



Department
for Education

Dame Kate Dethridge
Office of the Regional Schools
Commissioner North West London
and South Central England
Floor 3
34 Clarendon Road
Watford
WD17 1JJ
RSC.SCNWLON@education.gov.uk

Marilyn Hubbard
Chair of Trustees and The Members and Trustees
of Inspiring Futures Through Learning Trust
Fairfields Primary School
Apollo Avenue
MILTON KEYNES
MK11 4BA

9 May 2022

Dear Ms Hubbard

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of Inspiring Futures Through Learning Trust in respect of Fairfields Primary School, Milton Keynes

In accordance with clauses 5.F to 5.H of the academy's Supplemental Funding Agreement which sets out the process for termination of the funding agreement for Fairfields 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 11 March 2022 confirming that Fairfields Primary School was judged to be inadequate and has serious weaknesses. While acknowledging the many positive findings of the Ofsted report, for the reasons set out below, I now consider it necessary to issue this Termination Warning Notice.

- Leaders are not consistent in referring safeguarding concerns to other agencies when they should. Sometimes, these concerns are serious. This has left some pupils at risk of harm. Safeguarding has therefore been judged to be not effective.

As the Regional School Commissioner, acting on behalf of the Secretary of State, I must be satisfied that the Academy Trust can achieve rapid and sustainable improvement to address the concerns including the safeguarding and governance concerns at Fairfields Primary School. If I am not satisfied this can be achieved, I will consider whether to terminate the funding agreement and, subject to viability, transfer

the Academy to a strong multi-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. I also request that you provide the following:

- Information on the immediate and appropriate support that is being provided to Fairfields Primary School to address the issues raised by the Ofsted report, in particular the school's Post Ofsted Action Plan.
- Details of the current governance and leadership arrangements, including the most recent skills audit conducted by the trust board.
- An evaluation of the role of trustees (prior to and following the Ofsted inspection) in ensuring the accountability of the principal and the academy team more generally in exercising its responsibility for ensuring safeguarding at Fairfields Primary School.
- An action plan to address the safeguarding concerns which are listed above, that provides evidence that the Trust is adhering to regulations and statutory guidance; [Keeping children safe in education \(KCSIE\)](#) and [Working together \(WT\) to safeguard children](#), and that these are effectively implemented at Fairfields Primary School, so that pupils not only feel safe in school, but also feel safe in reporting their concerns.

Please provide me with any representations you wish to make, as well as the above information, by 7 June 2022.

I am copying this letter to the National Schools Commissioner and the Director of Children's Service at Milton Keynes Local Authority. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK. I would be grateful if you could share this letter with the members and other trustees of the trust.

Yours sincerely



Dame Kate Dethridge
Regional Schools Commissioner for North West London and South Central