
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1989 No. 2406 (N.I. 20)

The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989

- - - - 19th December 1989

THE EDUCATION REFORM (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1989

PART I

INTRODUCTORY

1. Title and commencement
2. Interpretation

PART II

GENERAL DUTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

3. General duty of the Department

PART III

THE CURRICULUM

Preliminary

4. Duties with respect to the curriculum

Principal provisions

5. The curriculum
6. Compulsory contributory subjects and compulsory assessment
7. Attainment targets, programmes of study and assessment arrangements
8. Educational themes
Art. 9 rep. by 1998 NI 13
10. Determination of curriculum policy and of curriculum
11. Duties with respect to requirements of this Part

Religious education

12. Religious education
13. Core syllabus for religious education

Changes to legislation: The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

Special cases

14. Development work and experiments
15. Exceptions by regulations
16. Pupils with statements of special educational needs
17. Temporary exceptions for individual pupils
Arts. 17A#26 rep. by 1998 NI 13
Arts. 27, 28 rep. by 1993 NI 12

Miscellaneous and supplementary

29. Curriculum advice and support by boards
Art. 30 rep. by 1996 NI 1
31. Provision of information
32. Keeping, disclosure and transfer of educational records
33. Complaints
34. Extension of Articles 9 and 11(1)(d) to senior pupils
35. Interpretation of Part III

Part IV (Arts. 36#45) rep. with saving by 1997 NI...

PART V

FINANCING SCHOOLS

Financing of controlled and maintained schools

Arts. 46#59 rep. by 2003 NI 12

Financing of voluntary grammar schools

60. Grants to voluntary grammar schools
61. Financial statements in respect of voluntary grammar schools
Arts. 62#63 rep. by 2003 NI 12

PART VI

INTEGRATED EDUCATION

CHAPTER I

GENERAL FUNCTIONS OF DEPARTMENT AND BOARDS

64. General functions of Department and boards in relation to integrated education

CHAPTER II

GRANT#MAINTAINED INTEGRATED SCHOOLS

Duty of Department to maintain grant#maintained integrated schools

65. Duty of Department to maintain grant-maintained integrated schools

Management of grant#maintained integrated schools

66. Management of grant#maintained integrated schools

Changes to legislation: The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

67. Powers of Board of Governors

Procedure for acquisition of grant#maintained integrated status

- 68. Schools eligible for grant#maintained integrated status
- 69. Initiation of procedure for acquisition of grant#maintained integrated status by existing school
- 70. Ballot of parents
- 71. Proposals for acquisition of grant#maintained integrated status
- 72. Incorporation of Board of Governors
- 73. Effect of pending procedure for acquisition of grant#maintained integrated status

Proposals for alteration, etc. of schools eligible for grant#maintained integrated status

- 74. Proposals for alteration, etc. of schools eligible for grant#maintained integrated status

Transfer of property and sta#

- 75. Transfer of property, etc. to Board of Governors of grant#maintained integrated school
- 76. Transfer of sta# to grant#maintained integrated school

Financing of grant#maintained integrated schools

- 77. Maintenance grants and capital grants
- 78. Financial statements

Making of significant change to grant#maintained integrated schools

- 79. Significant changes to grant#maintained integrated schools

Discontinuance of grant#maintained integrated schools

- 80. Discontinuance by Board of Governors
- 81. Withdrawal of grant by Department

Winding up and disposal of property

- 82. Winding up
- 83. Transfer of school property
- 84. Vesting of surplus assets

Miscellaneous and supplementary

- 85. Provision of benefits and services for pupils by boards
- 86. Variation of instrument of government relating to grant#maintained integrated school
- 87. Interpretation (grant#maintained integrated schools)

CHAPTER III

CONTROLLED INTEGRATED SCHOOLS

Changes to legislation: The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

Management of controlled integrated schools

- 88. Management of controlled integrated schools
- 89. Constitution of Board of Governors for controlled integrated schools

Procedure for acquisition of controlled integrated status

- 90. Schools eligible for controlled integrated status
- 91. Initiation of procedure for acquisition of controlled integrated status
- 92. Proposals for acquisition of controlled integrated status
- 93. Effect of pending procedure for acquisition of controlled integrated status

Proposals for alteration, etc. of schools eligible for controlled integrated status

