



Department  
for Education

Regional Schools Commissioner's Office  
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Chair of Trustees  
Stafford Leys Academy Trust  
Stafford Leys  
Leicester Forest East  
Leicester  
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6<sup>th</sup> September 2018

### **Minded to Terminate Letter to the Members and Directors of Stafford Leys Academy Trust in respect of Stafford Leys Community Primary School**

In accordance with section 2A of the Academies Act 2010<sup>1</sup> 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 June 5th confirming that Stafford Leys Community Primary School was judged to be inadequate and requires special measures. In the Ofsted inspection report, Ofsted highlighted a number of concerns, including, that:

- *“Over the past two years, outcomes for pupils, in particular those who are disadvantaged and the most able, have been poor. Leaders have not stemmed the decline in pupils’ progress.*
- *Leaders’ and governors’ monitoring and evaluation of their plans for school improvement have not been precise enough to ensure the rapid improvements needed.*
- *Governors have not been effective in holding senior leaders and school staff to account for pupils’ underperformance.”*

It is also been the case that the standards of performance of pupils at Stafford Leys Community Primary School have been very low.

- In 2017, the academy’s progress score in reading (-3.7), writing (-4.7) and maths (-3.5), were all well below the national average.
- In 2017, the academy’s progress score for disadvantaged pupils in reading (-5.4), writing (-8.2) and maths (-4.3), was also well below the national average.

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 know that Jonathan Gore, Team Leader, Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, met with you and your Chair of Governors on 23 May and spoke with you on 14 June to outline the process the Department would take with Stafford Leys and to discuss future support options. I note the positive approach the school has taken to seeking to address the points raised by Ofsted and in seeking to secure external support. Thank you also for your update to the Project Lead on 22 June and for submitting your Post-Inspection Action Plan.

Following on from this, I would be grateful for evidence of progress against the plan and recommendations contained in the Ofsted report:

- Half-termly updates and documentation that will allow us to monitor progress against the plan
- Copies of the reports made by the external advisers that you have engaged
- A record of the outcome of the Governance and Pupil Premium reviews that are due to take place and any actions that will be taken to address issues raised. Please also provide evidence of progress.

I would like to proceed in the following way:

- Review of progress on a half termly basis
- The Trust should explore options to join a multi-academy trust (MAT).

Please respond to me within fifteen working days of the date of this letter outlining the actions that you will be taking to remedy the matters identified above.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner.

Yours sincerely



**John Edwards**  
**Regional Schools Commissioner for East Midlands and Humber**

**CC to Leicestershire LA, Ofsted, Edward Argar MP**

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<sup>i</sup> Inserted by section 14 of the Education and Adoption Act 2016