

DR. RHODES BOYSON, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, MP  
The Prime Minister,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.

2  
*educator*  
Prime Minister

*I think you kept  
Dr Boyson's earlier  
note on this.*

MAJ 29/2  
24th April, 1981

*Dear Margaret,*

Your letter of the 31st December asked me to let you know the 1978-79 figures, comparing the percentage of pupils from England, Wales and Northern Ireland obtaining 5 'O' levels or C.S.E. Grade 1's, and one or more 'A' levels, as soon as these were published.

These results are now available and I append them to the previous results, a copy of which I sent you earlier. They show little significant change as compared with 1977-78, but it is still worth stressing the fact of the great improvement of academic results in Northern Ireland, over fifteen to sixteen years, as compared with England, and especially with Wales. I believe the changed form of secondary school organisation in England and Wales must have been a major influence on these figures.

*All good wishes*

*Yours ever*

*Rhodes*

Dr. Rhodes Boyson MP

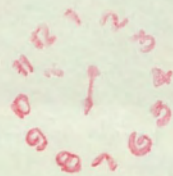
Qualifications of School Leavers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

	<u>ENGLAND</u>	<u>WALES</u>	<u>N.IRELAND</u>
1962-63			
<u>Leavers</u> with 5 or more 'O' level passes as a percentage of all leavers	15.7	19.5	16.6 <sup>2</sup>
<u>Leavers</u> with 1 or more 'A' level passes as a percentage of all leavers	8.9	9.3	8.8
1969-70			
<u>Leavers</u> with 5 or more 'O' level passes or CSE Grade I results as a percentage of all leavers	23.1	25.2	24.5 <sup>2</sup>
<u>Leavers</u> with 1 or more 'A' level passes as a percentage of all leavers	15.9	15.3	17.0
1977-78			
<u>Leavers</u> with 5 or more higher grade 'O' level or CSE results as a percentage of all leavers	23.7	22.3	28.4 <sup>2</sup>
<u>Leavers</u> with 1 or more A level passes as a percentage of all leavers	15.5	14.2	19.8
1978-79			
<u>Leavers</u> with 5 or more higher grade 'O' level or CSE results as a percentage of all leavers	23.7	23.1	28.5
<u>Leavers</u> with 1 or more 'A' level passes as a percentage of all leavers	15.4	14.4	19.7

1. 'O' level grades A to C and CSE Grade 1.
2. This assumes that all leavers who had obtained 'A' level passes had also obtained 5 or more 'O' level or CSE passes (or 'O' grades A to C and CSE Grade 1).



29 APR 1981



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