

RSB Policy Briefing

General Election 2017 Education and Science Policies

The education priorities and science priorities identified in the 2017 general election manifestos. As education is a devolved issue, there is additional information specific to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Sinn Fein

Schools concerns

- Brexit will cut €30 million PEACE IV funding from 350 schools as well as funding for 7,000 marginalised young people who are not in education, employment or training.

Higher Education / Universities concerns

- Higher Education Institutions and other researchers here have accessed €15.5 million funding from the Horizon 2020 programme – this funding stream will end.
- Students from the North who wish to study in the South face the prospect of tuition fees levied at the International Student rate which is between €6,750 and €49,000, more expensive than the current €3,000 charge.
- The EU's Erasmus+ programme supports inter-European opportunities for students to travel and study abroad. This is under threat by Brexit.
- There is also no guarantee that qualifications will be recognised in any European country.

Priorities

- Opposing Tory cuts and investing in education
- The North to be designated special status within the EU to safeguard our schools and universities, and our education system
- Continued access to Peace and other funding
- Continued access to EU-wide research opportunities
- An all-Ireland approach to education planning and student studies
- Enable the movement of students across Europe
- Ensure the recognition of qualifications.