



Department
for Education

Regional Director's Office
Regional Director
North West Regions Group
3rd Floor, Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

The Members and Trustees of Seaton Academy
High Seaton,
Workington,
CA14 1NP

By email: Paul Smith chair@seatonacademy.co.uk
Rob Barton head@seatonacademy.co.uk

Tuesday 17 January 2023

Dear Mr Smith

**Termination Warning Notice to the Members and Trustees of Seaton Academy
High Seaton, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 1NP in respect of Seaton Academy**

In accordance with sections 2A and 2D of the Academies Act 2010ⁱ, 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 7 November 2022 confirming that Seaton Academy was judged to be inadequate. For the reasons set out below, I now consider it necessary to issue this Termination Warning Notice.

In its inspection report Ofsted highlighted concerns, including that:

- Trustees have not held leaders to account for the quality of education across the school or provided effective challenge.
- Leaders have not clearly identified the essential knowledge that pupils, including children in the early years, should learn or the order in which it should be taught.
- Leaders have not ensured that staff receive the support that they need to deliver the curriculum well nor have they developed the expertise of subject leaders.
- Leaders' systems to assess what pupils know and can do are underdeveloped in many subjects.

You will appreciate that, as Regional Director, I need to be satisfied that the trust has the 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 that has the capacity and experience to support the academy to improve in the longer term.

In making the decision on whether to terminate the funding agreement I will consider any written representations the trust wishes to make in response to this Termination Warning Notice. I acknowledge the verbal representations made to my team on 23 November 2022 and welcome the positive discussions that are taking place with regards to exploring potential multi academy trust options for Seaton Academy if this is needed.

Please provide me with any written representations the trust wishes to make in response to this Termination Warning Notice by no later than 7 February 2023. I would be grateful if this could include your post-Ofsted action plan.

I am copying this letter to Ofsted and John Readman, Director of Children's Services at Cumbria County Council. A copy of this letter will also be published on GOV.UK.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Beer', with a horizontal line underneath.

Vicky Beer C.B.E.
Regional Director for North West

CC: Ofsted, john.readman@cumbria.gov.uk

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