This week, the Education and Adoptions Bill was passed by the House of Commons on its second reading. This Bill is designed to tackle underperforming schools to ensure that all our children have access to a first rate education. The Bill will require that any school judged to be 'inadequate' by Ofsted is turned into a sponsored academy, reforming its management structure and providing it with assistance from a sponsor, such as a community organisation or successful local business. In addition the Bill will make it easier for the Education Secretary to intervene in any school considered to be underperforming or 'coasting', requiring them to implement radical reforms.

When underperforming schools are tolerated it is usually the children of the least advantaged in our communities who suffer most. An OECD survey, published in 2013, found that, out of 24 countries studied, England ranked 22nd for literacy and 21st for numeracy. We should not view this as acceptable.

For more information on the Education and Adoptions Bill please click here and here.