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Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about teachers' pay. Teachers have a huge impact on our children's futures. I am aware that over the course of the pandemic teachers and educational staff have faced many challenges and played an incredible role in ensuring that children have continued to receive a fantastic education.

I am aware the 31st report of the School Teachers' Review Body (STRB) was published on the pay award for teachers and is now in place as of September 2021. As set out in the 2020 Spending Review, there will be a pause to headline pay rises for the majority of public sector workforces in 2021-22 to ensure fairness between public and private sector wage growth. I believe that this approach will help protect public sector jobs and investment in public services, with those earning less than £24,000 receiving a £250 increase.

The Department for Education has confirmed the intention to accept the recommendations from the STRB in full. This includes a pay award of £250 for all teachers earning less than £24,000, or the recommended equivalent value for teachers in London pay areas, and the introduction of advisory pay points on the unqualified teacher pay range, as was the case for teachers on the main pay range and upper pay range last year.

As a result of the Government's three-year investment package announced at the 2019 spending round, this pay award will be affordable within school budgets. The funding for core schools was increased by £2.2 billion for the 2021-22 financial year and it will be increased by a further £2.4 billion in 2022-23.

I am aware that a consultation has taken place on the Government's response to these recommendations and on a revised school teachers' pay and conditions document and pay order, which lasted for eight weeks. The outcome of the consultation will be published in due course.

This pause in public sector pay rises will ensure that we can get the public finances back on a sustainable path following the COVID-19 pandemic. I would like to take this opportunity to thank teachers again for their remarkable commitment throughout the recent difficult times.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY