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25 August 2020

Rt Hon Gavin Williamson MP
Secretary of State for Education
Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

Amanda Spielman
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector

Dear Secretary of State

Thank you for your letter about our support for Ofqual. I feel strongly that it is our public duty to help Ofqual following the last few months, and it is in the public interest that there is a stable and well-functioning system of public examinations and qualifications.

I will chair a committee of the Ofqual Board until the end of December, working closely with Dame Glenys Stacey as the interim Chief Regulator. We will look to guide Ofqual through the fallout from this year's awarding of qualifications and set it up to deliver a robust system in 2021 and beyond. I will, of course, be pleased to discuss progress on this with you regularly.

I, and the Ofsted Board, are clear that this is a time limited arrangement and that it must not have a detrimental impact on the effective running of Ofsted. We have discussed that your department will as a matter of urgency begin to recruit a permanent Chief Regulator for Ofqual, as well as work rapidly to address wider issues that are needed for the long-term fairness of the exam and qualifications system.

I will also discuss with you any further resources that we need to complete this vital work.

Thank you again for your support.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Spielman
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector