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10 DOWNING STREET
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From the Private Secretary

30 June 1988

Dear Tom,

A CITY ARTS COLLEGE

The Prime Minister discussed with your Secretary of State this morning his proposal for extending the scope of City Technology Colleges to include a City Arts College.

Your Secretary of State explained that good progress was now being made with the development of CTCs. In a number of cases, extra funding was becoming available from other private sector sponsors to supplement the initial donations of the principal sponsors. As regards a City Arts College, the initial approach had come from Richard Branson who, with contributions from others, had now assembled private sector sponsorship of £2 million. Your Secretary of State stressed that any such college would focus heavily on the technological aspects of the arts industry, and would not be focused on the performing arts aspects.

After discussion, the Prime Minister said she was now content to agree to the CTC concept being extended to embrace the City Arts College idea, on the basis that this was focused on the technology aspects. To make this clear, she thought it would be appropriate for such an institution to be named as a "City College for the Technology of the Arts". It was also essential that the private sector funding proportion for such institutions should be higher than in the cases of the CTCs already planned.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of E(EP) and to Sir Robin Butler.

Yours,
Paul

PAUL GRAY

Tom Jeffery, Esq.
Department of Education and Science

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