

Para 15

If Inclusion

The choice of schools must remain a matter for parents and their choices should be respected and facilitated equally. There is a need to extend and strengthen programmes that increase contact between pupils and teachers within N.I.; between schools North + South and schools in Britain. In addition greater emphasis must be devoted to exchange

and mutual understanding programmes + to make the history and full cultural heritage of the people of the island in all their strands and its relationship with our neighbour island + with Europe available in all schools thro'out Irelec

15. Mutual understanding and contact between individuals, groups, communities, organisations and institutions have an important role in the elimination of barriers of suspicion, in the creation of mutual trust and in the building of confidence and should be further promoted and supported including financially. Education will have a particularly significant function in this regard. The choice of schools must remain a matter for parents but there is a need to extend and strengthen programmes that increase contact between pupils and teachers in controlled and maintained schools. Equally, integrated education should be facilitated and encouraged, as should Irish medium education. In addition, greater emphasis must be devoted to exchange and mutual understanding programmes and to making the history and full cultural heritage of the island, in all their strands, available in schools throughout Ireland.