



# Education Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 56

### PART I

#### GENERAL

### CHAPTER I

#### THE STATUTORY SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

##### *General*

## 1 The stages of education.

- (1) The statutory system of public education consists of three progressive stages: primary education, secondary education and further education.
- (2) This Part—
  - (a) confers functions on the Secretary of State and local education authorities with respect to primary, secondary and further education; <sup>F1</sup> . . .
  - <sup>F1</sup>(b) . . . . .
- (3) Part I of the <sup>M1</sup>Further and Higher Education Act 1992 confers functions with respect to further education on the further education funding councils established under section 1 of that Act.
- (4) Apart from section 10 (general duty of Secretary of State), nothing in this Act confers any functions with respect to higher education.

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 1(2)(b) and the word “and” preceding it repealed (1.9.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 58, Sch. 31 (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(1), Sch. 1 (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.*

*Changes to legislation: Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)*

### **Marginal Citations**

**M1** 1992 c. 13.

## **2 Definition of primary, secondary and further education.**

- (1) In this Act “primary education” means —
  - (a) full-time education suitable to the requirements of junior pupils who have not attained the age of 10 years and six months; and
  - (b) full-time education suitable to the requirements of junior pupils who have attained that age and whom it is expedient to educate together with junior pupils within paragraph (a).
- (2) In this Act “secondary education” means—
  - (a) full-time education suitable to the requirements of pupils of compulsory school age who are either—
    - (i) senior pupils, or
    - (ii) junior pupils who have attained the age of 10 years and six months and whom it is expedient to educate together with senior pupils of compulsory school age; and
  - (b) (subject to subsection (5)) full-time education suitable to the requirements of pupils who are over compulsory school age but under the age of 19 which is provided at a school at which education within paragraph (a) is also provided.
- (3) Subject to subsection (5), in this Act “further education” means—
  - (a) full-time and part-time education suitable to the requirements of persons who are over compulsory school age (including vocational, social, physical and recreational training), and
  - (b) organised leisure-time occupation provided in connection with the provision of such education,

except that it does not include secondary education or (in accordance with subsection (7)) higher education.
- (4) Accordingly, unless it is education within subsection (2)(b), full-time education suitable to the requirements of persons over compulsory school age who have not attained the age of 19 is further education for the purposes of this Act and not secondary education.
- (5) For the purposes of this Act education provided for persons who have attained the age of 19 is further education not secondary education; but where a person—
  - (a) has begun a particular course of secondary education before attaining the age of 18, and
  - (b) continues to attend that course,

the education does not cease to be secondary education by reason of his having attained the age of 19.
- (6) In subsection (3)(b) “organised leisure-time occupation” means leisure-time occupation, in such organised cultural training and recreative activities as are suited to their requirements, for any persons over compulsory school age who are able and willing to profit by facilities provided for that purpose.
- (7) References in this section to education do not include references to higher education.

---

**Status:** Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.  
**Changes to legislation:** Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)

---

### 3 Definition of pupil etc.

- (1) In this Act “pupil” means a person for whom education is being provided at a school, other than—
- (a) a person who has attained the age of 19 for whom further education is being provided, or
  - (b) a person for whom part-time education suitable to the requirements of persons of any age over compulsory school age is being provided.

[<sup>F2</sup>and references to pupils in the context of the admission of pupils to, or the exclusion of pupils from, a school are references to persons who following their admission will be, or (as the case may be) before their exclusion were, pupils as defined by this subsection.]

- (2) In this Act—
- “junior pupil” means a child who has not attained the age of 12; and
  - “senior pupil” means a person who has attained the age of 12 but not the age of 19.
- (3) The definition of “pupil” in subsection (1) also applies (unless the context otherwise requires) for the purposes of any instrument made or having effect as if made under the Education Acts.

