



Department
for Education

**Regional Schools Commissioner's
Office
North West London and South Central
Sanctuary Buildings
Floor 3
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT**

David Ross



5th April 2019

Dear David,

Pre-Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of the David Ross Education Trust in respect of Lodge Park 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 January 2019 confirming that Lodge Park Academy was judged to be inadequate. Of serious concern are Ofsted's conclusions that:

- Trustees have overseen a decline in the school's performance. Outcomes for pupils have been too low for too long.
- Too many pupils make inadequate progress across a wide range of subjects.
- Assessment information does not provide accurate information for leaders and teachers about how well pupils are achieving.
- Teachers do not use information about what pupils can do to plan activities that meet pupil's needs. Too much of the teaching is mundane, failing to enthuse pupils about their learning.
- Disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND are not supported to make good progress
- Teachers do not manage pupil's behaviour well. Pupils show lack of respect.
- Teachers do not have high enough expectations of what pupils can achieve.

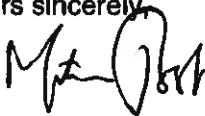
- Leaders have not ensured that additional funding to help disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND is used effectively.
- Leaders do not provide effective training to subject leaders.
- Leaders have not ensured that the curriculum meets the needs of pupils.

As the National Schools Commissioner acting on behalf of the Secretary of State, I need to be satisfied that Lodge Park can achieve rapid and sustained improvement. If we are not satisfied this can be achieved we will consider issuing a Termination Warning Notice.

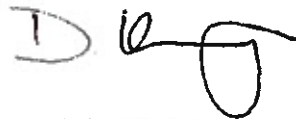
Following our meeting on 25 March and my review of the school's post-Ofsted action plan, I am currently of the view that trust has the capacity to achieve the rapid and sustained improvement required. If, however, the school has not come out of category by the fourth Ofsted visit, I will consider termination of the academy's supplemental funding agreement.

We are copying this letter to Northamptonshire LA and Ofsted and this letter will be published on www.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Post
Regional Schools Commissioner
North West London and South Central



Dominic Herrington
Interim National Schools Commissioner

CC: Rowena Hackwood, CEO