

Department for Education Eastbrook Shaftesbury Road Cambridge CB2 8DR rsc.eastnelondon@education.gov.uk

Mr Derek Stringer Chair of Trustees Eastern Multi-Academy Trust Queen Mary Road King's Lyjnn Norfolk PE30 4QG

6 December 2019

Dear Mr Stringer

Termination Warning Notice to the to the Members and Trustees of Eastern Multi-Academy Trust in respect of King Edward VII Academy (the "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 2 December confirming that Kind Edward VII Academy was judged to be inadequate and has serious weaknesses. Of serious concern were Ofsted's conclusions that:

- the underlying causes of pupils' poor behaviour have not been resolved and pupils continue to misbehave even when they are removed from lessons because they are not taught how to improve their behaviour
- staff are not trained well enough in how to manage pupils' behaviour and pupils miss out on learning because teachers do not manage their behaviour well enough
- the quality of education pupils receive is poor and teaching is not good enough
- teachers are unaware of what pupils have learned and they do not know what pupils need to spend longer working on to secure their understanding, or when pupils are ready to move on
- absence rates are high and pupils miss too much time for learning because they are not in school often enough

 pupils with special educational needs and/ or disabilities (SEND) are not taught or supported effectively

As Regional Schools Commissioner, I must be satisfied that the Academy can achieve rapid and sustained improvement. If I am not satisfied that this can be achieved, I will consider a Notice of Termination in accordance with Section 2A of the Academies Act 2010.

I would be grateful for the following evidence, which I will take into account when assessing whether the Academy is making sufficient improvements:

- the Post Inspection Action Plan (updated)
- information on the progress of pupils and the action being taken to support education improvements
- any additional information you consider would be helpful to me

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 by 20 December 2019.

I would also like to meet with you at the beginning of next year, which my office will arrange.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner and the DCS of the local authority. This letter will be published on <u>www.gov.uk</u>.

Yours sincerely

Sue Baldwin Regional Schools Commissioner for East of England and North East London

CC: Dominic Herrington, National Schools Commissioner Sara Tough, Executive Director of Children's Services, Norfolk County Council

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