#### Textual Amendments

**F2** Words in s. 3(1) inserted (1.9.1997) by 1997 c. 44, s. 57(1), **Sch. 7 para. 9(2)**; S.I. 1997/1468, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. II**

### *Educational institutions*

### 4 Schools: general.

- [<sup>F3</sup>(1) In this Act “school” means an educational institution which is outside the further education sector and the higher education sector and is an institution for providing—
- (a) primary education,
  - (b) secondary education, or
  - (c) both primary and secondary education,
- whether or not the institution also provides part-time education suitable to the requirements of junior pupils or further education.]
- (2) [<sup>F4</sup>Nothing in subsection (1) shall be taken to preclude the making of arrangements under section 19(1) (exceptional educational provision) under which part-time education is to be provided at a school; and for] the purposes of this Act an educational institution that would fall within subsection (1) but for the fact that it provides part-time rather than full-time education shall nevertheless be treated as a school if that part-time education is provided under arrangements made under section 19(1) <sup>F5</sup>. . . .
- (3) For the purposes of this Act an institution is outside the further education sector if it is not—
- (a) an institution conducted by a further education corporation established under section 15 or 16 of the <sup>M2</sup>Further and Higher Education Act 1992, or

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.*

*Changes to legislation: Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)*

- (b) a designated institution for the purposes of Part I of that Act (defined in section 28(4) of that Act);  
 and references to institutions within that sector shall be construed accordingly.
- (4) For the purposes of this Act an institution is outside the higher education sector if it is not—
- (a) a university receiving financial support under section 65 of that Act,  
 (b) an institution conducted by a higher education corporation within the meaning of that Act, or  
 (c) a designated institution for the purposes of Part II of that Act (defined in section 72(3) of that Act);  
 and references to institutions within that sector shall be construed accordingly.

#### Textual Amendments

- F3** S. 4(1) substituted (1.9.1997) by 1997 c. 44, s. 51; S.I. 1997/1468, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. II**
- F4** Words in s. 4(2) substituted (1.9.1998) by 1997 c. 44, s. 57(1), **Sch. 7 para. 10(a)**; S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. IV**
- F5** Words in s. 4(2) repealed (1.9.1998) by 1997 c. 44, s. 57(1)(4), **Sch. 7 para. 10(b)**, **Sch. 8**; S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. IV**

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 4(1) restricted (1.9.2000 (E.) and 1.4.2001 (W.)) by 2000 c. 21, s. 110(3) (with s. 150); S.I. 2000/2114, art. 2(3), **Sch. Pt. III**; S.I. 2001/1274, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. I**

#### Marginal Citations

- M2** 1992 c. 13.

## 5 Primary schools, secondary schools and middle schools.

- (1) In this Act “primary school” means (subject to regulations under subsection (4)) a school for providing primary education, whether or not it also provides part-time education suitable to the requirements of junior pupils or further education.
- (2) In this Act “secondary school” means (subject to regulations under subsection (4)) a school for providing secondary education, whether or not it also provides further education.
- (3) In this Act “middle school” means a school in respect of which proposals authorised by [F6section 28(4) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998] are implemented (that is, a school providing full-time education suitable to the requirements of pupils who have attained a specified age below 10 years and six months and are under a specified age above 12 years).
- (4) The Secretary of State shall make regulations for determining, or enabling him to determine, whether a middle school is to be treated for the purposes of this Act and the other enactments relating to education as a primary school or as a secondary school.
- (5) The powers conferred by [F6section 28(4) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998]and subsection (4) above are exercisable—
- (a) notwithstanding anything in this Act (and in particular section 1); but  
 (b) without prejudice to the exercise of any other power conferred by this Act.

---

**Status:** Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.  
**Changes to legislation:** Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)

---

#### Textual Amendments

- F6** Words in s. 5(3) and (5) substituted (1.9.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1), **Sch. 30 para. 59(a)(b)** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1** (with savings in art. 18, Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

## 6 Nursery schools and special schools.

- (1) A primary school is a nursery school if it is used mainly for the purpose of providing education for children who have attained the age of two but are under [<sup>F7</sup>compulsory school age].
- (2) A school is a special school if it is specially organised, [<sup>F8</sup>and (in the case of a school which is not maintained by a local education authority) is for the time being approved, as mentioned in section 337.].

#### Textual Amendments

- F7** Words in s. 6(1) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1997 c. 44, s. 51(1), **Sch. 7 para. 11**; S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. III**
- F8** Words in s. 6(2) substituted (1.9.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 141(1), **Sch. 30 para.60** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

### *Compulsory education*

## 7 Duty of parents to secure education of children of compulsory school age.

The parent of every child of compulsory school age shall cause him to receive efficient full-time education suitable—

- (a) to his age, ability and aptitude, and
  - (b) to any special educational needs he may have,
- either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.

