



Catherine McKinnell MP  
Minister for School Standards  
Department for Education  
Sanctuary Buildings  
20 Great Smith Street  
London  
SW1P 3BT

Our Ref [REDACTED]

25 July 2025

Dear Ms McKinnell

**Re: Ms Lauren Moore [REDACTED] Wirral, [REDACTED]**

We are writing on behalf of the above constituent, who recently contacted us regarding the regulation of qualifications for SEND learners, particularly at Level 2 ages 14-16 years.

You will see from the abridged information provided by Ms Moore below that she wishes to

- Set up a new regulatory body to regulate qualifications and awards that she has developed for SEND learners; or,
- Be allowed to regulate her own awards.

Ms Moore tells us that:

*“This request is about the awarding body itself — it’s about the urgent need for a dedicated regulator to oversee it. What I’m proposing is that either:*

- *A new regulator is created, named **LUNA Regulator**, to govern and accredit LUNA as an awarding body across the UK,*
- or*
- *I am formally allowed and granted written consent, recognition, and equal status to Ofqual in order to establish and operate **LUNA Regulator** independently, with full national authority to govern LUNA and ensure its qualifications are fully recognised and protected.*

*LUNA stands for Learning Unlocks Neurodiverse Achievement, and has been created to address a growing and unacceptable national failure — one I’ve experienced first-hand as a mother.*

*[REDACTED] has not received any alternative education provision since*

meetings.

*This is not just a policy issue. I do not want one more child to be left like [REDACTED] — isolated, unserved, and unsupported — simply because there is no regulated, recognised, accessible pathway for them to receive a real qualification. LUNA will fix that through a national model of approved centres, just like how VTCT qualifications are delivered through recognised providers nationwide.*

*Right now, there is no regulator or awarding body offering real, insurable, progression-ready Level 2 vocational qualifications for learners aged 14–16 in:*

- *Alternative provision*
- *Home education*
- *Reduced timetables*
- *Private settings*
- *Or those still awaiting an EHCP*

*These children are currently being offered, at best, Level 1 qualifications — which are not recognised by awarding bodies like VTCT and do not offer access to employment, insurance, or Level 3 study. The consequence is exclusion from further education and economic independence — not based on ability, but because the system simply does not provide for them.*

*This failure breaches multiple pieces of legislation and statutory guidance, including:*

- *Section 19 of the Education Act 1996 – duty to provide suitable full-time education*
- *Children and Families Act 2014 – duty to support best outcomes for SEN learners*
- *SEND Code of Practice 2015 – duty to offer flexible, inclusive, person-centred pathways*
- *Equality Act 2010 – duty to eliminate discrimination and ensure equal access*
- *Human Rights Act 1998 (Article 2 of Protocol 1) – right to appropriate, accessible education*
- *Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014*
- *Education (Special Educational Needs) (Information) Regulations 1999*
- *Alternative Provision Statutory Guidance (2013, updated 2016) – requires qualifications that support progression and employability*

*Despite these clear legal duties, no regulatory body exists to ensure children like [REDACTED] are protected. This is not an isolated failure — it is a national breach of duty, and it must be addressed now.”*

We do feel that Ms Moore raises some very valid points about alternative future pathways for young children such as [REDACTED] children who are being failed under the current system. We know the Government is undertaking

a review of SEND and a curriculum and assessment review and perhaps Ms Moore's ideas can feed into this.

We do appreciate that regulation is a major undertaking but would be grateful if you would review this detailed information. The proposal is a very interesting one.

We are in contact with the local Council direct about the individual education plan for her daughter.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

Office of Justin Madders MP