



Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards

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Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP
Chair of the Education Select Committee
House of Commons
London
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Dear Robert,

I am writing to let you know that the Secretary of State will be announcing today the appointment of an interim Chief Regulator of Ofqual.

As you know Dame Glenys Stacey, the current interim Chief Regulator, will be standing down on 31 December. I am grateful to Dame Glenys for the commitment that she has shown since assuming the role in late August, and in particular for her leadership of the important work that Ofqual has been doing to contribute to the package of measures on 2021 exams that we announced on 3 December. Her leadership has been invaluable in stabilising Ofqual following the difficult events of the summer.

Ofqual is carrying out a demanding programme of work at pace and that requires continuity and stability of leadership. The Secretary of State has therefore decided to appoint another interim Chief Regulator on an exceptional basis to succeed Dame Glenys, pending an appointment to the substantive post through an open competition. I am pleased that Simon Lebus has agreed to take up the role from 1 January 2021. He will be in post until mid-September, enabling him to lead Ofqual through next summer's exams and awarding season. Dame Glenys will remain involved in this process as Chair of the new 2021 committee being established by the Ofqual board.

Simon has extensive experience of exams and assessment as Chief Executive at Cambridge Assessment up to 2018. He oversaw pioneering work there, including the introduction of new qualifications and innovative assessment technology. He has financial, operational and educational expertise and experience of operating to a high degree of public and regulatory scrutiny. I am confident that he will be an excellent interim Chief Regulator and will continue the good work that Dame Glenys has set in train.

The department is in the process of preparing for the recruitment of a substantive Chief Regulator. We will keep the committee fully informed about this process as well as on the recruitment of the substantive Chair, following Roger Taylor's decision to stand down.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nick Gibb". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'N' and 'G'.

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