



**The Rt Hon Baroness Jacqui Smith  
Minister for Skills**

Department for Education Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street London SW1P 3BT  
tel: 0370 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk/contactus/df](http://www.education.gov.uk/contactus/df)

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My Lords,

I am writing following the debate on the achievements of free schools and academies. Thank you for your contributions to the debate.

I should like to correct one point I made to you in my speech. I had said that: "We want high-quality trusts to grow – in fact we need only look at recent statistics, which show that this Government are currently supporting 781 conversions, a higher number than at any point since 2018."

The correct statistic is that the Government are currently supporting 778 schools in the process of converting to academy status, a higher number than at any point under the previous Government since at least 2018.

Thank you again for taking the time to engage on these matters. I hope these further details have been useful and I will place a copy in the House libraries.

Yours sincerely,

**The Rt Hon Baroness Jacqui Smith  
Minister for Skills**