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Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for Schools

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Mr James Noble-Rogers
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Dear Mr. Noble-Rogers

Thank you for your letter of 16 March, addressed to the Secretary of State about the Review of Teachers' Professional Standards. I am replying as the Minister of State for Schools. I apologise for the delay in sending you a response.

I am glad that you welcome the Review. Reducing unnecessary bureaucracy and prescription in the education sector is a vital part of the Government's reforms. This Review is a valuable opportunity to make sure standards for teachers are rigorous, focused on the key elements of teaching, and appropriate for the profession today.

I recognise your concerns that the Review should engage with the teacher education sector. The Secretary of State's intention, as set out in the White Paper, *The Importance of Teaching*, is for this Review to be led primarily by head teachers and teachers, with the support of a number of other education experts. The Secretary of State has chosen a group of excellent practitioners and experts and I would expect this group to engage with a range of other experts, including initial teacher training providers. I understand that Ms Sally Coates, Chair of the Teachers' Standards Review Group, has already written to seek your initial views, and is writing directly to a selection of ITT providers.

The Review Group is independent and I expect it to take a fresh look at the standards and to focus on the essential skills of great teaching needed to improve the quality of teachers.

With best wishes.

Nick Gibb

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