



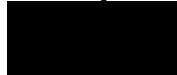
Department  
for Education

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

Email: [RG.WM@education.gov.uk](mailto:RG.WM@education.gov.uk)

The Members and Trustees of Victoria Academies Trust Victoria  
Park Primary Academy  
Ballot Street  
Smethwick B66 3HH

Sent by email to:



21 July 2022

Dear 

**Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of Victoria Academies Trust in respect of Birchen Coppice Academy (“the Academy”).**

In accordance with clauses 5.F to 5.H of the funding agreement for Birchen Coppice 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 23 June 2022 confirming that Birchen Coppice Academy 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:

- In many classrooms, and at times on the playground, pupils do not behave well and do not treat each other with respect and tolerance.
- The teaching of phonics is inconsistent and lower-ability readers do not always read books closely matched to the letter sounds they know.
- The recently introduced curriculum structure is very new and not embedded within subjects and across year groups. This means pupils are not building on their prior learning in a way that helps them to know more and remember more.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has interrupted leaders’ actions to bring about the required improvement in many areas. Leaders have shown they have the

capacity to change things for the better, but this is not making enough difference to behaviour and outcomes for pupils.

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 26 September 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 improvement to pupils' behaviour and attitudes and timescales of this work;
- 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 Director General for Regions Group, Ofsted and Worcestershire Local Authority. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely,



**Andrew Warren**  
**Regional Director for the West Midlands**

CC: Director General Regions Group, Ofsted, Worcestershire Local Authority