



Department
for Education

Regional Director's Office
East Midlands
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Abbie Rumbold
Chair of Trustees for the Creative Education Trust
67-68 Long Acre
London
WC2E 9JD

Sent by e-mail.

15th February 2023

Dear Ms Rumbold,

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of the Creative Education Trust in respect of The Bulwell Academy

In accordance with clauses 5.F to 5H of the funding agreement for The Bulwell 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 in relation to the Academy or the Academy requires significant improvement.

I received an Ofsted notification dated 5 December 2022 confirming that The Bulwell 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.

- Pupils with SEND do not receive an adequate education. These pupils do not acquire the knowledge and skills that they should. Leaders must rapidly make sure that the needs of pupils with SEND are accurately identified.
- Teachers do not use assessment skilfully to check what pupils know. They do not identify gaps in pupils' knowledge.
- Leaders do not take appropriate action to support, manage and moderate the behaviour of vulnerable pupils and pupils with SEND. Too many are removed from lessons and placed in the school's 'reset' provision or suspended.
- Many pupils do not have the reading knowledge necessary to access the curriculum.

- Pupil absence is high. The systems in place to manage and improve pupils' attendance are not effective.
- Safeguarding arrangements are ineffective. Leaders must continue their work to ensure that safeguarding systems quickly identify the pupils who require support. They must ensure that support is received swiftly, appropriate agencies are involved and that concerns are appropriately escalated.
- Safeguarding arrangements for pupils who attend off-site alternative provision are poor. Leaders must make sure that appropriate checks are undertaken before a pupil is placed in a provision.

As Regional Director, I need to be satisfied that the trust has capacity to address these issues and 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. Your representations should set out what actions the trust plans to take at school level to address the significant issues highlighted in the Ofsted report, as well as at trust level to ensure there is strong oversight of the school improvement and performance in all the trust's academies.

Please provide me with any representations the trust wish to make by Friday 10th March.

I am copying this letter to Mike Sheridan, Regional Director for East of England and East Midlands at Ofsted and Catherine Underwood, Corporate Director of People, Nottingham Local Authority. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely

Kate Copley / Carol Gray
Regional Director for East Midlands

CC: Mike Sheridan, Regional Director for East of England and East Midlands, Ofsted and Catherine Underwood, Corporate Director of People, Nottingham Local Authority