



Department
for Education

Regional Schools Commissioner's Office
South East and South London
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The Members and Trustees of The Tenax Academy Trust
Bennett Memorial Diocesan School
Culverden Down, Tunbridge Wells
Kent, TN4 9SH

12 May 2022

Dear Lady Jacqueline Evans,

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of The Tenax Schools Trust in respect of Bishop Chavasse Primary School.

In accordance with clauses 5.F to 5.H of the funding agreement for Bishop Chavasse Primary School ("the Academy") the Secretary of State may terminate the funding agreement if the Chief Inspector gives notice to the Academy Trust that special measures are required to be taken by the Academy or the Academy requires significant improvement.

I received an Ofsted notification dated 22 February 2022 confirming that Bishop Chavasse Primary School was judged to be inadequate and has serious weaknesses. For the reasons set out below, I now consider it necessary to issue this Termination Warning Notice.

The Ofsted report highlighted the following weaknesses:

1. The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. Staff have a high awareness of potential risks and concerns, However, the records of these concerns show serious omissions.
2. Leaders have not set up robust systems for recording and monitoring pupils who might be at risk. The information they record is not always shared appropriately with other agencies and professionals where necessary.
3. Leaders do not have sufficient knowledge and understanding of their roles and responsibilities of how to best protect and support pupils. Leaders do not consistently take appropriate action in a timely way. They have not ensured that statutory training has been kept up to date.

4. The teaching of reading is variable and leaders have not prioritised have not prioritised checking that what is taking place is meeting their ambitious expectations. Therefore, not all pupils make strong progress in reading and those who are struggling are not yet receiving the support necessary to catch up.

I have concerns about the capacity of the trust to deliver rapid and sustainable improvement.

As Regional Schools Commissioner, I need to be satisfied that the trust has capacity to deliver rapid and sustainable improvement at the academy. If I am not satisfied that this can be achieved, I will consider whether to terminate the funding agreement in order to transfer the academy to an alternative academy trust.

In making the decision on whether to terminate the funding agreement I will consider any written representations you wish to make in response to this Termination Warning Notice.

Please provide me with any representations you wish to make by 2 June 2022.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner and Ofsted. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CBurton', with a small dot at the end.

Claire Burton
Regional Schools Commissioner for South East and South London