



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon David Laws MP  
Minister of State  
Department for Education  
Sanctuary Buildings  
Great Smith Street  
LONDON SW1P 3BT

9<sup>th</sup> November 2012

Dear David

**Inclusivity and Faith Schools**

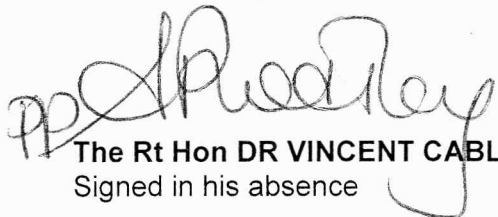
A serious problem has arisen whereby DfE officials, in evidence to a court case, appear to be acting in contradiction of the Coalition Agreement in relation to faith schools and contrary to the express intention of the Education Act 2011.

I enclose a copy of a letter from Jeremy Rodell which explains the background to a case being fought over a new Catholic secondary school in Twickenham and which comes to a head in the High Court on 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> November.

For the record, I and the Richmond Liberal Democrat Council Group have supported the proposal for a new Catholic school but argued that it should be inclusive (ie 50:50 admission). This was in line with the presumption in favour of 50% faith-based admission in new academies in the Act, and the Coalition Agreement.

Can you intervene with the Department to rectify this situation?

Yours sincerely

  
**The Rt Hon DR VINCENT CABLE MP**  
Signed in his absence

Enc

cc Julian Astle, DPM's Office  
Jeremy Rodell

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