

8th November 2010

Dear Headteacher

My name is Debbie Foote, I am 17 years old and the Chair of the National Young Ambassador Steering Group. By now, you will be aware of the Government's recent announcement to cease ring fenced funding for our School Sports Partnerships (SSP's).

I write to you now in the hope that you will support a petition led by Young Ambassadors across the country to "Save our School Sports Partnerships". This petition was officially launched on the BBC One Breakfast Show by myself on Monday, 8th November. Attached to this letter is a template sheet for signatures and a pro-forma sheet.

I would like your school to collect as many signatures as possible. The petition is not specifically for young people to sign, it is for **anyone who believes in the power of Physical Education and School Sport**. You may wish to put the school address on the petition template instead of the pupils writing their own addresses.

During the week commencing 6th December the Young Ambassador Steering Group will be presenting the petition to the Secretary of State Michael Gove MP. If we do this successfully, collating signatures from every school, there could be potentially hundreds of thousands of signatures. For young people to carry crates of signatures to Mr Gove MP opposing the cease of funding to SSPs will make such a powerful statement. There will also be a march consisting of Young People to take place whilst the petition is being handed in. More details of this will follow through your SSP.

There is a short turn-around. All sheets need to be returned to your PDM by 26th November. Please can you complete the return pro-forma and then photocopy all your sheets for your records. Once photocopied, please send the pro-forma, along with all the signatures (we hope there will be many!).

The SSP's provide so much hope for young people. Personally I do not want young people to miss out on the opportunities I have been so privileged to have and this is why I am leading this campaign on behalf of young people. What the Government needs to realise is that it is not just simply about sport-it is much more than that. It is about changing young peoples' lives, and making a difference and giving them the opportunity to be "the best they can be"!

Please put as much effort into supporting your local SSP in getting as many signatures so that we can hopefully keep making a difference. Do not hesitate to contact your PDM if you have any queries or questions.

Best wishes

Debbie Foote

Debbie Foote
Chair of the Young Ambassador Steering Group
"Young Ambassadors Saving School Sport"