(Assume parent/guardian sending email)

Dear Head teacher of [School name],

I/We am/are writing to ask [School name] to consider providing vegan-inclusive art materials. My/Our child, [Child’s name], is vegan. I/We value the creativity and expression that your art provision offers your learners and would like my/our child to be able to take part in accordance with their beliefs.

You may or may not know, veganism is a protected philosophy and way of living which seeks to exclude – as far as is possible and practicable – all forms of exploitation of, and cruelty to, animals for food, clothing or any other purpose. From our perspective, when products derived from non-human animals are used for craft purposes the animals concerned have been exploited; therefore, my/our child (insert name) will not feel comfortable taking part in this activity in which you have expressed a desire to use them. Consequently, the planned use of non-vegan art materials is both excluding our child and extremely upsetting for (him/her/them).

**Inclusive**

As you will be aware, discrimination against vegans is prohibited under equality law.

To act inclusively, it is important to consider the provision of suitable materials, and I/we would like to see vegan options made available.

**Production**

Non-vegan materials commonly used in art lessons include glue, feathers, wool, felt, paint, brushes, suede and leather.

Suede and leather are made from the skins of other animals. Craft feathers are plucked from birds. Wool and wool felt come from sheep who have been bred to produce excessive hair, which causes them suffering in the heat and frequent infections. Sheep are often injured during shearing, and all commercial sheep are slaughtered for the final use of their wool. Brushes may be made from horse or squirrel hair. Certain paints are made from animal products (such as ivory black from bone char), and some glues are made by boiling the connective tissue of non-human animals.

**Resources**

Vegan alternatives are available for all these materials. I/We would be pleased to offer help in sourcing anything you require. If you would like any further information, [The Vegan Society](https://www.vegansociety.com/lifestyle/vegan-inclusive-education) can support your staff to develop their vegan-inclusive practices.

A concise guide for educators on how to provide a vegan-inclusive education can be found [here](https://www.vegansociety.com/sites/default/files/uploads/downloads/TVS_Education%20Booklet_A5_DIGITAL.pdf).

I/We have not made this request lightly, as I/we know how hard you work and how far in advance you must plan your termly work and activities.

Thank you for reading this letter. I/We would be more than happy to work in partnership with you on any issues raised because of my/our request.

Yours sincerely,

[Sender name]