



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dear students at Air Balloon Primary School,

Thank you so much for your letters about air pollution. It's great to see how you're all so interested in such an important issue!

As you know, air pollution is very dangerous, and causes up to 300 early deaths a year in Bristol alone. Children and young people are especially affected by this as air pollution can stunt growth in developing lungs, and cause conditions like asthma.

Like you, I think that air pollution needs to be reduced significantly. I agree that people should try to make their journeys more sustainable, by walking, cycling, or catching a bus, instead of driving their cars everywhere. We need to make it easier for people to do this, for example by an affordable and reliable bus service. I also support introducing a charge that people would have to pay if they drove polluting vehicles, like older diesel cars, through the busiest and most polluted areas of Bristol.

In addition, I think that there should be lots of green spaces and parks in Bristol because, as you learnt in your experiment, there is less air pollution in those places and they encourage people to walk and cycle instead of drive.

Thank you again for all of your letters! Hopefully we can all work together to help reduce air pollution so that we can make Bristol a cleaner, healthier place to live.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kerry McCarthy".

Kerry McCarthy

Labour MP for Bristol East