



Department
for Education

Academies Regional Delivery Directorate
East Midlands and the Humber
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The Members and Directors of St Therese of Lisieux Catholic MAT
Suite 4 The Lawn
Union Road
Lincoln
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29 October 2020

Dear Members and Directors,

Minded to Terminate Letter to the Members and Directors of the St Therese of Lisieux Catholic MAT in respect of Saint Augustine Webster Catholic Voluntary Academy, North Lincolnshire.

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 11 June 2020 confirming that Saint Augustine Webster Catholic Voluntary Academy was judged to be inadequate and has serious weaknesses. Of serious concern to me are Ofsted's conclusions that:

- The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.
- Leaders evaluation of the school's strengths and weaknesses has not been accurate. As a result, leaders have not been clear about the priorities facing the school.
- Some pupils do not read with fluency.
- Leaders do not check to make sure pupils are attending school well. Rates of absence are rising and the number of pupils who regularly miss school is increasing. This is particularly the case for disadvantaged pupils.

- Some pupils with SEND do not achieve as well as they should. Plans to support them are not clear and are not reviewed often enough.

As the Interim 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.

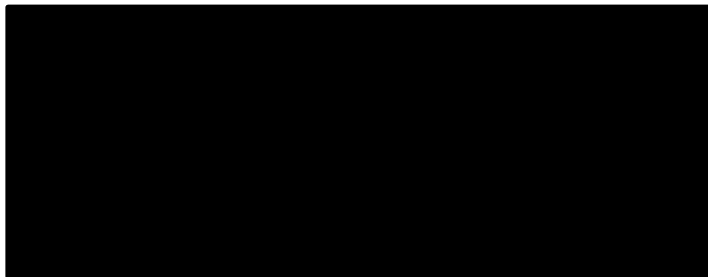
In making the decision on whether to terminate the funding agreement, I will consider any written representations you wish to make in addition to your post-Ofsted Action Plan.

I would be grateful if you could please respond to me within 15 working days of the date of this letter, copied to Rizwana Parveen (Deputy Director), Jill Wheeler (Delivery Officer) and Kathryn Harrison (Trust Development Partner), outlining the actions that you will be taking to remedy the matters identified above.

I would also like to meet with you to discuss your response and my office will be in touch in due course to arrange a suitable date for this.

For information, I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner, Dominic Herrington so that he is aware of the situation. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely



Carol Gray
Interim Regional Schools Commissioner for East Midlands and Humber region

CC: Dominic Herrington - National Schools Commissioner
Peter Thorpe – Director of Learning, Skills and Culture, North Lincolnshire Council
Peter Giorgio – Director of Education, Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service (NRCDES)
Kathryn Harrison – Trust Development Partner
Jill Wheeler – Delivery Officer for North Lincolnshire

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