Promoting Quality in Teacher Education



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

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing to congratulate you on your appointment as Secretary of State, and to request an urgent meeting to discuss the ITE Market Review.

As the organisation representing the universities involved in teacher education, we are extremely worried about the implications of the Market Review for teacher supply and the continued involvement of universities in teacher education, something that I understand you were also concerned about in your role as universities minister.

We have, since the Market Review began, tried to work constructively with ministers and officials, while at the same time expressing legitimate concerns about both stage 1 and 2 of the accreditation process. We have made pragmatic suggestions which, had they been accepted, would have done a lot to maintain the teacher supply base while at the same time being consistent with the broad thrust of the government's reforms and with the principle of university autonomy.

The key focus now must be for us to work together to ensure that high quality provision is maintained nationally, and that universities are recognised as being able to offer high quality programmes that meet the proposed requirements, but at the same time allow the scope to exercise a sufficient amount of academic freedom.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

James Noble-Rogers
Executive Director

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