

Education

CONFIDENTIAL

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Prime Minister

You will wish to be aware of this.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

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FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
Treasury
Parliament Street
London SW1P 3AG

[Handwritten mark]

22 February 1982

Dear Geoffrey,

STUDENT LOANS

have requested
SB

Thank you for your letter of 10 February. I am encouraged to find that we agree that student loans are in principle attractive.

I quite take your point that before approaching the banks we need to have developed fairly firm ideas acceptable to us both. I am as you suggest asking my officials to get in touch with yours to take this forward. I am asking them to look at the same time at the possibility of a much simpler interim scheme which might be brought into operation earlier.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Prime Minister.

Erin Keir

2.2 FEB 1982

