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4th June 2018

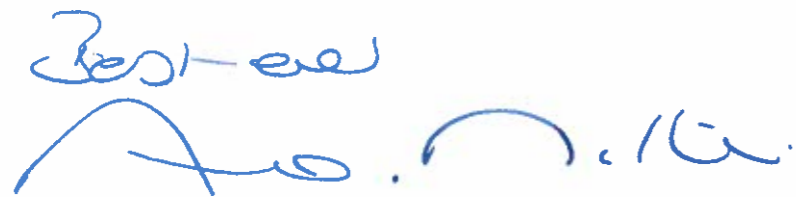
Thank you very much for your email of 21 May confirming that the formal revision of the Quality in Careers Standard assessment and accreditation criteria has now been completed.

The government's careers strategy sets out a long term plan to build a world class careers system that will help young people and adults choose the career that is right for them. To achieve this ambition we must improve the quality of careers provision for young people. With the world-class Gatsby Benchmarks as the backbone of our careers strategy, we are raising expectations significantly. We expect schools and colleges to strive for excellence in their careers programmes, drawing on a range of support that is set out in the careers strategy.

The Quality in Careers Standard offers a great opportunity for schools and colleges to demonstrate their commitment to excellence in careers guidance and to gain recognition and formal accreditation. The work that the Consortium has championed to map the Quality in Careers Standard to align with the Gatsby Benchmarks, and to incorporate the Compass careers benchmark tool is vital. It sends a clear message to schools and colleges that we have raised the bar significantly and that we have in place a coherent quality framework which supports the development of world-class careers programmes for all of our young people.

I very much appreciate you taking the time to advise me of the formal revision of the Quality in Careers Standard. I am also extremely grateful to you, your Board and Consortium members, and other key partners for the hard work that has gone into delivering this important careers strategy commitment and I am delighted that the revised Standard will be used in all Quality in Careers Standard assessments from September.

The government strongly recommends that all schools and colleges work towards the revised Standard, and department officials will continue to work closely with you to make this a success.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anne Milton'.

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