TeachFirst

National Office & London Regional Office 4 More London Riverside

London SE1 2AU

Telephone 020 3117 2300 Fax 020 7900 3304 www.teachfirst.org.uk

Michael Russell MSP Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh **EH99 1SP**

19 July 2013

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

I wanted to write as I understand our patron, HRH The Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay, recently met with the First Minister. I was keen to follow this up with you and would welcome the opportunity to discuss how we can best work together towards what I hope is a shared goal - that no child's educational success is limited by their socio-economic background.

To that end, we have recently been considering if there is a role for Teach First to recruit and place inspirational teachers in schools serving low income communities in Scotland. Our experience over the last decade has shown the substantial difference to a child's life that a passionate and engaging teacher can make - raising aspirations and increasing achievement for those who need it the most. We are, however, keen to ensure any opportunity best complements the approach of the Scottish education system and the reforms you are driving forward.

I would therefore welcome the chance to meet to explore this and any potential ways forward. My colleague Jo Lee would be able to work with your office to identify a suitable date and can be contacted via 020 3117 2405 or JLee@teachfirst.org.uk.

I look forward to meeting up soon.

Yours sincerely,

Brett Wigdortz OBE,

Founder & Chief Executive Officer

Patron HRH The Prince of Wales



