



Department
for Education

**Regional Schools Commissioner's
Office**

Andrew Warren
West Midlands Regional Delivery
Directorate
Cheylesmore House

The Members and Trustees of Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust
Shireland Collegiate Academy,
Waterloo Road,
Smethwick,
West Midlands,
B66 4ND

30/05/2022

Dear *Ashley Savell-Boss*

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of the Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust in respect of Thorns Collegiate Academy.

In accordance with clauses 5A-5H of the funding agreement for Thorns Collegiate Academy ("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 8-9 February confirming that Thorns Collegiate Academy was judged to be inadequate and requires special measures. For the reasons set out below, I now consider it necessary to issue this Termination Warning Notice.

- Safeguarding procedures are not robust
- Leaders have not ensured that pupils with SEND receive the support they need to achieve well
- Senior leaders do not check carefully enough on the implementation and impact of their work
- Some teachers do not use assessment well to identify gaps in pupils' knowledge
- Pupils' absence rates are too high, particularly those with an EHC plan

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 13 June 2022. This information should include, but is not limited to:

- A copy of the Post Ofsted Action Plan
- Information on what action is being taken to support educational improvement at the Academy and timescales of this work
- Details of current governance and leadership arrangements.

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

Andrew Warren
Regional Schools Commissioner for West Midlands

CC: National Schools Commissioner, Ofsted, Dudley Local Authority