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**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru**  
Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

**National Assembly for Wales**  
Children, Young People and Education Committee

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13 September 2018

Kirsty Williams  
Cabinet Secretary for Education  
Welsh Government

Dear Kirsty

**Revised eligibility criteria for free school meals in Wales due to the rollout of Universal Credit**

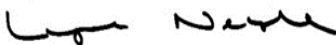
I am writing with regard to the Welsh Government's proposals to amend the eligibility criteria for free school meals, which it has identified as necessary due to the roll out of Universal Credit in Wales. I understand that you are currently consulting on your proposals, and that the consultation is due to end tomorrow.

You will be aware that concerns relating to the proposals have been raised with me by the Children's Society. I also understand that there may be opposition to the proposals from other children's organisations, although I (or the Committee) have not yet seen these.

Due to summer recess and earlier commitments, the Committee has been unable to formally consider this matter to date, but I do think this is something the Committee may want to consider and provide views on ahead of any regulations that come forward.

I appreciate that the consultation will have formally ended before the Committee has had opportunity to consider the proposals, but I aim to discuss this with the Committee at our meeting on 20 September, which will be our first meeting back after recess. I will, of course, then let you know the Committee's initial views on the proposals.

Yours sincerely



**Lynne Neagle AC / AM**  
**Cadeirydd / Chair**



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