



Department
for Education

Lisa Mannall
Regional Schools Commissioner
for the South West Region
2 Rivergate
Bristol BS1 6EH

Chair of Governors
St Leonard's Church of England Primary Academy, Blunsdon
Linley Road
Blunsdon
Wiltshire
SN26 7AP

5 June 2019

Dear

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of St Leonard's Church of England Primary 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 23 April 2019 confirming that St Leonard's CofE Primary Academy was judged to be inadequate and requires special measures. Of serious concern were Ofsted's conclusions that:

- Governors have not provided challenge and strategic leadership to school leaders. As a result, standards have slipped, especially in the end of key stage 2 assessments.
- Disadvantaged pupils and pupils with SEND are not making sufficient progress.
- Leaders do not have effective systems to measure the progress that pupils make.
- Teachers' expectations are too low. Pupils present scruffy and incomplete work that goes unchallenged.
- Leaders and governors do not have an accurate view of the school's effectiveness. Their plans are not improving the school.
- Leaders do not have a clear overview of the curriculum on offer. Across a range of subjects, teachers do not use their knowledge of what pupils know, can do and understand. Consequently, pupils make weak progress.
- Leaders do not manage the performance of staff effectively. There is a lack of accountability. Middle leaders lack the necessary leadership skills. As a result, there is too much inconsistency in teaching.
- Too many pupils are disengaged from their learning. Staff do not have an effective behaviour management policy. As a result, some poor behaviour continues, and staff do not know how to deal with it.

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

On the basis of the evidence provided by Ofsted, I am now issuing this Termination Warning Notice because I have concerns that both the academy's governance and management, and educational standards, are unlikely to improve rapidly and sustainably without further intervention.

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, along with your Post-Ofsted Action Plan within fifteen working days from the date of this letter (28 June 2019), copied to [REDACTED].

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner, the Local Authority and the Diocese. This letter will also be published on gov.uk. We aim to do this within 15 working days of the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Mannall', written in a cursive style.

Lisa Mannall