



Department
for Education

Regional Director for the West Midlands
Regions Group
Department for Education
Cheylesmore House
Quinton Road
Coventry
CV1 2WT

Email: RG.WM@education.gov.uk

The Members and Trustees of Idsall School
Idsall School
Coppice Green Lane
Shifnal
Shropshire
TF11 8PD
(By email: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED])

9 December 2022

Dear [REDACTED] and [REDACTED],

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of Idsall School (“the Trust”) in respect of Idsall School (“the Academy”)

In accordance with clauses 7.6 and 7.7 of the funding agreement for Idsall 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 in relation to the Academy or the Academy requires significant improvement.

I received an Ofsted notification dated 24 November 2022 confirming that Idsall School 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:

- Pupils report that sexual harassment occurs frequently in school. They do not report it when it happens as they say they are not confident that teachers will deal with it effectively. This means that pupils do not feel safe in school. Leaders should ensure that they develop an appropriate curriculum and implement effective policies and practices to address sexual harassment between pupils.
- Leaders do not have a systematic approach to ensuring that all pre-recruitment checks are conducted. There are gaps and omissions in the information that is recorded. This makes it difficult for leaders to assure themselves that the right checks have been completed on the right members of staff. Leaders should make sure that they implement clear systems to monitor that all checks have taken place.

- The curriculum is not clearly planned and sequenced, especially at key stage 3. This means that pupils are not taught the important knowledge they need to remember and so they cannot make useful links in their learning. Leaders should make sure that all subjects are well planned and sequenced.
- Pupils with SEND do not experience a good enough education. Teachers do not adapt learning to meet the needs of pupils with SEND and these pupils receive frequent sanctions and suspensions. Leaders should improve the provision for pupils with SEND by accurately identifying their needs, ensuring that teachers know how best to support them in lessons, and implementing appropriate strategies to help them to improve their behaviour when needed.
- Some pupils are not able to read fluently. Leaders have not made sure that these pupils receive the help they need to learn to read well. This hampers their ability to make good progress in their different subjects. Leaders should make sure that appropriate provision is put in place so that pupils at the early stages of reading learn to read fluently and are able to access the curriculum fully.
- Leaders do not systematically monitor and evaluate all aspects of their work. This means that they are not able to spot useful trends that would help them to make changes to their plans, and that those responsible for governance do not receive the accurate information that they need. Leaders should develop thorough systems to check all aspects of their work.

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.

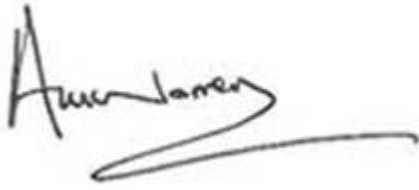
In making the decision on whether to terminate the funding agreement, I will consider any written representations the trust wish to make in response to this Termination Warning Notice.

Please provide me with any **representations** the trust wishes to make by **Monday, 16 January 2023**. We have extended this deadline to take account of the Christmas holiday period. 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 Ofsted and the Shropshire Council. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Warren', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Warren
Regional Director, West Midlands

CC: Ofsted – [REDACTED]
Shropshire Council – [REDACTED]
Shropshire Council – [REDACTED]
Shropshire Council – [REDACTED]