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Jim Knight MP Minister of State for Schools and Learners

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Mr Hendry Chief Fire Officer Kent Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters

15th November 2007

Dear Mr Hendry

I am writing to let you know that Building Bulletin (BB) 100, *Design for Fire Safety in Schools* has been published and I enclose a complimentary copy. Thank you for your commitment to fire safety and your interest in schools. This has been instrumental in the formulation of the new DCSF policy on sprinklers and its subsequent incorporation into the new BB100.

Given my long term interest in fire safety in schools, I am very pleased that DCSF is now publishing this bulletin. BB100 shows clearly how the requirements for life safety, contained in the Building Regulations, can be met in the design of a new or refurbished school.

In addition to covering requirements for life safety, BB100 emphasises the importance of protecting school buildings from fire damage. It includes guidance on sprinklers, stressing their importance as a measure which can limit fire damage, and makes clear our presumption that all new state funded schools will have them fitted.

The guidance applies to nursery schools, primary and secondary schools, including, academies and city technology colleges, special schools and pupil referral units.

BB100 is intended for all those with an interest in fire safety in schools, but in particular designers, fire engineers, building control officers (or equivalent) and fire safety officers. Headteachers, governors, teaching staff and facilities and maintenance staff will find it of interest to underpin their role as fire safety managers.

I have no doubt that the new bulletin will have a major impact in improving fire safety for our pupils, their education and our investment in new school buildings.

Jim Knight MP

department for children, schools and families

