

Regional Schools Commissioners Office NWLSC 34 Clarendon Road Watford WD17 1JJ

Andrew Martin and Sue Walton Chesham Grammar School White Hill Chesham HP5 1BA

15 August 2019

Dear Andrew and Sue

## Minded to Terminate Letter to the Members and Trustees of the Red Kite Schools Trust in respect of lyingswood Primary Academy

In accordance with section 2A of the Academies Act 2010<sup>i</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 12 September 2018 confirming that Ivingswood Primary Academy was judged to be inadequate and requires special measures. Although the monitoring visit dated 14 May 2019 stated that progress had been made, it also noted further improvements to be made regarding pupil progress and outcomes including:

- Leaders review the pupils' progress regularly to identify where additional support is needed. However, teachers do not consistently use pupils' assessments to plan sequences of lessons that ensure pupils make strong progress.
- The quality of teaching, learning and assessment has improved since the last monitoring visit. However, you acknowledge that these improvements are relatively recent and not yet fully embedded in every year group.
- Lesson observations and scrutiny of pupils' books demonstrate that pupils in both key stages 1 and 2 are more secure in their understanding of addition and subtraction but many pupils continue to struggle with multiplication and division. However, teachers do not consistently use pupils' assessment information to plan sequences of lessons that challenge the most able and sufficiently support low prior attaining pupils. Consequently, pupils do not make strong progress across the school.

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 would be grateful for the following evidence:

- improvement plans for Reading, Writing and Maths for the following academic year with measurable milestones and actions
- revised and updated whole school improvement plan including clearly measurable milestones linked to 2020 target outcomes

I would like to proceed in the following way:

- arrange a meeting with the Trust
- arrange an education advisor visit to focus on areas of underperformance

Please respond to me within twenty working days of the date of this letter, copied to providing the information requested and outlining the actions that you will be taking to remedy the matters identified above.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner and the Local Authority. In addition, this letter will be published in due course on Gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

**Dame Kate Dethridge** 

Regional Schools Commissioner for North West London South Central.

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