

## **Written evidence submitted by Peter Symonds College (OTE0006)**

This is submitted on behalf of Peter Symonds College in Winchester. Peter Symonds is a Sixth Form College with a small boarding provision. There have been strong historical links with the Falkland Islands, with many boarders coming to the College for post-16 education.

There are two areas where those working in the boarding provision judge that UK government may be able to provide support and assistance to those students coming from Overseas Territories:

1. Students who come to the UK from the Falkland Islands to board post-16 currently receive two return trips per year to the Islands as part of their support from the Falkland Islands government. Many students wish to return during all three major College holidays, and additional support to return on a third occasion would have wellbeing benefits for the students.
2. The College values its link with the Islands. Pre-pandemic, opportunities were available for College staff to visit the Islands in person, and this helped build sustained and personal relationships between the College and the Islands. Links post-pandemic have typically been online. A return to some support for in-person visits would help maintain close connections and enable staff in the UK to understand the unique context of Falkland Island students.

**March 2024**