- 94. Proposals for alteration, etc. of schools eligible for controlled integrated status

Transfer of property and staff

- 95. Transfer of property of voluntary school acquiring controlled integrated status
- 96. Transfer of staff

Significant changes to controlled integrated schools

- 97. Significant changes to controlled integrated schools

Miscellaneous and supplementary

- 98. Variation of instrument of government relating to controlled integrated school
- 99. Interpretation (controlled integrated schools)

Part VII (Arts. 100-120) rep. by 1997 NI 15

PART VIII

SCHOOLS—GENERAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER I

MANAGEMENT OF GRANT-AIDED SCHOOLS

- 121. Appointment of parent governors
- 122. Co-opting of persons to Board of Governors of grant-aided school
- 123. Schemes of management
Art. 124 rep. by 1998 NI 13
- 125. Annual report of Board of Governors
- 126. Annual parents' meeting

CHAPTER II

CHARGES IN GRANT-AIDED SCHOOLS

- 127. Application of Articles 128 to 131
- 128. Prohibition of charges, etc., in certain grant-aided schools

- 129. Provision for cases where education is provided partly during and partly outside school hours
- 130. Permitted charges
- 131. Charges and remissions policies
- 132. Capital charges in voluntary grammar schools to which Articles 128 to 131 apply where agreement under paragraph 1(1)(b) of Schedule 6 to the principal Order is, or has been, in force
- 132A. Capital charges in voluntary grammar schools to which Articles 128 to 131 apply where agreement is in force under paragraph 1(1)(a) of Schedule 6 to the principal Order
- 133. Charges in voluntary grammar schools to which Articles 128 to 131 do not apply
- 134. Charges in respect of excepted pupils
- 135. Charges for board and lodging at boarding schools
- 136. Obligation to enter pupils for approved public examinations
- 136A. Recovery of wasted examination fees
- 137. General and supplementary provisions relating to charges
- 138. Interpretation of Chapter II

CHAPTER III

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL PREMISES

- 139. Community schools
- 140. Community use of school premises

PART IX

THE COUNCIL FOR CATHOLIC MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

- 141. The Council for Catholic Maintained Schools
- 142. Functions of the Council
- 143. Employment of teachers by the Council
- 144. Transfer of teachers to employment of Council
- 145. Functions of the Council in relation to development proposals
- 146. Miscellaneous functions of the Council under the principal Order

PART X

MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTARY

Training

Art. 147 rep. by 1997 NI 15

- 148. Information and training for Boards of Governors, governing bodies, etc.
- 149. Programmes of training by boards

Miscellaneous

- 150. Procedures for carrying out by certain bodies of their activities
- 151. Review of performance of teachers
- 152. Educational projects by Department
- 153. Appointment of teachers by the Authority

Changes to legislation: The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

Miscellaneous amendments to the principal Order

- Art. 154 rep. by 1993 NI 12
- Art. 155 rep. by 1996 NI 1
- 156. Compulsory school age
 - Art. 157 rep. by 1998 NI 13
- 158. Power of Department to give directions
- 159. Grants for provision of educational or library services, etc.
- 160. Filling of certain casual vacancies in boards
 - Art. 161 rep. by 2003 NI 12

Supplementary

- 162. Temporary exclusion of section 5 of Data Protection Act 1984
- 163. Stamp duty
- 164. Regulations and orders
- 165. Transitional provisions
 - Art. 166—Amendments
 - Art. 167—Repeals

SCHEDULES

- SCHEDULE 1 —
- SCHEDULE 2 — COMPULSORY CONTRIBUTORY SUBJECTS
 - Schedule 3 rep. by 1998 NI 13
- SCHEDULE 4 —

Application of this Schedule

- 1. Subject to sub#paragraph (2), this Schedule applies to a school ...

Determination of sta# complement

- 2. Every school to which this Schedule for the time being ...

Discipline

- 3. The regulation of conduct and discipline in relation to the ...

Suspension

- 4. In the case of any school to which this Schedule ...

Dismissal, etc.

- 5. Where the Board of Governors of any school to which ...
- 6. Subject to sub#paragraph (2), the employing authority shall not dismiss ...

Payments in respect of dismissals, resignations, etc.

- 7. Subject to sub#paragraph (2), it shall be for the Board ...

