



Department
for Education

Department for Education

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The Board of Directors
Seckford Foundation Free Schools Trust
1 Seckford Street
Woodbridge
Suffolk
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12 October 2015

Dear Director

Warning Notice Letter to the Board of Directors of the Seckford Foundation Free Schools Trust in respect of Saxmundham Free School and Beccles Free School

Under Article 59 of the Articles of Association, 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 Saxmundham Free School and Beccles Free School are unacceptably low. Unless the Directors take the actions listed below, the Secretary of State may appoint Additional Directors as she sees fit. The matters on which our conclusions are based are on the self-reported results that you shared with me:

Saxmundham Free School

- The proportion of pupils achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs including English and maths is very low, well below both the local authority average and the national average.
- The proportion of pupils making expected progress in English is much lower than the national average.

Beccles Free School

- The proportion of pupils achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs including English and maths is low, well below both the local authority average and the national average.
- The proportion of pupils making expected progress in English is much lower than the national average.

Terms of the warning notice

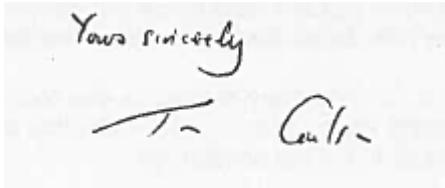
Pursuant to Article 59, the actions which we require the trust to take, in relation to the free schools, to remedy the matters are:

1. Work across both schools to raise standards and implement the 'Trust GCSE attainment improvement strategy 2015-16'.
2. The appointed external improvement consultant to report regularly to my representatives on the progress of the strategy.

Pursuant to Article 59, I will review progress by 31 January 2016. My representatives will assess the implementation of your strategy and the impact and likely impact of these after this time.

Should the trust fail to comply, or secure compliance, with this warning notice to my satisfaction within the compliance period (i.e. by 31 January 2016), the Secretary of State shall consider exercising her powers under Article 61 to appoint such Additional Directors (as defined in the Articles) to the trust as she thinks fits.

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



Yours sincerely
Tim Coulson

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