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Rt Hon David Laws MP
Minister of State for Schools

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21st

March 2014

Dear Julia

Subject: Subject Knowledge Enhancement (SKE)

Thank you for your letter of 6 March, addressed to the Secretary of State. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area.

I note the points you have raised about the important role played by SKE programmes in recruitment to initial teacher training (ITT) for priority subjects. SKE is, of course, only one of a number of tools and interventions that have been developed to support recruitment to ITT, particularly in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

I am aware that a copy of your letter was sent to my colleague Mr David Willetts in the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. We agree that it would be beneficial to meet you to discuss some of the challenges involved in the recruitment and retention of good-quality science and mathematics teachers. My office will contact you shortly to confirm a convenient time and date.

Thank you for writing to me on this important matter.

Yours sincerely

DL

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David Laws MP

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