



Department
for Education

Dominic Herrington
Interim National Schools Commissioner
Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London, SW1P 3BT

Tel: 0207 3408125

www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

The Members and Directors/Trustees of REAch2 Academy Trust
Scientia Academy, Mona Road
Burton-Upon-Trent
DE13 0UF

29 November 2018

Dear Mr King,

Minded to Terminate Letter to the Members and Directors/Trustees of REAch2 Academy Trust in respect of Sprites Primary 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 an inadequate judgment has been given to an academy or where 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.

We received an Ofsted notification dated May 2018 confirming that Sprites Primary Academy in Suffolk was judged to be Inadequate. Of serious concern are Ofsted's conclusions that;

- The curriculum does not meet the needs of all pupils, particularly in Year 6
- Pupil premium funding has not been used effectively to support disadvantaged pupils and raise their achievement, particularly in reading and mathematics
- Pupils who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities do not make enough progress
- Teachers' expectations are often too low. The most able pupils are rarely set work that is challenging enough, so they do not make as much progress as they could
- Challenge from the governing body and the REAch2 Academy Trust to improve achievement and the quality of teaching has not had a successful impact on pupils' outcomes

Based on the information in the Ofsted report, particularly in relation to the curriculum and challenge from the Trust, we have concluded that we have concerns about the ability of the Trust to deliver the required improvements in a rapid and sustained manner. If I am not satisfied this can be achieved I will consider issuing a Termination

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

Warning Notice which could lead to formal termination of the Supplemental Funding Agreement.

To this end, we expect subsequent monitoring inspections by Ofsted to show that leaders at the academy and academy trust are taking effective action and we expect pupil outcomes to increase significantly in the 2018/19 academic year. We also expect REAch2's wider performance in the region to be improved and sustained.

We request that you provide the formal school improvement plan for the academy and confirm the Trust's wider plans for improvement and leadership in East Anglia. Please send us this information, and any other representations you wish to make, by **Thursday 20 December 2018**, copied to Alan Parnum, Deputy Director and [REDACTED], National Sponsor Unit Lead.

We are copying this letter to the CEO of the REAch2 Academy Trust, Suffolk County Council, and our regional counterparts in Ofsted and the Education & Skills Funding Agency. This letter will be published on www.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Sue Baldwin
Regional Schools Commissioner
East England and North-East London



Dominic Herrington
Interim National Schools Commissioner
South-East and South London

CC: Sir Steve Lancashire, Chief Executive Officer, REAch2 Academy Trust
Sue Cook, Corporate Director for Health, Wellbeing & Children's Services,
Suffolk County Council
Paul Brooker, Regional Director for East of England, Ofsted
Judy Anckorn, Deputy Director, Education & Skills Funding Agency