## 8 Compulsory school age.

- (1) Subsections (2) and (3) apply to determine for the purposes of any enactment whether a person is of compulsory school age.

- [<sup>F9</sup>(2) A person begins to be of compulsory school age—
- (a) when he attains the age of five, if he attains that age on a prescribed day, and
  - (b) otherwise at the beginning of the prescribed day next following his attaining that age.]
- (3) A person ceases to be of compulsory school age at the end of the day which is the school leaving date for any calendar year—
    - (a) if he attains the age of 16 after that day but before the beginning of the school year next following,
    - (b) if he attains that age on that day, or

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.*

*Changes to legislation: Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)*

- (c) (unless paragraph (a) applies) if that day is the school leaving date next following his attaining that age.

[<sup>F10</sup>(4) The Secretary of State may by order—

- (a) provide that such days in the year as are specified in the order shall be, for each calendar year, prescribed days for the purposes of subsection (2);
- (b) determine the day in any calendar year which is to be the school leaving date for that year.]

**Textual Amendments**

- F9** S. 8(2) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1997 c. 44, s. 52(2); S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, Sch. 1 Pt. III
- F10** S. 8(4) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1997 c. 44, s. 52(3); S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, Sch. 1 Pt. III

*Education in accordance with parental wishes*

**9 Pupils to be educated in accordance with parents' wishes.**

In exercising or performing all their respective powers and duties under the Education Acts, the Secretary of [<sup>F11</sup>State and local education authorities] shall have regard to the general principle that pupils are to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents, so far as that is compatible with the provision of efficient instruction and training and the avoidance of unreasonable public expenditure.

**Textual Amendments**

- F11** Words in s. 9 substituted (1.4.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1), Sch. 30 para. 61 (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/1016, art. 2(1), Sch. 1

**CHAPTER II**

FUNCTIONS OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

**10 General duty of Secretary of State.**

The Secretary of State shall promote the education of the people of England and Wales.

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C2** S. 10 amended (1.11.1996) by 1994 c. 30, s. 11A, as inserted by 1996 c. 56, ss. 582(1)(3), 583(2), Sch. 37 Pt. I para. 126 (with ss. 1(4), 561, 562, Sch. 39)

**11 Duty in the case of primary, secondary and further education.**

- (1) The Secretary of State shall exercise his powers in respect of those bodies in receipt of public funds which—
- (a) carry responsibility for securing that the required provision for primary, secondary or further education is made—

---

**Status:** Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.  
**Changes to legislation:** Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)

---

- (i) in schools, or
  - (ii) in institutions within the further education sector,  
in or in any area of England or Wales, or
  - (b) conduct schools or institutions within the further education sector in England and Wales,  
for the purpose of promoting primary, secondary and further education in England and Wales.
- (2) The Secretary of State shall, in the case of his powers to regulate the provision made in schools and institutions within the further education sector in England and Wales, exercise his powers with a view to (among other things) improving standards, encouraging diversity and increasing opportunities for choice.

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C3** S. 11 amended (1.11.1996) by 1994 c. 30, s. 11A, as inserted by 1996 c. 56, ss. 582(1)(3), 583(2), **Sch. 37 Pt. I para.126** (with ss. 1(4), 561, 562, Sch. 39)

## CHAPTER III

### LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITIES

#### *The authorities*

#### **12 Local education authorities and their areas.**

- (1) The local education authority for a county in England having a county council is the county council.
- (2) The local education authority for a district in England which is not in a county having a county council is the district council.
- (3) The local education authority for a London borough is the borough council.
- (4) The local education authority for the City of London (which for the purposes of this Act shall be treated as including the Inner Temple and the Middle Temple) is the Common Council of the City of London (in their capacity as a local authority).
- (5) As respects Wales—
  - (a) the local education authority for a county is the county council; and
  - (b) the local education authority for a county borough is the county borough council.
- (6) Any reference in this Act to the area of a local education authority shall be construed in accordance with the preceding provisions of this section.

