

PRIME MINISTER

EDUCATION

The next meetings on education have been postponed a little in order to give time for Mr Baker to settle in.

A meeting on teachers' pay and conditions is being scheduled for 11 June.

Mr Baker expects to send you a minute about the middle of the month to follow up your last meeting on radical options.

Would you like to see him before he sends that minute, to make sure that he is heading in the right direction? *Yes no*

Looking further ahead, at your first meeting on radical options there was talk of publishing a Green Paper in the autumn. (This could be before the Party Conference, or you might prefer to trail it in your Party Conference speech - though Mr Baker will in that case himself have done his best to take the thunder.) But if that timetable is to be met things will need to move fast over the two months before the summer recess.

This points to giving your smaller group a formal position and expanding it a little. Otherwise you will have to go over the ground twice: once in your smaller group and then again with those other Ministers who would feel they had an interest.

Agree to hold the next meeting of the group under Cabinet Office auspices as a MISC group? *Yes no*

Agree also to add Mr Ridley, Mr Edwards and Mr Rifkind? *Different system*

Any others? (e.g. the Chief Whip, Mr Fowler - or Mr Walker?) *no*

DAG
David Norgrove

29 May 1986