

PRIME MINISTER

GRANT AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

You asked why Sir Keith Joseph's proposal to look at the idea of grant aiding schools, with a view to putting something in the next Manifesto, should be restricted to primary schools. His original note is at Flag A, the Policy Unit advice on it at Flag B.

Sir Keith's response is at Flag C. Further Policy Unit comments at Flag D. Basically, Sir Keith is saying that if the idea were extended to secondary schools at this stage it would be difficult to attract sufficient promoters. It would also be considerably more controversial because the secondary schools would probably have to be operate a selective system.

Content with the Policy Unit advice that you should agree to Sir Keith circulating his proposals to colleagues, on the understanding that primary schools should be seen as a first step only, and that consideration should be given to including secondary schools as well, if the experiment proved successful?

Yes no

Malcolm Addison

21 June 1985

PRIME MINISTER

20 June 1985

GRANT-AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Keith Joseph now seems to be suggesting that establishing grant-aided schools might be just a first step, with secondary schools coming later. This sounds a sensible idea.

We recommend that you should agree to Keith circulating his proposals to colleagues, on the understanding that:

1. the introduction of first-rate grant-aided primary schools would be a first step;
2. this would be pushed forward as fast as possible;
3. the manifesto might contain a promise to move into the secondary phase, once the primary schools had been successfully established.

Oliver Letwin

OLIVER LETWIN



IN THE MATTER OF

THE EDUCATION ACT

GRANT-AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Section 10 of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

Section 10(1) of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

Section 10(2) of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

Section 10(3) of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

Section 10(4) of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

Section 10(5) of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

Section 10(6) of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

Section 10(7) of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

Section 10(8) of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

Section 10(9) of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

Section 10(10) of the Education Act 1944 provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations as to the conditions under which grants are to be paid to the governing bodies of grant-aided primary schools.

CONFIDENTIAL

SL3 AHL



B/c: Mr Letwin

10 DOWNING STREET

25 June 1985

From the Private Secretary

GRANT AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Your Secretary of State wrote to the Prime Minister on 7 June seeking her agreement that he should pursue the proposal for grant aided primary schools with colleagues. In response to a query from the Prime Minister, he subsequently wrote again on 19 June, explaining why the proposal was restricted to primary schools.

The Prime Minister is now content that your Secretary of State should circulate his proposal to colleagues. She believes that it should be made clear that primary schools should be seen as a first step only, and that consideration should be given to including secondary schools as well if the experiment proves successful.

(Mark Addison)

Miss Elizabeth Hodkinson,
Department of Education and Science

CONFIDENTIAL

(DES ref 2576)