



Department
for Education

Regional Director's Office
Regions Group
East Midlands Level 7,
St Paul's Place
125 Norfolk Street
Sheffield
S1 2FJ

The Members and Trustees of University of Lincoln Academy Trust
University of Lincoln Academy Trust
Park Road
Holbeach
Spalding
PE12 7PU

17 July 2026

Dear Ms Backhouse

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of University of Lincoln Academy Trust in respect of University Academy Long Sutton

In accordance with clauses 5.F to 5.H of the funding agreement for University Academy Long Sutton ("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 that the Academy requires significant improvement.

I received an Ofsted notification dated 2 June 2026 confirming that the Academy was judged to require significant improvement. For the reasons set out below, I now consider it necessary to issue this Termination Warning Notice.

The Ofsted report, published on 15 June 2026 highlighted that:

- Leaders need to ensure that all pupils, including those who are disadvantaged, gain the knowledge, skills and qualifications they need to be well prepared for their next stages in education, training or employment.
- Leaders need to make sure that staff share high expectations for all pupils and that the curriculum supports pupils who have weak foundational reading and writing skills to catch up quickly so that all pupils achieve well.
- Leaders need to make sure that teachers consistently deliver the curriculum effectively, checking pupils' learning carefully to identify any gaps or misconceptions, and support pupils to learn securely and to remember what they have learned.
- Leaders need to ensure that staff have an accurate understanding of the specific barriers to learning faced by disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils, as well as those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and that they routinely adapt teaching to help pupils overcome any barriers to learning.

- Leaders need to ensure that all pupils attend school regularly.
- Leaders need to ensure that they have strategic oversight of the actions they take to improve the school to make sure that actions are coordinated and impactful for the benefit of all pupils.
- Leaders should continue to prioritise disadvantaged pupils when considering the extra-curricular offer to ensure that all pupils benefit fully from the activities that are available.

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 Academy's funding agreement in order to transfer the Academy to an alternative academy trust.

In making my decision on whether to terminate the Academy's funding agreement I will consider any written representations the Trust wishes to make in response to this Termination Warning Notice.

Please provide any written representation to [REDACTED] by 16 September 2026. The deadline has been extended to take into account the school holidays.

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

Thank you for your continued engagement with my team regarding the Academy.

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

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Nigel Minns
Regional Director for East Midlands

CC: Stuart Anderson, Chief Executive Officer, University of Lincoln Academy Trust
Mike Sheridan, Ofsted Regional Director East of England and East Midlands
Heather Sandy, Director of Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council