



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 July 2013

Dear Children

Thank you for sending me your letters and the colourful paper teachers. I am very impressed by the concern that you have shown for the education of children in poor countries. Your fantastic letters demonstrate your enthusiasm for the campaign.

There are still 57 million children around the world that cannot go to school. This is a tragedy as education provides children with the best way to improve their own lives and the lives of others around them in their community. Ultimately I believe education is a right and should be available to everyone.

The UK Government is doing all that it can to help children in poor countries to go to school and to be able to learn effectively when they are there. Because the Government has kept its promises about overseas aid, including the vital commitment to spend 0.7% of our country's income on aid, we can make a real difference. We are currently supporting 5.9 million children – 2.8 million of them girls – to go to primary school in poor countries. Over the last few years UK support has benefited nearly 2 million poor children in school in Pakistan and made sure they got the textbooks they needed so they could get a decent education – the sort of education we take for granted here in the UK.

It is particularly important that girls are able to go to school in poor countries as often they more likely than boys to be denied an education. To tackle this, we have set up a special 'Girls' Education Challenge' programme which will help the poorest girls who currently do not get any support to be able to go to school. We will work with businesses and charities to find new and effective ways to educate up to an additional million of the world's poorest girls by 2016.

Of course, getting a good education is all about having good teachers. We have promised to train more than 190,000 teachers to help children learn. Improving the quality of learning as well as increasing the quantity of teachers is very

important so that all children who do go to school can learn to read and write and develop other skills. We have already helped to recruit 34,000 more teachers and supported improvements to the exam system in Punjab.

I would like to assure you that we are working very hard, with others, to deliver a better future for every child on our planet. Thank you for taking the time to write so passionately about this very important issue and for recognising the difference education can make to children's lives.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Cameron". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rhodes Avenue Primary School