



Department  
for Education

Department for Education  
Regional Director's Office  
East Midlands  
Level 7, St Paul's Place  
125 Norfolk Street  
Sheffield

The Members and Trustees of ONE Academy Trust  
Sawley Junior School  
Wilmot Street  
Long Eaton  
NG10 3DQ

18 May 2026

Dear Mr Taylor,

**Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of ONE Academy Trust in respect of Derwent Primary School**

In accordance with clauses 5.F to 5H of the funding agreement for Derwent Primary School ("the academy"), the Secretary of State may terminate the funding agreement if the Chief Inspector gives notice to the 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 24 April 2026 confirming that Derwent Primary School was judged to require special measures. For the reasons set out below, I now consider it necessary to issue this Termination Warning Notice.

The Ofsted report published on 5 May 2026 highlights the following areas for improvement:

- Those responsible for governance must ensure that they develop leadership capacity so that all leaders have the skills that they need to make the necessary improvements swiftly and effectively.
- Those responsible for governance should ensure that they develop the knowledge and skills to hold leaders fully to account for their work.
- Leaders should ensure that the needs of disadvantaged pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, those known to social care and those who may have barriers to their learning, are identified carefully and that information to support these pupils is shared with all staff.
- Leaders should ensure that staff have the knowledge and expertise to deliver the curriculum well and appropriately support all pupils so that they are able to overcome any barriers they may have to their learning and/or wellbeing.
- Leaders should make sure that pupils acquire the essential foundational knowledge needed to secure their future success, so that they achieve well across the curriculum and are ready for their next phase of learning.

- Leaders should continue to improve pupils' behaviour and ensure that the number of suspensions and exclusions reduces.
- Leaders should ensure that adults engage in high-quality interactions with pupils, particularly in the early years.

As set out in [Support and intervention in schools](#), there is a presumption that academies found by Ofsted to require special measures will receive structural intervention, which means they will be transferred to an alternative academy trust. This presumption may be set aside in exceptional circumstances.

Exceptional circumstances may apply, for example, if I am satisfied that the Trust has demonstrated, through its representations and/or other evidence, that there has been an exceptional improvement or change in leadership capacity at both trust and school levels since or shortly before inspection, which already shows impact, and therefore the Trust is now demonstrating that it has the capacity to deliver rapid and sustainable improvement at the Academy.

If I am not satisfied that exceptional circumstances apply, I will, in accordance with the Department's policy, consider terminating the Academy's funding agreement in order to transfer the Academy to an alternative academy trust.

In making the decision on whether to terminate the Academy's 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 15 June 2026. I have extended this 15 working day deadline to take account of the school holidays.

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 Academy's workforce.

I am copying this letter to Ofsted, Derby City Council, and the Trust's CEO, Graham Boyd. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely



**Nigel Minns**  
**Regional Director for East Midlands**

CC:

Mike Sheridan, Ofsted Regional Director, East Midlands

Graham Boyd, CEO of ONE Academy Trust

Andy Smith, Strategic Director for People Services at Derby City Council