



Secretary of State

NBM  
AT 29/11  
CC  
Northern Ireland Office  
Stormont Castle  
Belfast BT4 3ST

Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph MP  
Secretary of State for Education and  
Science  
Department of Education and Science  
Elizabeth House  
York Road  
LONDON SE1 7PH

28 November 1984

Dear Secretary of State,

EDUCATION FOR ECONOMIC AWARENESS

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 14 November to Nigel Lawson about Education for Economic Awareness. I have no doubt that it is important for pupils to be given the opportunity to come to terms with economic realities and concerns as part of any basic educational package within the period of compulsory education, and I support your attempt to raise such consciousness.

I agree that there are problems in how to promote action without appearing to be too prescriptive. There is always the danger, in giving too detailed a list of objectives, that schools and teachers will see this as unreasonable interference in what they provide within the curriculum. I have no doubt that it is wise to use the School Curriculum Development Committee as a filter between your Department and the school.

Although in Northern Ireland we have no direct involvement in the day to day activities of the School Curriculum Development Committee, we are in touch with its work and will await with interest the outcomes of this particular initiative.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, the Lord President, the Secretaries of State for Trade and Industry, for Employment, for Scotland and for Wales, and the Minister without Portfolio.

Yours sincerely  
Peter Cleasby

for DOUGLAS HURD  
(Approved by the Secretary of State  
and signed in his absence)

cc as last para

hcc:  
PS/SOS (B&L)  
PS/Mr Scott (B&L)  
PS/Sir Ewart Bell  
Mr Parkes  
Dr Quigley  
Mr Cowling  
Mr Bickham

Educator A3

future policy

10/10/10