



Department
for Education

**Regional Schools Commissioner for
Lancashire & West Yorkshire**

Department for Education
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Store Street
Manchester
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LWY.RSC@education.gov.uk

The Members and Trustees of Star Academies
Star Academies
Shadsworth Road
Blackburn
BB1 2HT

13 February 2019

Dear Mr Kamruddin Kothia and Mr Hamid Patel CBE,

Minded to Terminate Letter to the Members and Trustees of the Star Academies in respect of Highfield Leadership Academy

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 8 February 2019 confirming that Highfield Leadership Academy was judged to be inadequate and requires special measures.

As the Regional Schools Commissioner acting on behalf of the Secretary of State, I need to be satisfied that this academy can achieve rapid and sustained improvement, if I am not satisfied this can be achieved I will consider issuing a Termination Warning Notice.

I would be grateful for the following evidence which I will take into account when assessing whether the school is making sufficient improvements:

- a copy of the most up to date post-inspection action plan by 26 February. This should include actions to improve safeguarding arrangements, pupil behaviour and leadership and management, setting out clear lines of accountability and timescales
- information on pupils' performance under new assessment frameworks, in particular year 11 pupils and those receiving pupil premium funding
- section 8 report from Ofsted following the first monitoring inspection

I would like to proceed in the following way:

- initial meeting with the Trust on Wednesday 6 March at 2pm
- review of progress against your post-inspection action plan on a half termly basis

Please respond to me within ten working days of the date of this letter, copied to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], outlining the actions that you will be taking to remedy the matters identified above.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner, Blackpool's DCS and the academy's local MP. In addition, this letter will be published in due course on gov.uk.

Yours sincerely



Vicky Beer CBE
Regional Schools Commissioner for Lancashire and West Yorkshire
(CC to National.SCHOOLSCOMMISSIONER@education.gov.uk,
Diane.Booth@blackpool.gov.uk, gordonmarsdenmp@parliament.uk)

ⁱ Inserted by section 14 of the Education and Adoption Act 2016