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for Education

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National Autistic Society
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Dear [REDACTED]

I am delighted to tell you that your applications to establish NAS Cheshire Free School and The NAS Vanguard School have been successful as the Secretary of State has decided they should proceed to the next stage of the Free Schools process. This is a significant step towards opening these schools in September 2014.

I would like to thank you and your colleagues for the commitment and energy that you have shown in developing your applications 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 that there will be a very real possibility that your schools do not open.

You will separately receive a letter from the Lead Assessor of your applications which will confirm what happens next and may include conditions as mentioned above. However, there is plenty to do in advance of receiving this letter, so please do not hesitate to begin work.

We will also inform the local authorities and local MP(s) about your successful applications.

You should already have the Pre-opening Launch Event for Free Schools opening in 2014 (on 5 June in The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster, London SW1P 3EE) in your diaries. I very much look forward to seeing you at that event - registration commences at 9.30am.

*Yours sincerely
Mela Watts*

MELA WATTS CBE
Director
Free Schools Group