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## The Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP Secretary of State for Education

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Professor Graham Baldwin Chair, UVAC By email: uvac@bolton.ac.uk

Your ref: GB/72

14 December 2022

Dear Graham

Thank you so much for your letter of 4 November, congratulating me on my recent appointment and regarding an invitation to meet and discuss expansion of degree apprenticeship provision, defined outcomes of degree programmes and the Lifelong Loan Entitlement.

It is a privilege to be appointed as Secretary of State for Education. As a previous minister at the department, I know how important education is to levelling up opportunities. I will work to help people build the life they want, from childcare support and helping children in care, to improving school standards and giving both young people and adults the skills, they need to get great jobs.

Education transforms lives and it is our dedicated teachers, early years professionals and support staff with their knowledge, professionalism and commitment that will help us achieve that aim.

I truly believe that talent is spread equally around the country, and I will work tirelessly to ensure that opportunity is too.

Along with my excellent team of experienced ministers, I look forward to engaging with our nurseries, schools, colleges, universities, and all of the wonderful staff working across our sectors.

Thank you for your kind invitation to meet with yourself and UVAC's chief executive. My office is aware of your request and will be in touch if I am able to do so in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

The Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP Secretary of State for Education