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BBC DIGITAL CURRICULUM

In her letter of 3 May covering the BBC's Digital Curriculum proposition, Caroline Thomson said that we would send to the Department as soon as possible the results of a Proof of Concept exercise which was then in progress.

The Proof of Concept operated in 23 schools, and its purpose was to enable the BBC to determine that:

- the new service model would be effective and deliverable in practice;
- the functionalities that would be offered by the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) application would work with different audiences;
- the new pedagogical approach and types of content would be effective when presented through this VLE interface;
- all aspects of the proposed service would work effectively.

The Proof of Concept was assessed both by the BBC and by a team of independent assessors from the University of Durham. The results were considered by the BBC's Executive Committee and Board of Governors last week, who approved the submission of both reports to the Secretary of State for consideration alongside the case for approval of the Digital Curriculum. I now therefore enclose both reports.

I also enclose a Frame of Reference document, providing further detail about how the BBC would in practice deliver the Digital Curriculum service in a way which would ensure that it would be distinctive and would stimulate the wider marketplace for digital learning resources. This document was developed out of the consultation which the BBC undertook, under DfES auspices, with other industry players earlier this year. It reflects the BBC's desire to develop the Digital Curriculum in a spirit of collaboration within the Government's wider *Curriculum Online* initiative.

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