Department for Education

Regional Director London Region
Regions Group
Sanctuary Buildings
20 Great Smith Street
London, SW1P 3BT

Email: RG.London@education.gov.uk

The Members and Trustees of Kingsmead School
Kingsmead School,
196 Southbury Road,
Enfield, EN1 1YQ
By email only

24 July 2026

Dear Joanne Brinklow

Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of Kingsmead School Single Academy Trust ("the Trust") in respect of Kingsmead School ("the Academy")

In accordance with sections 2A and 2D of the Academies Act 2010[i] any funding agreement of an academy may be terminated by the Secretary of State where special measures are required to be taken in relation to the academy or the academy requires significant improvement and the Chief Inspector of Ofsted has given notice of that under section 13(3)(a) of the Education Act 2005.

I received an Ofsted notification dated 22 June 2026 confirming that the Academy 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 2 July 2026 highlights the following areas for improvement:

- Leaders must ensure that the correct statutory pre-employment checks and vetting are always carried out and recorded before new staff are employed at the school.
- Governors and trustees must ensure that there is a robust process to oversee all policy and practice that keeps children safe in school.
- Governors and trustees must strengthen systems to evaluate leaders' actions and make sure that these are having a meaningful and measurable impact.
- Leaders should ensure that they accurately monitor and record the attendance of all pupils, including those being educated off site. They should ensure that processes to remove pupils from the school roll are robust and follow specified guidance.
- Leaders should ensure that pupils have a thorough understanding of the harm caused by bullying and the use of derogatory and discriminatory language.

- Leaders should ensure that teachers consistently implement the most effective strategies to support pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities in the classroom.

Following receipt of the provisional Ofsted judgement we sought assurances from the Trust about safeguarding arrangements at the academy. Thank you for the Trust's response in your letter of 1 June, setting out the steps the Trust has taken on safeguarding since the inspection.

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 the Trust demonstrated, through representations and/or other evidence, that there had been an exceptional improvement or change in leadership capacity at both trust and school levels since, or shortly before, inspection, which had already shown impact, and therefore that the Trust had 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 would consider any written representations the Trust wished to make in response to this Termination Warning Notice.

Please provide me with any representations the Trust wish to make by **21 September 2026.** This deadline takes into account our understanding of the Trust's availability during the summer holiday period. However, if this date causes any difficulty please let my team know and we can consider an alternative.

I am copying this letter to Ofsted, the Trust's Accounting Officer, and Enfield Local Authority. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely

Dr Vanessa Ogden
Regional Director for London Region

CC: Ofsted, Corinna Batteson, Peter Nathan

[i] Inserted by section 14 of the Education and Adoption Act 2016