been considered and it is our view that the balance of public interest falls in favour of the maintenance of this exemption in relation to the information relating to this request

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled, you should make a complaint to the Department by writing to me within two calendar months of the date of this letter. Your complaint will be considered by an independent review panel, who were not involved in the original consideration of your request.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint to the Department, you may then contact the Information Commissioner's Office

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shad Ohayon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Shad Ohayon**

Academies Operational Delivery – East of England & NE London