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The Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson MP
Secretary of State for Education

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Councillor Alex Dale
Chair, f40
By email: alex.dale@derbyshire.gov.uk

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Dear Councillor Dale,

Thank you for your correspondence of 11 July, in which you kindly offered congratulations on my recent appointment to the Department for Education. It is the honour of my life to serve, and I will work hard to deliver the changes we need.

Opportunity must be for all – and not just for the privileged few. I firmly believe that every child and young person should know that success can belong to them, and that is why we must break down all barriers to opportunity. This includes focusing on high and rising standards in education, so everyone can enjoy the best start in life.

As you will appreciate, the ministerial team is currently working with departmental officials on plans to deliver our manifesto commitments and put education back at the forefront of national life. Our aim is to deliver better life chances for all, through a system which works for all. We have already begun the process of resetting our relationship with our workforces – our excellent teachers and school staff, early years educators, social workers, those in our colleges and universities – to ensure there are no limits on the ambitions of young people.

Thank you again for taking the time to write and I am grateful for your kind invitation to meet. My office is aware of your request, and if I am able to meet, they will be in touch to arrange a suitable time.

Yours sincerely,

The Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson MP
Secretary of State for Education