



Department
for Education

Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
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Date: 12 March 2020

Dear Richard

We wrote to you, last month, informing you of the Government announcement regarding the future of system leadership. Thank you once again for the support that Teaching Schools Council continues to give on market warming for teaching school hubs.

Letters have been sent out to all schools who meet the teaching school hub eligibility criteria. Our letter to you was clear that, as in the test and learn, early years providers, infant and junior schools, as well as special schools, sixth forms and alternative provision will also be eligible should they be able to evidence that they are able to match the high bar that has been set for all other schools. Since then we have received a number of enquiries from such providers asking for further information. I know you have too.

I am, therefore, writing to you to ask for your support in reaching out to these other providers to give them the latest information which I hope they will find useful. We should also be encouraging those providers that may not want to lead a hub themselves to partner with eligible schools, in order to maintain their capacity and expertise in the system. At this point in time we continue to work up the finer details of our proposal which we hope to publish later this year. In the meantime we are working to the principle that was used in the test and learn phase when that was launched last May: That is, schools with other key stage performance data will be able to apply, providing they can demonstrate comparable high performance. Schools without performance data (e.g. special schools, Early Years, Alternative Provision settings) will be able to apply if they can demonstrate that they are a high performing school, who are regarded as the best leaders in their sector. These cases will be determined on a case by case basis and an evidence form will be released, in due course, relevant to the phase or context.

I do hope this reassurance will be helpful to leaders in such schools and thank you, once again, for your part in disseminating this information.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Capstick

Head of Unit, System Leadership