Dear Minister Givan

I am writing to you as a parent who uses an out of school club which is currently funded by your Department via the *Bright Start* School Age Childcare fund.

I have been informed that this funding is due to come to an end as of March 31st 2024 and as such, I am deeply concerned for the future of the club as I and many other local parents rely on the service for our childcare needs. This funding is crucial to the club’s future and without it, the parents who use it will be forced to pay expensive additional fees to make up the shortfall. This is an impossible ask in the current climate.

The child’s right to play is protected under Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on Children’s Rights and myself and other concerned parents want to see that right delivered for our children. The cessation of funding would impact not only parental employment but on the friendships our children have made in the club and on their ability to access quality play-based childcare.

As the Education Minister, I am calling on you to please intervene in this situation and to do all that you can to promote the need for the *Bright Start* funding to be continued.

Yours sincerely

­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_