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Greg Clark MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

13<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Greg,

Thank you for the opportunity to give evidence to the Science and Technology Committee.

I want to offer some important points of clarification in case my position is misrepresented.

As Chief Scientific Adviser, my team and I have been closely involved in advising on the Government's position on reopening education institutions. I have also, as mentioned, been at all meetings of the Children's Task and Finish Working Group, a sub-group of SAGE, which has made a key contribution to the recent decisions.

I have full confidence in the plan to reopen education institutions for all the reasons set out by Government, subject to the conditionality of the five tests, including a decreasing transmission rate. I was involved in the development of all parts of the guidance recently published by the Department for Education and fed in at various stages. The final clearances from a scientific perspective ultimately rest with Public Health England and the Chief Medical Officer and those clearances were secured in full.

Throughout, the Department for Education has been led by the science at all of these key decision points and that will continue to be the case throughout this pandemic.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Osama Rahman'.

**Osama Rahman**  
Chief Scientific Adviser