

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland Alliance

Headquarters
88 University Street
Belfast BT7 1HE
Tel (01232) 324274 Fax (01232) 333147
e-mail alliance_party@eir.compulink.co.uk

“ P R E S S R E L E A S E ”

26 February 1998

Alderdice joins NICIE to present petition at No.10

The Alliance Leader Lord Alderdice will today join with representatives of the Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education to present a petition at No.10 Downing Street.

The petition has been signed by some 14,000 people in Northern Ireland, calling on the government to do more to facilitate the establishment of new integrated schools.

The Alliance Leader has recently tabled questions in the House of Lords on funding for integrated schools, participated in this week's House of Lords debate on integrated education, and discussed the problems being faced by these parents with the Prime Minister at his most recent meeting at Downing Street.

Speaking before the petition was delivered, Lord Alderdice said:

“While it is consistently clear that a huge majority of parents would wish to have their children educated together, government continues to do too little to offer parents this choice. It seems absurd that at this time in particular, while there is a substantial and committed group of people working determinedly to bring the community together, government will not do more to help.”

For further information contact Richard Good, Press Officer, on 0468 151972 (mobile) or 01426 245779 (pager).