

A Foundation School

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Headteacher
Mr M McLaughlin B.A. (Hons)



20 MAY 2010

The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP
Secretary of State for Education
Department of Education
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

Received in

27 MAY 2010

Sent by email to: sec-of-state.ps@education.gsi.gov.uk and copied as back up to govem@parliament.uk

14th May 2010

Dear Secretary of State,

Congratulations and Developments – Durand's Vision for Secondary Education

As we discussed when we met before the General Election, you are somebody who shares our passion and vision for a new structural approach to education and it brings me huge encouragement that you have been given the remit to deliver it. I wanted to write personally to congratulate you on your appointment as Education Secretary. All of us at Durand Primary School were delighted to hear the news and we are looking forward to working closely with you over coming months.

As you know your plans for 'free' schools and academies match very closely with our ambitions for Durand, a school that has always recognised the value of having freedom and control over the school curriculum, and in managing and promoting good school discipline and quality of teaching.

Since we last met our plans to extend our offering into an all through academy – opening a state boarding school for the secondary element – have moved forward apace.

You may have seen it in The Daily Telegraph, but we have now purchased a site for our proposed secondary school, this is in an idyllic location in West Sussex, just over an hour from Lambeth. We look forward to having more space and freedom to offer a wide range of different qualifications to our students – and to provide them with opportunities to explore the countryside and benefit from first-class sporting facilities. We would be delighted to give you, or any of your staff, a tour of the site at your convenience.

We are near completion of a formal proposal to you for this project, outlining our request to gain academy status and asking for permission to move forward with our secondary school vision. You should expect to be in receipt of our plans by the end of next week.

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Congratulations again on your new appointment, and my heartfelt thanks to you for all your support of Durand Primary School thus far.

Yours sincerely,

Greg

P.S. We are delighted that Conor Burns has joined the Conservative ranks in the House of Commons and I know he very much enjoyed the reception for new Members and catching up with you earlier this week

Greg Martin
Director of Education
Durand Primary School

CC Special Advisers
CC Kate Hoey MP