



## New Schools Network Launched

A new independent education organisation called "New Schools Network" has been launched. The not for profit Network has been set up with the aim to improve education quality by assisting groups who want to set up new, independent state schools.

### The Network

The Network would like any group who has a vision and a coherent plan to be able to set up a new school. Although the Network recognises the contribution of Academies, it states that the defining feature of Academies is their independence, and that this needs to be recognised and enhanced. The Network believes that new schools should therefore be allowed to be set up whenever and wherever there is parent demand. The Network states that the pool of providers for new schools should be widened to include international organisations, new charities, ex-teachers, groups of parents. The Network also suggests that those Academies which fail should not be treated differently to other failing schools, and that other providers should be given an opportunity to run the school instead.

The Network has stated that it aims to:

- Support parents and a range of different organisations to create new schools.
- Advocate policy and legislative changes to allow new schools to be set up, and publish policy recommendations to all political parties and government.
- Act as an advocate for independent state schools, both academies and new schools.
- Build public support for educational change.

Set up by Rachel Wolf, the Network cites examples of schools from Sweden and America to submit that there is evidence that schools run by parents, charities and independent organisations improve standards.

To find out more on New Schools Network please see here:  
<http://www.newschoolsnetwork.org>

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November 2009

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