



Department
for Education

Regional Director's Office
Regions Group
East Midlands
Level 7, St Paul's Place
125 Norfolk Street
Sheffield
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The Members and Trustees of
Voyage Education Partnership
Venture House
Enterprise Way
Boston
Lincolnshire
PE21 7TW

27 November 2024

Dear Mr Penney

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of Voyage Education Partnership in respect of Haven High Academy

In accordance with clauses 5.F to 5.H of the funding agreement for Haven High 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 15 October 2024 confirming that Haven High Academy was judged to require special measures. We met, along with Emma Hadley, on 26 November to discuss the Ofsted outcome and the Trust's capacity to support Haven High Academy in both the short term and longer term. At the meeting I explained that I would issue a Termination Warning Notice (TWN). I consider it necessary to issue this TWN for the reasons set out below.

The Ofsted report, following inspection, highlighted the following areas as requiring improvement:

- Insufficient work has been undertaken to address the weaknesses in the school's provision. The school has not secured the necessary improvements, including to the teaching of the curriculum, achievement, the support for

disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND, and attendance. The school has acted too slowly on advice from external support.

- There is variation across the different subjects in how well the curriculum is taught. Teachers do not routinely address gaps in pupils' knowledge. Teachers do not ensure that pupils' work is of a high enough quality. Work undertaken to redesign the curriculum in some subjects has not led to an improvement in how these curriculums are taught. Teachers do not consistently use the most effective strategies to help pupils, including those with SEND, to learn and achieve well. In some subjects, the curriculum is not sufficiently ambitious or well planned to promote effective learning. Many pupils, including disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND, underachieve as a result.
- Older pupils who struggle to read do not receive support to help them to read confidently. Strategies to support pupils who struggle to read have been implemented too slowly. This can limit how well they access the curriculum and achieve.
- There is an inaccurate understanding of how well the school is performing. The necessary improvements have not been brought about. As a result, too many pupils continue to underachieve.
- Too many pupils are absent too often. They do not receive sufficient support to help them to catch up on missed learning. Attendance has been historically low and shows little sign of sustained improvement. Absence is further compounded by the high number of suspensions. Too many pupils, including disadvantaged pupils, are regularly absent. This leads to them falling further behind.
- While the school is now addressing behaviour, some pupils feel that the rewards and sanctions are inconsistently applied. Some pupils report that the behaviour of other pupils leaves them feeling uneasy and worried. Some staff are concerned at some pupils' behaviour.
- Trust leaders and trustees do not have an accurate understanding of the quality of all aspects of the provision. This limits their ability to provide the school with effective challenge and support to address the provision's weaknesses successfully. Trust leaders and trustees have not brought about the necessary improvement. This includes in relation to attendance and curriculum, both of which were identified as weaknesses at the previous inspection. Trust leaders and trustees do not demonstrate the capacity to bring about the required improvement.

As we discussed when we met, 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.

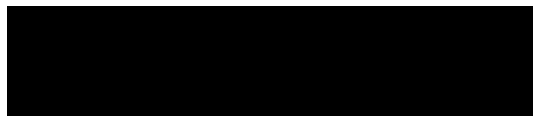
In making the decision on whether to terminate the funding agreement I will consider any written representations the trust wish to make in response to this Termination Warning Notice.

Please provide me with any representations the trust wish to make by 10 January 2025. Your representation should set out the actions the trust plans to take to address the issues highlighted in the Ofsted report.

We are mindful of creating unnecessary pressures on school leaders and staff, and as such we would ask the trust to ensure that the appropriate provision is in place to support the school workforce.

I am copying this letter to Ofsted and Lincolnshire County Council. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely



Carol Gray
Regional Director for East Midlands

CC:
Emma Hadley, Chief Executive Officer, Voyage Education Partnership
Heather Sandy, Director of Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council
Mike Sheridan, Regional Director for East of England and East Midlands at Ofsted