Advocacy for Collective Purchasing Agreements and Risk Assessments of EdTech Resources

[Your Name / Address]
[Your Email or telephone number]

[Date]

FAO [Head Teacher's Name]
[School Name]
[School Address]
[City, Postcode]

Dear [Head Teacher's Name],

Subject: Advocacy for Collective Purchasing Agreements and Risk Assessments of EdTech Resources

I am writing as a parent of a child at [School Name] to share my concerns regarding the use of Educational Technology (EdTech) resources in our school. While I recognise the many benefits that EdTech offers in supporting teaching, learning, and administration, I believe it is crucial to ensure that these tools are implemented in ways that protect our children's data and promote equity across the school community.

In particular, I wish to advocate for:

1. Collective Purchasing Agreements
   Many schools face significant resource constraints, making it difficult to assess and negotiate effectively with EdTech providers. By working collaboratively—either with other schools, local authorities, or education consortia—[eg academy or federation name] could benefit from shared expertise, reduced costs, and stronger negotiating power. Collective agreements can help ensure that:

    - EdTech providers comply with the UK Data Protection law and the Children's Code, protecting our learners' data and privacy.
    - Data handling and retention policies are transparent and in line with legal requirements.

    - Schools have the ability to secure favourable terms and conditions that prioritise educational outcomes over commercial interests.

2. Thorough Risk Assessments for EdTech Tools
   The selection of EdTech resources should be guided by a robust process of risk assessment to safeguard our learners and ensure these tools deliver meaningful benefits. Specifically, I urge the school to prioritise:

    - Assessing potential biases in EdTech algorithms, ensuring they do not disadvantage marginalised learners or embed systemic inequalities.
    - Conducting Equalities Impact Assessments (EIAs) to evaluate how EdTech impacts learners with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.
    - Reviewing the evidence base for each tool to confirm that its educational efficacy has been independently verified.

While I understand that schools are under immense pressure to adopt digital tools to meet educational and administrative demands, I feel that a collective approach and rigorous assessment are essential to ensure we are safeguarding our children's futures. Parents, teachers, and school leadership all have a shared responsibility to advocate for the best possible standards in the resources our learners rely upon.

I would be happy to meet with school leadership or participate in discussions on this matter, should that be helpful. Additionally, I encourage the school to explore opportunities for engaging with parents and guardians in the decision-making process for EdTech procurement. Together, we can ensure that technology serves all learners equitably and responsibly.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I look forward to your response and am optimistic about the potential for meaningful collaboration on these issues.

Yours sincerely,
[Your Full Name]
[Your Contact Information]