



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Department of Education
20 Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

30th March 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

Letter of Support for Gloucestershire UTC

We write in support of the Gloucestershire University Technical College bid, specialising in health and science technologies.

The UTC will aim to give Gloucestershire's youth a pathway for lifetime opportunities in health and care which is by far the largest sector of employment in the county. At present our skills provision for this sector is modest, resulting in staff shortages and recruitment for our NHS from far afield. The Health UTC would generate a pipeline of locally trained health professionals which will address this demand, which can only increase with an expanding and ageing population.

This is a county-wide skills project and there is a school in Cheltenham (Pate's) and one in the Forest of Dean (Dene Magna) who will offer teaching support, and businesses and individuals in all of our constituencies who are involved. Young people from all of our constituencies will also benefit from this UTC.

We therefore strongly echo the letter that Richard Graham (who is part of the Steering Group) has written, and want to highlight that we hope this bid for a new UTC succeeds.

Best regards

Alex Chalk
MP for Cheltenham

Mark Harper
MP for the Forest of Dean

Geoffrey Clifton-Brown
MP for the Cotswolds

Neil Carmichael
MP for Stroud

Laurence Robertson
MP for Tewkesbury