

Mike Donoghue,  
John Taylor MAT,  
John Taylor High School,  
Dunstall Road,  
Barton Under Needwood,  
Staffs  
DE13 8AZ

20 May 2016

Dear Mike,

### APPLICATIONS FOR FREE SCHOOLS

You met with colleagues recently to discuss your plans to [open one or more free schools](#). This conversation took into account your growth as an approved sponsor and multi-academy trust. We talked about the DfE guidance document, “Background information and glossary” and in particular page 7 which reads:

*“If the RSC can see that you have capacity for the free schools for which you want to apply, he or she will provide written confirmation. Please include it (and any other useful correspondence) with your application and complete the shorter information. If you already have such an email, you do not need another one.”*

I am happy to confirm that I believe you have the capacity to apply for at least two free schools. You would likely submit these applications as follows:

- One secondary mainstream school in Tatenhill – (Wave 12)
- One primary mainstream school in Tatenhill – (Wave 13)

On the latter you confirmed that you have considered the basic need ‘pupil demographic’ data for the area. You have spoken to the local authority about the proposal.

You also said that you’d like to be considered where there might be a need for other free schools in later application waves.

I know that since our conversation, you have been in touch with my colleague, Bridie Sullivan. Please feel free to continue doing so. She will be happy to assist.

Of course this letter does not guarantee any successful applications. Still, I wish you the best of luck with your proposal.

Yours sincerely,



Pank Patel  
**West Midlands Regional Schools Commissioner**