



Department  
for Education

Regional Director for North West  
Piccadilly Gate,  
Manchester,  
M1 2WD,

Helen Flora Clucas  
The LIPA Multi Academy Trust,  
41 Upper Duke Street,  
Liverpool,  
L1 9DY

By email: [REDACTED]

27 June 2025

Dear Ms Clucas,

**Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of the LIPA Multi Academy Trust in respect of LIPA Sixth Form College**

I write concerning the recent Ofsted Inadequate judgment for LIPA Sixth form College.

I met with the previous Chair of the trust, Sean McNamara, on 15 May 2025 to discuss the recent developments within the trust, particularly the most recent Ofsted inspection at LIPA Sixth Form College.

In accordance with clauses 5.F to 5H of the funding agreement for LIPA Sixth Form College ("the Academy") the Secretary of State may terminate the funding agreement if the chief inspector has made a report under section 124 (4) (a) or 125 (4) (a) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and stated that he does not consider the education or training inspected in the Academy to be of a quality adequate to meet the reasonable needs of those receiving it.

For the reasons set out below, I now consider it necessary to issue this Termination Warning Notice.

The Ofsted report published on 29 April 2025 highlighted the following areas for

improvement:

- The need to repair and resolve the fractured relationships between striking staff and trustees so that staff return to the usual teaching timetable.
- The need to provide immediate support to students to help them to catch up on lost learning so that they can make good progress and achieve their qualifications
- For a return to providing sufficient training for students on wider personal development topics

I recognise the difficult context, particularly with the industrial action at the Sixth Form College and was assured to hear that this has now been resolved. However, I remain concerned about the overall performance of the trust, particularly the impact of unstable leadership, the current financial position of the Trust and of your ability to promptly address the points highlighted in the Ofsted report.

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. This information could include, but is not limited to:

- A copy of the Post Ofsted Action Plan
- Information on what action is being taken to support educational improvement at the academy and the timescales of this work
- Details of current governance and leadership arrangements.

Please provide me with any representations the trust wishes to make by 18 July 2025

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, the CEO of the Multi Academy Trust and to Liverpool City Council. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely



**Vicky Beer CBE**  
**Regional Director for North West**

CC: Charles Bartholomew, CEO of LIPA Multi Academy Trust,

Jonathan Smart, North West Regional Director, Ofsted

Jenny Turnross, Corporate Director of Children's and Young People's Services,  
Liverpool City Council