



Department
for Education

Lisa Mannall
Regional Schools Commissioner for the
South West
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The Members and Trustees of Steiner Academy Bristol

██████████
Chair of the Academy Management sub-Committee
Steiner Academy Bristol
College Road
Fishponds
Bristol
BS16 2JP

30 January 2019

Dear ██████████

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of Steiner Academy Bristol

In accordance with section 2A of the Academies Act 2010ⁱ any funding agreement of an academy may be terminated by the Secretary of State where special measures are required to be taken by the academy or the academy requires significant improvement and the Chief Inspector of Ofsted has given notice of that under section 13(3)(a) of the Education Act 2005.

I received an Ofsted notification dated 11 January 2019 confirming that Steiner Academy Bristol (SAB) was judged to be Inadequate in all areas and requires special measures. Of serious concern were Ofsted's conclusions that:

- Safeguarding is not effective. Pupils are exposed to avoidable risk of harm. Physical intervention is used unnecessarily.
- Leaders and governors have failed to ensure that pupils receive an acceptable standard of education.
- Governors have not held senior leaders to account effectively over time. As a result teaching is weak, and pupils are underachieving significantly across the school.
- Teachers have low expectations of pupils' achievement and attitudes to learning. Pupils are not challenged to achieve well.
- Bullying incidents are too frequent. Leaders have only recently started to identify this and take appropriate action.
- Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) make insufficient progress. Teaching is not addressing the learning needs of these pupils.

- Leaders have not ensured that all pupils benefit from the pupil premium. Disadvantaged children make less progress than their peers.

On the basis of the evidence provided by Ofsted, I am now issuing this Termination Warning Notice because I do not have confidence that the Trust is able to rapidly and sustainably improve the academy's systems of governance and management, and educational standards. I am therefore minded to terminate the funding agreement of the academy and transfer the school to a strong multi-academy trust that can provide the capacity for continued improvement.

My team will work with you to identify a trust that can provide for the needs of the school and its pupils. I strongly recommend that Trustees of SAB support the work of the Academy Management sub-Committee to focus on the priorities below:

- Ensuring all pupils are safe while in the school's care, and that any safeguarding incidents are regularly reported and rigorously checked, with policies up-to-date;
- Ensuring all other current statutory requirements are adhered to; and
- Helping increase teachers' expectations of pupils, so that pupils of all abilities make sufficient progress
- Building an open culture at the school which puts pupils' safety and welfare first.

In making the decision on whether to terminate the funding agreement, I will consider any written representations you wish to make. Please provide me with any representations you have by 20th February and also share with me a copy of your post-Ofsted action plan, copied to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] via [REDACTED]

In the event of termination, my team will make every effort to secure a suitable sponsor for SAB. However, if this is not possible, I will consider all possible options for the school. This may include potential closure.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner and City of Bristol Local Authority. This letter will also be published on gov.uk. We aim to do this within 15 working days of the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Lisa Mannall
Regional Schools Commissioner for the South West

cc: Dominic Herrington, National Schools Commissioner