

Leighton Andrews AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-346
Ein cyf/Our ref LA/07481/12

William Powell AM
Chair Petitions committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

20 February 2013

Dear William,

As agreed, I am writing further to my letter dated 13 December regarding the delivery of Foundation Phase provision across Wales.

I met with my officials on 24 January to discuss the options for addressing the perceived variation and inflexibility of provision. I am keen to ensure that children and parents can access the Foundation Phase entitlement in a way that supports their family circumstances. My understanding is that most local authorities offer equal hours over 4 or 5 days in either morning or afternoon sessions.

As we know the early years are critical to children outcomes and later life chances. I have, therefore, agreed to undertake a pilot programme to explore ways in which flexibility of provision for 3 and 4 year olds can be improved. My officials will be working with local authorities to identify settings and schools, in a range of geographical areas, to take part in the pilot with immediate effect.

*Yours sincerely,
Leighton Andrews*

Leighton Andrews AC AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau
Minister for Education and Skills

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence: Leighton.Andrews@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Printed on 100% recycled paper