



Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for Schools

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

David Weston
Chief Executive, Teacher Development Trust
CAN Mezzanine
49 – 51 East Road
London
N1 6AH

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I am writing to thank you to you and the other members of the Expert Group for all your hard work in producing the Standard for Teachers' Professional Development.

The best professional development must be based on evidence, and I agree with you, we must strive for high quality professional development to be the norm in all schools, to build the professionalism of teachers and improve teaching.

The Standard sets out how to achieve effective professional development and will help schools to identify good practice and raise expectations among teachers and schools.

Every teacher deserves access to high quality and purposeful development opportunities throughout their career. We hope that this new Standard for Teachers' Professional Development will play a major role in ensuring that this becomes a reality for all teachers in all our schools.

With best wishes.

Nick Gibb MP