

Department for Education

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The Board of Directors Castle Partnership Academy Trust

Dear Diverton

12 October 2015

Warning Notice Letter to the Board of Directors of the Castle Partnership Academy Trust in respect of Castle Manor Academy

Under Schedule 5, Clause 5 (b) of the Funding Agreement, the Secretary of State is able to issue a Warning Notice to the Directors of the Academy Trust if she is satisfied that the standards of performance of pupils is unacceptably low at any of the academies.

The purpose of this warning notice is to inform you, as the Directors of the Academy Trust, that the Secretary of State is satisfied that the standards of performance of pupils at Castle Manor Academy are unacceptably low. The matters on which our conclusions are based are on the provisional data for 2015. This data shows that:

- Only 37% of pupils achieved 5 GCSEs A*-C including English and maths.

Castle Manor Academy has been part of the Trust since 2012. The improvement forecast this summer did not take place.

Terms of the warning notice

Pursuant to Clause 5 (b), the actions which we require the Trust to take, in relation to the Academy, to remedy the matters and to rapidly raise standards are:

- Provide evidence of the steps taken to ensure the validity of school progress data tracking for each year group and class.
- Review the effectiveness of interventions with regard to different pupil groups and subjects and implement the new plan.
- Review strategies used with pupil premium pupils and implement new or more tailored approaches.
- Ensure that KS5, particularly A Level outcomes, rise significantly by producing a plan to address underperformance in years 12 and 13.
- Review the management structure of the trust to check all roles are having maximum impact on promoting high standards for pupils.
- Ensure performance management holds staff to account for all the pupils they teach. Subject leads to model high standards and regularly check the quality of delivery in their areas. SLT to ensure challenge for pupils in all areas is both differentiated and accelerating progress towards the end of KS4.

Pursuant to Clause 5 (b), the Trust must have implemented the necessary strategies to my satisfaction by 6 November 2015. My representatives will assess the implementation of these strategies and the impact and likely impact of these after this time.

I am of course happy to discuss these matters with you.

Your sinerly

Tim Coulson Regional Schools Commissioner, East of England and North East London