



Baroness Berridge of the Vale of Catmose
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the School System
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Baroness McIntosh of Hudnall
House of Lords
London
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Dear Jenny,

18th March 2020

Thank you for sharing your points about the importance of access to the arts for all in the debate on “Educational Opportunities: Working Classes” that took place on Thursday 5 March.

You raised the following question in the debate in relation to the new Arts Premium and I committed to writing to you on this matter:

“Will the Minister say how and with whom the money she has just outlined is going to be spent?”

I would like to take this opportunity to clarify the funding we provide to support music and the arts. We are investing nearly £500 million from 2016-20 for a diverse portfolio of music and arts education programmes. In addition, for 2020-21, we are providing £85 million which includes funding for Music Education Hubs coupled with further investment in film, dance, theatre and design. The press notice is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/multi-million-pound-culture-boost-for-children-in-schools>

In terms of the Arts Premium, the manifesto commitment stated:

“We retain our commitment to the core subjects and also want young people to learn creative skills and widen their horizons,, so we will also offer an ‘arts premium’ to secondary schools to fund enriching activities for all pupils.”

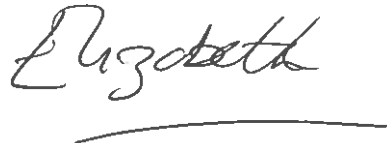
The Department is currently developing proposals for the Arts Premium and we will share further details on this in due course.

As part of my answer I also referred to T Levels, the new flagship technical education courses being introduced as part of the government’s reforms in this area.

I would like to take the opportunity to clarify that the first three T Levels to be taught from September this year will be Construction (Design, Surveying and

Planning), Education & Childcare (Education) and Digital (Digital Production, Design and Development). These courses will be taught in 50 selected providers, with a further 64 providers expecting to teach the next seven courses from 2021. We expect that all 25 T Levels will be available from 2023.

I hope that this answer has been useful and will place a copy in the house libraries.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elizabeth", with a horizontal line underneath it.

ELIZABETH BERRIDGE

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE