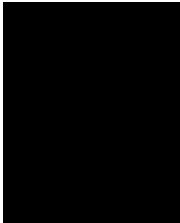




**Rt Hon Michael Gove MP**  
Secretary of State

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



31st January 2011



### **Free School Proposal: Peckham Primary Free School**

Thank you for submitting your proposal to set up a new school to the Department for Education. 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 approve your proposal and invite you to proceed to business case stage.

As part of that stage, I have asked my officials to explore with you whether the best approach to implementation is to establish a new free school; or to treat this as an extension in the age range of the existing Peckham Academy.

I understand that you are looking to open your new school in September 2012, and the Department will work with you to do everything it can to make this a reality. I am very keen for the first Free Schools to be innovative and responsive to parental demand, and I believe that the new school your organisation is 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 these initial cadres 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.

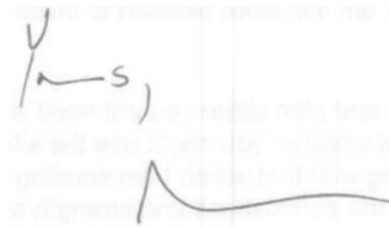
I would also like you to work with Partnerships for Schools to undertake some more detailed feasibility work on the proposed capital costs. You will understand that we need to make the very best use of our limited capital funding.

### 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 2012 opening, as you will be required to be within local co-ordination. You should therefore provide your local authority with your admission number and admission arrangements for inclusion in their admissions prospectus as soon as they are determined (15<sup>th</sup> April each year).

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 him.

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', is written over a faint, illegible background of text. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

MICHAEL GOVE