



Department
for Education

Department for Education

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Shaftesbury Road
Cambridge
CB2 8DR

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The Members and Trustees of:
Eastern Multi-Academy Trust
Queen Mary Road
Kings Lynn
Norfolk
PE30 4QG

6th July 2017

Dear Mr Ramsey,

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of the Eastern Multi-Academy Trust in respect of Downham Market Academy.

In accordance with section 2A of the Academies Act 2010¹ 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 13 June 2017 confirming that Downham Market Academy was judged to be inadequate and requires special measures.

In the autumn term of 2016, a visit to the academy by education advisors at my request highlighted a number of concerns.

These were enumerated in writing in November 2016 when I issued the trust with a Pre-Termination Warning Notice to inform you, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education, that the standards of performance at Downham Market Academy were unacceptably low.

The Ofsted inspection judgement raises many of the same issues and therefore is evidence that the trust has not adequately addressed my concerns despite 5 months having elapsed since I issued the pre-termination warning notice. I am not satisfied that the trust has the capacity to support the rapid and sustained improvement that is required so I am serving you with this Termination Warning Notice.

Before terminating the funding agreement, I will consider any written representations you wish to make.

Please provide me with any representations you have by 20th July 2017.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Tim Coulson
Regional Schools Commissioner for East of England and North East London
Norfolk CC, Jonathan Lewis, [REDACTED]

¹ Inserted by section 14 of the Education and Adoption Act 2016