



Proposed amendments to the Education Bill presented to the Education Committee by the Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education and the Integrated Education Fund

Representation

Schedule 1

The Education and Skills Authority: Membership

Article 2 (b) (iii) Amended clause (additional text underlined)

2.– (1) ESA shall consist of–

To include:

(iii) 2 shall be persons appearing to the Department, so far as practicable, to be representative of the integrated schools sector appointed after consultation with persons or bodies appearing to the Department to represent such interests;

Statutory obligation

PART 1 The Educational Standards Authority

Article 2 Functions and general duty of ESA

simple amendment of article 2(5)(new text underlined)

Article 2. (5B) (5) ESA shall ensure that its functions relating to grant-aided schools are (so far as they are capable of being so exercised) exercised with a view to encouraging and facilitating the development of education provided in an Irish medium school **or integrated school.**

PART 6 MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTARY

Article 60 General duty of the Department and DEL

Article 60 which substitutes for Article 3 of the 1989 Order (new text underlined)

“General duty of the Department and DEL

3.– (1) It is the duty of the Department–

(a) to promote the education of children and young persons in Northern Ireland **and to facilitate the development of integrated education, at primary and secondary levels.**

Similarly substituted provisions at Article 61 of the Bill providing for substitution of provisions in Article 115 of the 1986 Order should make provision for the payment of grants to persons in respect of an expenditure incurred or to be incurred by them....

(d) for the purpose of or in connection with the promotion or encouragement of integrated education at nursery, primary or secondary level.

Area based Planning – proposed amendments

Article 25 Area Education Plans

Article 25 (3) modified article with additional conditions (new text underlined)

Article 25 (3) (a) The Department may **not** approve a plan or revised area education plan submitted to it unless it is satisfied that it provides for:

i) the development of **integrated education and**

(b) Evidence that an area education plan qualifies as satisfying these conditions (i.e. 25(3) (a) above) must include material evidence that the parents of children in the area and children attending schools in the area have been consulted and that their preferences have been accommodated to the greatest possible extent.

Article 28(3) of the Bill: the addition of this wording “**any such decision will only be taken after a consideration of DE statutory duties and consultation with DE**”.