



The Rt. Hon. Nadhim Zahawi, MP
Secretary of State for Education,
Department for Education,
Sanctuary Buildings,
Great Smith Street,
London,
SW1P 3BT.

17th September 2021

Dear Secretary of State,

On behalf of The Mathematical Association may we offer you many congratulations upon your appointment as Secretary of State for Education. We very much hope that you will find working in this sector as rewarding as we do.

The Mathematical Association is a professional body for all engaged in the teaching and learning of mathematics from Early Years to University. As the oldest subject association, we have been at the forefront of mathematical education for 150 years and have had the pleasure of working with many of your predecessors on qualification and curriculum reform amongst other things.

The pandemic has brought forward many challenges for schools and your priorities will undoubtedly include restoring confidence in GCSE and A level qualifications, making the learning environment as safe as possible so that schools stay open and students remain in class, supporting individuals to address their learning loss and taking additional steps to minimise disadvantage. None of these issues are mathematics specific, being spread across the whole system. Nevertheless, your own background in chemical engineering, your founding of YouGov and your previous Ministerial experience will have convinced you of the importance of mathematics in today's world.

We would welcome the opportunity work closely with you and your team to continue to improve the quality of mathematics education. In this respect, you may be interested in the recent evidence-based curriculum guide for Primary practitioners produced by ourselves and our colleagues in the Association of Teachers of Mathematics. www.m-a.org.uk/resources/JoinPrimaryResponse.pdf

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Roper'.

Tom Roper
Chair of Council

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Miles'.

David Miles
Acting Chair of Teaching Committee