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**Rt Hon Nicky Morgan MP**  
Secretary of State

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Steven Fawkes  
Association of Language Learning  
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22 June 2015

*Dear Mr Fawkes*

Thank you for your letter of 15 June about the continuation of qualifications in lesser taught languages.

I do appreciate the Association for Language Learning's concerns over this issue, which will be echoed by communities across the country and by many more with a vested interest in these languages. The Government has been clear that it wants all pupils to have the opportunity to take a core set of academic subjects, including modern foreign languages. There are considerable benefits to learning a second language and we are committed to seeing a wide range of languages to be maintained at GCSE and A level.

To this end, I can assure you that this department is continuing to consider what further support and encouragement we can provide to awarding organisations to enable as wide a selection of languages as possible to continue. As you know, I wrote to exam boards in April to express my concern about their decision to stop awarding qualifications in some languages. I asked them to work with Ofqual on securing the future of these qualifications and committed to launching a consultation on how best to do so should there be no further action. My officials are engaged in ongoing discussions on the issue and any developments will be announced in due course.

Thank you for writing on this important matter.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Nicky*

RT HON NICKY MORGAN MP