

Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP Secretary of State

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10 March 2021

Dear Edward,

Thank you for your recent contribution to the 'Get Help with Remote Education' online event on 27 January. The event has attracted a total of over 2,500 teachers so far, with many more continuing to access the recorded content on my Department's 'Get Help with Remote Education' webpage.

Your presentation has no doubt inspired, motivated and supported thousands of school leaders strengthen their remote education and catch-up plans. I was glad to hear that you found the support available through the EdTech Demonstrator network and wider 'Get Help with Tech' offer helpful. The transformational changes your school has made is an inspiration and shows just how much can be achieved. We will continue to share the recordings of the event with the education community.

With thanks to technology, it feels like the world is at our fingertips and access to information is limitless. Used well alongside a rich and well-structured curriculum, it means pupils can access high quality teaching wherever they are, help teachers identify gaps in knowledge and create a collaborative community of learners. It can strengthen professional bonds and extend the reach of excellent teachers, giving teachers the opportunity to share resources and learn from each other, regardless of region. Whilst for many, the pressures of continuing to teach and lead in a rapidly changing COVID context have been challenging, the pandemic has nonetheless ignited the possibilities technology can bring to education for many schools and colleges up and down the country.

As you may already be aware, the EdTech Demonstrator will continue into 2021-22. As we look to the future, this programme both will play a fundamental role both in supporting schools and colleges meet immediate need, and in securing long-term application of technology that ensures pedagogy comes before any tech solution.

I hope some of the digital approaches you adopted offer long-term sustainable impact and encourage you to keep working with the network if you require any additional support.

Wishing you and your team all the very best.

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