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[www.gov.uk/number10](http://www.gov.uk/number10)

THE PRIME MINISTER

23 September 2015

Dear Children

Thank you for contacting me about the 'Send My Friend to School' campaign. Your correspondence has been passed to me by your MP, Ms Rachael Maskell.

I am very impressed by the concern you have shown for the education of children in developing countries. Your colourful cutouts demonstrate this as well as your enthusiasm for the campaign. I am also impressed by your ideas of what you would do to help.

I agree with you that no child should miss out on an education. I believe that investing in education is vital, as it provides children with the best route out of poverty, giving them the power to improve their own lives and the lives of others in their community. That is why the UK Government, through our Department for International Development (DFID), is working hard to create learning opportunities for all children. In 2010 we set out commitments to secure schooling for 11 million of the world's poorest students. Five years on, the UK is supporting 10.6 million children in primary and lower secondary school around the world and has trained over 148,000 teachers.

By 2017, our flagship £355 million Girls' Education Challenge (GEC) will enable up to 1 million more of the world's poorest girls to benefit from an education of sufficient quality to help transform their lives. This is also an issue that the UK Government is working with the US Government on. I recently met the First Lady, Michelle Obama, to discuss what more we can do together, including in support of her 'Let Girls Learn' initiative.

This is all made possible by our generous aid budget. In March, Parliament enshrined in law the Government's commitment to spend 0.7% of our country's income on overseas aid. The world's richest countries have all promised to do this but the UK is the only one to have actually done so. We should be proud of this achievement and the real life difference it is making around the world.

It is fantastic that British schools are playing their part in helping to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), including those on education. We are strong supporters of the Global Campaign for Education's Week of Action in raising awareness to make education a priority.

We are now in the final year of meeting the MDGs and despite good progress over the past 15 years, many children are still missing out on a quality education.

The UK will continue to work hard to highlight the importance of education globally and we will push for new global goals that focus on getting rid of extreme poverty by 2030. The new Sustainable Development Goal proposed for education will address the provision of good quality education for all children globally, with a particular focus on children who are the poorest and most disadvantaged.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me on this important issue. It is most encouraging to see you taking an interest in the lives of children less fortunate than yourselves. Let me assure you that we are working very hard, with others, to deliver a better future for children around the world.

Yours sincerely

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