



**Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP**  
Secretary of State

Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT  
[REDACTED] [www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe](http://www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe)

M.E. Voisin  
Her Majesty's Senior Coroner  
Area of Avon  
Coroner's Court  
Old Weston Road  
Flax Bourton,  
Bristol, BS48 1UL

[REDACTED]  
23 August 2021

Thank you for your Regulation 28 report of 20 May 2021 following the conclusion of the inquest into the tragic death of Anastasia Uglow, in New York, on 19 December 2019 while on an educational visit with Bristol Grammar School.

I was saddened to hear about this tragic case. You highlight some extremely important issues in the report. I share the concerns you have identified, and it is vital that we take steps to help prevent future tragedies of this kind occurring.

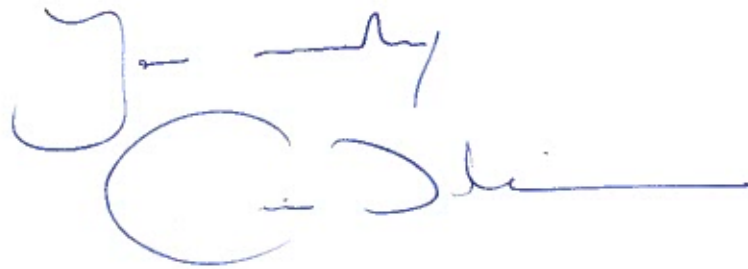
I have noted your recommendations, and I can confirm that my department is making progress in the areas your report highlights.

As you know the Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel (OEAP) is working with the school and the UK Sepsis Trust to update its national guidance in relation to sepsis awareness. My department intends to update its [Health and safety: responsibilities and duties for schools](#) to reference the work of the OEAP.

Outdoor learning and educational visits play an important part in the development of our young people and our guidance stresses how important it is that schools and colleges undertake a thorough risk assessment when planning such activities.

I hope that the steps we are taking as set out here help to reassure you that we are not complacent about the risks associated with any educational visit. As you can see, we continue to work with sector professionals to ensure we can learn from this tragic incident and that safety is improved for all, while children are still able to enjoy exciting educational experiences that broaden their horizons.

Thank you for writing on this important matter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Williamson', written in a cursive style.

**Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP**  
**Secretary of State for Education**