

PLAR 1
Education Policy + History

2024 PME Student Group:
Alec Baker, Mary Leen, Gavin O'Byrne







Paper Overview

BY: **Fleming, B. and Harford, J. (2014).**

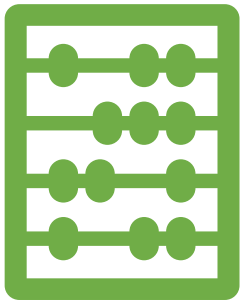
TITLE: **'Irish Educational Policy in the 1960's: A Decade of transformation'.**

FROM: **'History of Education',**

43(5), 635-656.

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3 Points of Interest from "The New Guard" and "Concluding Thoughts", pg.s 644-655



New priorities for Irish government **after the 1950's** = **Structural, policy, and economic change**.



Former Taoiseach **Lemass and the Duggan Committee** introduced **free education up to age 15** and funded more educational facilities. (**Announced unauthorised at first by O'Malley**).

The first Minister of Education, Hillary, was appointed from '59-'65.



The **OECD evaluation** caused a **realisation of the need to reform**.

By the **1970's**, however, the OECD found that Ireland **had not done enough in terms of social equality** in education.

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2 Points of Interest relevant to Contemporary Education and Life

- This was a very impactful period in history as **fees were significantly reduced if not completely waived**. DEIS schools also now have subsidised school lunches.

- **Can education truly be considered "free"** when many schools and institutions still require some kind of monetary contribution (and often the purchase of expensive books, activities, school tours, uniforms, materials, and stationery, etc.)?

Many of these costs are now finally in the process of being greatly reduced or eradicated.

(Citizens Information website, Gov.ie)

- The OECD PISA report of 2022 concluded that **Ireland is amongst the highest achievers in English (and multiple other subjects)**.

- The report also found that **49% of students in Ireland "(the largest share) were in the top international quintile of the socio-economic scale"**. *(OECD.org)*

- Ireland has come a long way and the **policies brought in during the 60's were instrumental in this**.

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References / Bibliography

Text / Information:

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Images:

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