



Department  
for Education

Regional Director's Office  
Regions Group  
Second Floor  
3 Glass Wharf Avon Street  
Bristol  
BS2 0PS

The Members and Trustees of The Partnership Trust  
The Partnership Trust,  
Mulberry Lodge  
Longfellow Road  
Radstock  
BA3 3AL

16 October 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

**Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of The Partnership Trust in respect of Roundhill Primary School**

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

I received an Ofsted notification dated 14 September 2023, confirming that Roundhill Primary 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.

- Trustees understood the level of need in the school, but actions identified were not implemented quickly enough to rapidly improve the school. Trustees must maintain the current level of support so that resources are managed well and leaders are held to account for the quality of education.
- Until recently, leaders have not planned strategically. As a result, evaluation of actions is not frequent or sharp enough. This has had an impact on curriculum design, teaching standards and subject leader training. Leaders

must provide a suitable accountability structure so that the current situation of decline is halted quickly.

- Leaders have not put an effective curriculum in place. Pupils are not learning at an age-appropriate standard in too many subjects. Leaders must rectify this situation with urgency, so that pupils receive their curriculum entitlement.
- Staff do not use assessment effectively. They do not know how pupils are progressing through the school curriculum. Therefore, changes needed to ensure that the curriculum plans are supporting the correct sequencing of learning are not made. Assessment processes that are fit for purpose need to be put in place swiftly.
- Too often, teachers' understanding of subject curriculums is weak. Consequently, they fail to build on prior learning and provide subject knowledge with any depth. Subject leaders are not monitoring their subjects, so the weak practice continues. Senior leaders should develop subject leaders' expertise so that they can bring about the significant improvements that are needed.

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 wish to make by **10 November 2023**.

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

- Information on the action being taken to support education improvements and the timescales of this work, for example a post-inspection action plan.
- Specific detail on improvements to ensure pupils are able to learn from a carefully sequenced curriculum at Roundhill (and across the wider trust) and how the Academy's staff will be held to account consistently.
- A written summary of leadership, staffing, and governance arrangements at the Academy, and available supportive capacity in the wider trust including details of the trust's recruitment and retention plans.
- Any additional information you consider would be helpful to me.

I am copying this letter to Ofsted and Bath and North East Somerset (BANES) Local Authority. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely



Hannah Woodhouse  
Regional Director for the South West

CC: [REDACTED], South West Regional Director, Ofsted

CC: [REDACTED], Director of Children and Education, BANES Council