



Department
for Education

Regional Director's Office

Second Floor
3 Glass Wharf
Avon Street
Bristol
BS2 OPS

The Members and Trustees of Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust
Holsworthy Skills Centre
Western Road
Holsworthy
EX22 6DH

3 October 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust in respect of Tavistock College

In accordance with clauses 5F to 5H of the funding agreement for Tavistock College ("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 in relation to the Academy or the Academy requires significant improvement.

I received an Ofsted notification dated 7 July 2022 confirming that Tavistock College 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 day-to-day life of the school is disrupted by poor behaviour. Leaders aim to provide discipline and support for pupils who struggle with their behaviour. However, their approach has not been effective, and the standard of behaviour has deteriorated.
- Many pupils do not feel safe in school. Some are frightened to use parts of the school due to the intimidating and risky behaviour of some groups of pupils.
- Bullying is widespread. Pupils say teachers do not resolve issues well enough. Many pupils cannot identify an adult to whom they would report a worry. There are pupils who are subjected to derogatory language based on their individual characteristics.
- Leaders have designed a curriculum which prepares some pupils well academically for continued study in the sixth form and beyond. However, teachers do not adapt learning well enough to meet the needs of pupils who are likely to struggle.

As Regional Director, 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.

I would be grateful for the following evidence, which I will consider when assessing whether the trust is making sufficient improvements:

- A written summary of safeguarding arrangements at the academy, and available supportive capacity in the wider trust to ensure effective safeguarding of all young people in the trust.
- A written summary of intended future leadership, staffing, and governance arrangements including but not limited to, leadership responsibility and accountability for safeguarding, at the academy.
- Information on the action being taken to support education improvements and the timescales of this work (for example a post-inspection action plan).
- Any additional information you consider would be helpful to me.

Please provide me with any representations you wish to make by 21 October 2022.

I am copying this letter to Ofsted and Devon LA. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely



Hannah Woodhouse
Regional Director for the South West

CC: Ofsted, Devon LA