



Baroness Berridge of the Vale of Catmose

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the School System
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Mrs Amanda Bennett
Great Heights Trust
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15 July 2020

Dear Mrs Bennett,

The Covid-19 pandemic presents an unprecedented challenge to schools. I know that schools find themselves in difficult and uncertain times and that these challenges will continue to evolve as schools reopen more widely.

I understand that you have been heavily involved, through your role in the Teaching Schools Council, in organising and co-ordinating the school-to-school support offer in Lancashire & West Yorkshire. In addition to this, I understand you and the staff in your trust have supported several local schools in their efforts to open to more pupils. These actions have enabled more children to return to their classrooms, reunite with their friends and continue with their education. I know that your support has been appreciated by the leadership teams in those schools and has fostered collaborations, as you have sought to work in partnership in these exceptional circumstances.

I therefore would like to take this opportunity to thank you personally for the effort and dedication you have shown in providing support to those schools in greatest need, particularly in light of the fact that your trust may be facing challenges of its own. Your support is vital to ensure these schools are able to adjust to the impact of Covid-19 and recover as quickly as possible.

Additionally, I am so impressed to hear that Great Heights Trust is at the forefront of excellence in training and research as a partner of the UCL Early Career Teacher Consortium. I am very grateful to trusts like yours that are going above and beyond to support those who most need it during these extremely challenging times. Thank you for all the work you continue to do.

ELIZABETH BERRIDGE

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE