



Department  
for Education

Office of the Regional Schools  
Commissioner for the West Midlands  
Cheylesmore House  
5 Quinton Road  
Coventry  
CV1 2WT  
Email: [RSC.WM@education.gov.uk](mailto:RSC.WM@education.gov.uk)

Mr David Hall, Trust Chair  
Academies Enterprise Trust  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 183 Eversholt Street,  
London  
NW1 1BU

5<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Mr Hall

**Minded to Terminate Letter to the Members and Directors/Trustees of Academies Enterprise Trust (“the Trust”) in respect of Four Dwellings Primary Academy (“the Academy”)**

I write concerning the funding agreement made between the Secretary of State and the Trust in respect of the 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 Regional Schools Commissioner (on behalf of the Secretary of State) where special measures are required to be taken in relation to 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 following the Inspection on 9-10 July 2019 confirming that the Academy was judged to be inadequate and requires significant improvement. Of serious concern are Ofsted’s conclusions that:

- The school’s overall effectiveness has declined since the previous inspection. Leaders and governors have failed to address weaknesses in pupils’ attendance and behaviour successfully.
- Safeguarding is not effective. Sometimes, pupils do not feel safe at the school.
- Pupils’ attendance is consistently low. High rates of fixed-term exclusion and the use of part-time timetables contribute to this.
- Leaders do not use assessment well enough to have a clear understanding of pupils’ progress across each key stage.
- Teachers do not receive the feedback they need to improve their teaching.
- Teachers do not provide work that matches some pupils’ needs closely enough. Work lacks challenge for the most able pupils. As a result, pupils do not make consistently good progress.

- The wider curriculum is broad and interesting. However, teaching does not build well enough on what pupils have learned before.
- Many parents and carers are unhappy with the leadership of the school. They are concerned about pupils' behaviour and safety.

Despite the above, I was pleased to note that Early Years Provision was judged to be good, and that children at the Academy make a strong start to their education.

As the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) acting on behalf of the Secretary of State, I must be satisfied that the Academy can achieve rapid and sustained improvement. If I am not satisfied this can be achieved, I will consider issuing a Termination Warning Notice.

In order to consider if I can be satisfied with the action that the Trust is taking, please submit the following information:

1. A school improvement plan which addresses the issues highlighted in the Ofsted report;
2. Details of how the Trust is ensuring that there is sufficient leadership capacity and capability to support the school improvement plan;
3. Details of the Trust's commitment to deploy appropriate resources to support the school improvement plan;
4. The targets for attainment and teaching standards for the Academy;
5. Details of how the Trust will work with the Local Authority to ensure that the recommendations made in the February 2019 Systems and Practice Review are progressed.

Please provide the above information by 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 outlining the actions that you will be taking to remedy the matters identified above.

I would also like to arrange for a meeting to be held between representatives from my office; the Chair of the Trust; the CEO of the Trust and any other appropriate representatives. This meeting will review the Trust's response to this letter and inform my view on the capacity of the Trust. The meeting will take place at:

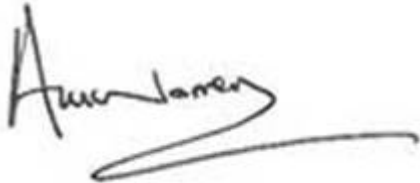
**Office of the Regional Schools Commissioner  
Cheylesmore House  
5 Quinton Road  
Coventry  
CV1 2WT**

My office will be in touch to arrange a suitable time and date for this meeting.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner, Dominic

Herrington, Birmingham City Council, and Preet Kaur Gill, MP for Birmingham Edgbaston.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Warren', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Andrew Warren**  
**Regional Schools Commissioner, West Midlands**

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