



F/T: 0300 244 4000
E: dfmcse@gov.scot

James Dornan MSP
Convenor, Education and Skills
Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

18 May 2017

Dear James,

Mainstreaming guidance

I note that the Education and Skills Committee published a report on the 15th of May which sets out commentary and recommendations on how additional support for learning is working in practice. I welcome this report and will consider the Committee's recommendations carefully.

At my Committee appearance on 8 March 2017 I advised the Committee that the Scottish Government would be consulting on the new draft guidance on the presumption of mainstreaming and that the consultation period on the guidance would begin on 19 May 2017 and end on 31 August 2017.

In order to allow sufficient time to reflect on the Committee's findings and recommendations I have decided to postpone the launch of this consultation. I would like to consider how the Committee's report and investigation could inform the guidance and help us deliver excellence and equity for Scotland's children and young people. I will advise you of the new dates for the consultation shortly.

JOHN SWINNEY

