

Rt Hon Justine Greening MP
Department for Education
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

9 December 2016

Dear Ms Greening

NEW FUNDING FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The Education and Children's Services Group of Prospect union welcomes your announcement on 30 November that new funding will be made available to address underperformance and help ensure every child has a good school place.

As the trade union with the largest number of school improvement officers in membership we would like to have the opportunity for a dialogue with your officials about the crucial role our members play in supporting schools and to contribute our thoughts on how best to achieve your objectives.

We welcome both the announcement that £50 million will be made available for local authorities each year to continue to monitor and commission school improvement for maintained schools and the £140 million 'Strategic School Improvement Fund'. Prospect members in education and children's services have invaluable experience working with both maintained schools and academies and Prospect (formerly Aspect) has produced the enclosed set of standards that could help to ensure that this funding delivers on your ambitions.

The Prospect ECS Group has represented educational improvement specialists and professionals (school inspectors, local authority school effectiveness officers, independent educational consultants) for many years and is recognised as the professional voice of these and other school system leaders, as well as providing them with trade union and other support services. Our members advise and mentor schools and colleges to produce successful outcomes for pupils across the whole ability range.

Prospect welcomes the comments from the National Schools Commissioner around the focus on school improvement and will also seek to engage with him about his strategy to drive up standards in schools.

I would hope that your officials will agree to meet with us soon to discuss this crucial area of work.

Yours sincerely



Philippa Childs
National secretary

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