



Department
for Education

Department for Education

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Bernard Dickenson
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8 July 2020

Dear Bernard Dickenson

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of Academy Transformation Trust (ATT) in respect of Mark Hall 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 4 March 2020 confirming that **Mark Hall Academy** was judged to be inadequate and has serious weaknesses. Of serious concern were Ofsted’s conclusions that:

- Safeguarding procedures are not good enough to keep pupils safe
- Bullying and the use of derogatory language are not tackled well enough
- Curriculum plans are not advanced enough to meet the needs of the different pupils in the school
- Leaders do not give teachers enough guidance on how to support pupils with SEND and provision for pupils is weak
- Too many teachers do not manage pupils’ behaviour well enough

On the basis of the Ofsted judgement I am now issuing this Termination Warning Notice under s2A because I have concerns that the Trust does not have the capacity to make rapid and sustained improvement. I am aware this is the third academy within the Trust to receive an Inadequate judgement in one year.

On making the decision whether to terminate the funding agreement I will consider any written representation and information you wish to provide us with. Please provide

me with any representation you wish to make within 15 working days of this letter.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner and the Executive Director for Children's Services at Essex County Council. This letter will be published on www.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

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

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

CC: Dominic Herrington, National Schools Commissioner
Helen Lincoln, Executive Director for Children, Families and Education, Essex
County Council

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