

7 April 2011

Rt. Hon Michael Gove MP
Secretary of State for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BT

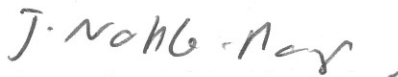
Dear Secretary of State,

Postgraduate professional development

I am very concerned about the possible impact of the decision to withdraw funding for the TDA's postgraduate professional development (PPD) programme. There are very few forms of CPD that have been subject to as much external evaluation as PPD. These evaluations have repeatedly shown that the programmes, which are delivered in partnership between universities and schools, have a significant impact on classroom performance. We do of course recognise that reductions have to be made in public expenditure. But funding for these programmes is relatively modest, and significant savings have already been achieved through the withdrawal of funding for MTL. We would therefore welcome a meeting with you to discuss how opportunities for teachers to undertake enquiry-based and school-focussed master's level study might be safeguarded.

We have been supportive of a number of your White paper proposals and I am confident that together we will be able to identify a way forward

Yours sincerely,



James Noble-Rogers
Executive Director