



Department
for Education

Department for Education

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Mr Bernard Dickenson
Chair of Trustees
Academy Transformation Trust
Emmanuel Court
Reddicroft
Sutton Coldfield
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5 December 2019

Dear Mr Dickenson

Termination Warning Notice to the to the Members and Trustees of Academy Transformation Trust in respect of Ravens Academy (the “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 28 November confirming that Ravens Academy was judged to be inadequate and requires special measures. Of serious concern were Ofsted’s conclusions that:

- the Trust knows that the quality of education is not good enough and that in the past it has not challenged the school’s leaders to bring about the required improvements in the quality of education
- outcomes in reading, writing and mathematics have been poor for too long and there is little evidence of improvement
- it is not clear in some subjects what should be taught and when, and in subjects such as science, art and geography, teachers do not know what pupils have learned in previous years and this means that pupils cannot build on their knowledge
- the teaching of early reading is not good enough, too many pupils struggle to read fluently, and pupils do not make enough progress in writing

- pupils with SEND find it difficult to keep up as they do not always understand what to do and teachers do not plan well enough to meet their needs

As Regional Schools Commissioner, I must be satisfied that the Academy can achieve rapid and sustained improvement. If I am not satisfied that this can be achieved, I will consider a Notice of Termination in accordance with Section 2A of the Academies Act 2010.

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

- the Post Inspection Action Plan (updated)
- information on the progress of pupils and the action being taken to support education improvements
- any additional information you consider would be helpful to me

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 19 December 2019.

I would also like to meet with you in the next 6 weeks, which my office will arrange.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner and the DCS of the local authority. This letter will be published on www.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely



Sue Baldwin
Regional Schools Commissioner for East of England and North East London

CC: Dominic Herrington, National Schools Commissioner
Clare Kershaw, Director for Education, Essex County Council

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