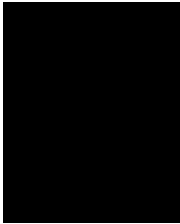




**Rt Hon Michael Gove MP**  
Secretary of State

Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT  
tel: 0870 0012345 ministers@education.gsi.gov.uk



2/10 October 2010



### **Free School Proposal: Sandbach School**

Thank you for submitting your proposal to set up a new school to the Department for Education (DfE). It has now been fully assessed and judged to be sufficiently strong in all areas to proceed to the next stage. I am therefore pleased to invite you to proceed to business case stage.

I understand that you are seeking to open your new school in September, 2011, and the Department will work with you to do everything it can to make this a reality. I am very keen for the first wave of Free Schools to be innovative and responsive to parental demand, and I believe that the new school you are proposing can carry through this vision.

As you know, Free Schools form an integral part of the Government's education policy to improve choice for parents and raise standards for all young people. I will be looking to your proposal, along with others in this initial cadre of Free Schools, to shape the way forward for future proposers.

#### Business Case

I want to ensure that you have the support you need to develop your business case. Attached to this letter you will find a table which sets out the tasks that will need to be completed. Please complete this table, identifying which tasks you are able to take forward alone, and those for which you think you will require additional support, and submit it to your named DfE lead, [REDACTED]. Please note that the DfE cannot fund any work that its officials have not explicitly agreed to support.

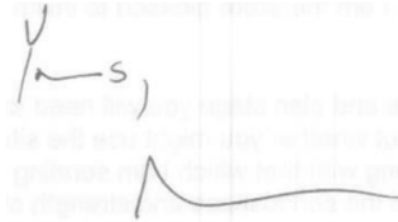
## Admissions

All Academies and Free Schools are required to have inclusive admission arrangements which comply with the School Admissions Code.

Officials will be happy to assist Free Schools in developing such policies in readiness for a 2011 opening, as the first academic year may fall outside local co-ordination of admissions.

I will look forward to receiving your final business case in due course. Please continue to work with [REDACTED] in the Department throughout this process, and direct any questions you have to her.

In addition to this letter, I will also be writing to your local authority and local MP to inform them that your proposal has moved forward to business case stage.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Gove', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MICHAEL GOVE