

Department for Education

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The Members and Trustees of Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Multi Academy Trust St Louis Catholic Academy Fordham Road Newmarket CB8 7AA

1 March 2023

Dear Paul Bergin,

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Multi Academy Trust in respect of St Felix Roman Catholic Primary School, Haverhill.

In accordance with clauses 5.F to 5H of the funding agreement for St Felix Roman Catholic Primary School, Haverhill ("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 11 January 2023, which was published on 25 January 2023 confirming that St Felix Roman Catholic Primary School, Haverhill 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 some subjects, for example in science and music, the curriculum does not cover all the national curriculum requirements. Pupils do not learn all the knowledge they need to be ready for the next stage of their education. Leaders must ensure that the school curriculum is sufficiently broad and ambitious.
- There is no coherent reading curriculum from the early years to Year 6. Pupils
 do not learn how to interpret, consider, and enjoy interesting texts. Leaders
 should ensure that a comprehensive reading curriculum is in place that
 exposes pupils to rich and varied texts and builds their understanding of
 literature.

- Assessment is not used effectively. Leaders and staff rely too much on data.
 Staff do not pick up on mistakes quickly enough, meaning pupils have gaps in their knowledge. Effective assessment processes must be put in place so teachers know what pupils have learned and lessons can quickly address any misconceptions pupils have.
- Teachers do not identify and support pupils with SEND well enough. These
 pupils do not achieve as highly as they could. Leaders should ensure that staff
 receive training to adapt their teaching, so that pupils with SEND learn well in
 all subjects.
- Governors and trustees do not monitor the effectiveness of school curriculum robustly enough. As a result, they have an overgenerous and incorrect understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the school. Trust leaders should review their processes so that trustees and governors can form an accurate view of the school's performance and check that improvements are effective.
- There are minor weaknesses in the recording of safeguarding incidents. These
 have not left pupils at risk of harm. Leaders should ensure that all staff know
 how to report safeguarding concerns and that their subsequent actions are
 recorded on the central system.

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 22 March 2023.

I am copying this letter to Ofsted, Suffolk County Council and the Diocese of East Anglia. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Duff
Regional Director
East of England, Regions Group

CC: Ofsted,

Allan Cadzow Director for Children & Young People, Suffolk County Council

Andy Stone Diocese Director of Education East Anglia