Changes to legislation: The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

School meals sta#

8. Nothing in paragraphs 2 to 7 shall apply in relation ...

Application of employment law

9. The Department may by order make such modifications in any ...

Interpretation

10. In this Schedule “employing authority” means— in relation to teachers ...

SCHEDULE 5 — MEMBERSHIP OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF GRANT#
MAINTAINED INTEGRATED SCHOOLS

1. The Board of Governors of a grant#maintained integrated school shall ...
2. Of the voting members of the Board of Governors of ...
3. The Department may make such provision as it thinks fit ...
4. The Board of Governors shall, with the approval of the ...
5. Subject to any transitional provision made by an order under ...

SCHEDULE 6 — TRANSITION TO GRANT#MAINTAINED INTEGRATED
STATUS

1. Where the Department approves a proposal for acquisition of grant#
maintained ...
2. The provision that may be made by an order under ...
3. The Department may make grants to the new Board of ...
4. On and after the incorporation date in relation to a ...
5. The first scheme of management for a grant#maintained integrated
school ...
6. Except as provided in an order under paragraph 1, the ...

— Schedule 7 rep. by 1997 NI 15

SCHEDULE 8 — THE COUNCIL FOR CATHOLIC MAINTAINED SCHOOLS
— Constitution

1. The Council shall be a body corporate to which, subject ...
2. The Council shall consist of— the Archbishop of Armagh or ...
— Diocesan education committees
3. There shall be established a committee of the Council, to ...
— Other committees of the Council
4. The Council may appoint such other committees as it considers ...
— Terms of appointment
5. . . . the members of the Council shall be ...
— Resignation and disqualification
6. A member of the Council may resign therefrom by giving ...
7. A person shall be disqualified for being a member of ...
— Procedure
8. The proceedings of the Council shall not be invalidated by ...
9. Without prejudice to section 19(1)(a)(v) of the Interpretation Act
(Northern ...
10. The common seal of the Council shall, when applied to ...
— Sta#
11. The right of the Council under section 19(1)(a)(vi) of the ...
12. Subject to sub#paragraph (2), this paragraph applies to any person ...

Changes to legislation: *The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- Allowances
- 13. The Council may pay to any member of the Council ...
 - Financial arrangements
- 14. The Council shall, at such times, in such form and ...
- 15. The Department may pay to the Council in respect of ...
- 16. Where any premises in respect of which the Department has ...
- 17. The Council shall— keep proper accounts and proper records in ...
 - Transfer of assets and liabilities of Interim Council
- 18. On the appointed day all the assets and liabilities of ...
 - Interpretation
- 19. References in this Schedule to an Archbishop or a Bishop ...
 - Schedule 9—Amendments
 - Schedule 10—Repeals

Changes to legislation:

The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Sch. 6 para. 3 repealed by [S.I. 1998/1759 \(N.I.\) Sch. 5 Pt. 2](#)
- Sch. 6 para. 3 repealed by [S.I. 1998/1759 \(N.I.\) Sch. 6 Pt. 2](#)
- art. 81 repealed by [S.I. 1998/1759 \(N.I.\) Sch. 6 Pt. 2](#)
- art. 82(1)(b) substituted by [S.I. 1998/1759 \(N.I.\) Sch. 5 Pt. 2](#)
- art. 85 repealed by [S.I. 1998/1759 \(N.I.\) Sch. 5 Pt. 2 Sch. 6 Pt. 2](#)
- art. 125(2)(g)(i) words substituted by [S.I. 1998/1759 \(N.I.\) Sch. 5 Pt. 2](#)
- art 131 am (prosp) by [2002 c. 21 s 47, Sch 3, para 21](#) (Amendment actioned prior to Northern Ireland basedate 1.01.2006.)
- art 131 rev in pt (prosp) by [2002 c. 21 s 60, Sch 6](#) (Amendment actioned prior to Northern Ireland basedate 1.01.2006.)
- art. 131(3)(b) words repealed by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 4 Pt. 1](#)
- art. 151(4)(a) substituted by [S.I. 1998/1759 \(N.I.\) Sch. 5 Pt. 2](#)
- art. 164(4) words repealed by [S.I. 1998/1759 \(N.I.\) Sch. 6 Pt. 2](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- art. 13(3)(b) words repealed by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) Sch. 12 Pt. 1](#)