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for Education

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[REDACTED]  
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30 September 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

**Free school application: One Degree Academy**

I am delighted to inform you that the Secretary of State for Education has decided your application to establish One Degree Academy should proceed to the next stage of the free schools process. This is a significant step towards opening your school in September 2016. I would like to thank you and your colleagues for the commitment and energy that you have shown in developing your application and at interview.

I should point out that your approval may be subject to some very precise and strict conditions. Failure to meet these conditions will mean it is very unlikely that the Secretary of State will enter into a funding agreement with you and your school will therefore not open. I cannot emphasise this strongly enough.

You will receive a letter from the lead assessor of your application which will confirm what happens next, and this may include conditions as mentioned above. We will also inform the relevant local authority and local MP about your successful application.

You will have already received an email asking you to save the date for the pre-opening launch event on 16 October in central London. An agenda for the day is enclosed. I look forward to seeing you at this event.

Best Wishes

**Mela Watts CBE**  
Director  
Free Schools Group