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.*

*Changes to legislation: Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)*

### *General functions*

#### **13 General responsibility for education.**

- (1) A local education authority shall (so far as their powers enable them to do so) contribute towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community by securing that efficient primary education, secondary education and further education are available to meet the needs of the population of their area.
- (2) The duty imposed by subsection (1) does not extend to matters in respect of which any duty is imposed on—
  - (a) the further education funding councils established under section 1 of the <sup>M3</sup>Further and Higher Education Act 1992, or
  - (b) the higher education funding councils established under section 62 of that Act.

#### **Marginal Citations**

**M3** 1992 c. 13.

#### **[<sup>F12</sup>13A Duty to promote high standards in primary and secondary education.**

- (1) A local education authority shall ensure that their functions relating to the provision of education to which this section applies are (so far as they are capable of being so exercised) exercised by the authority with a view to promoting high standards.
- (2) This section applies to education for—
  - (a) persons of compulsory school age (whether at school or otherwise); and
  - (b) persons of any age above or below that age who are registered as pupils at schools maintained by the authority;
 and in subsection (1) “functions” means functions of whatever nature.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F12** S. 13A inserted (1.10.1998) by 1998 c. 31, s. 5 (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1998/2212, art. 2, Sch. 1 Pt. I.

#### **14 Functions in respect of provision of primary and secondary schools.**

- (1) A local education authority shall secure that sufficient schools for providing—
  - (a) primary education, and
  - (b) education that is secondary education by virtue of section 2(2)(a),
 are available for their area.
- (2) The schools available for an area shall not be regarded as sufficient for the purposes of subsection (1) unless they are sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education.
- (3) In subsection (2) “appropriate education” means education which offers such variety of instruction and training as may be desirable in view of—
  - (a) the pupils’ different ages, abilities and aptitudes, and



---

**Status:** Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.  
**Changes to legislation:** Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)

---

- (b) the different periods for which they may be expected to remain at school, including practical instruction and training appropriate to their different needs.
- (4) A local education authority is not by virtue of subsection (1)(a) under any duty in respect of children under [<sup>F13</sup>compulsory school age].
- <sup>F14</sup>(5) .....
- (6) In exercising their functions under this section, a local education authority shall in particular have regard to—
  - (a) the need for securing that primary and secondary education are provided in separate schools;
  - (b) the need for securing that special educational provision is made for pupils who have special educational needs; and
  - (c) the expediency of securing the provision of boarding accommodation (in boarding schools or otherwise) for pupils for whom education as boarders is considered by their parents and the authority to be desirable.
- (7) The duty imposed by subsection (6)(a) does not apply in relation to middle schools or special schools.

**Textual Amendments**

- F13** Words in s. 14(4) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1997 c. 44, s. 57(1), **Sch. 7 para. 12**; S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. III**
- F14** S. 14(5) repealed (1.9.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), **Sch. 30 para. 62**, **Sch.31** (with 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1** (with savings in **Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12**)

**15 Functions in respect of provision of further education.**

- (1) A local education authority shall secure the provision for their area of adequate facilities for further education.
- (2) The duty imposed by subsection (1) does not apply in relation to—
  - (a) education to which section 2(1) of the <sup>M4</sup>Further and Higher Education Act 1992 applies (that is, full-time education suitable to the requirements of persons who are over compulsory school age and under the age of 19); or
  - (b) education to which section 3(1) of that Act applies (that is—
    - (i) part-time education suitable to the requirements of persons of any age over compulsory school age, and
    - (ii) full-time education suitable to the requirements of persons who have attained the age of 19,where the education is provided by means of a course of a description mentioned in Schedule 2 to that Act).
- (3) However, in respect of further education falling within subsection (2)(b), a local education authority may secure the provision for their area of such facilities as appear to them to be appropriate for meeting the needs of the population of their area.
- (4) A local education authority may secure the provision of further education for persons from other areas.

**Status:** Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

**Changes to legislation:** Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)

- (5) In exercising their functions under this section a local education authority shall have regard to—
- (a) any educational facilities provided—
    - (i) by institutions within the higher education sector or the further education sector, and
    - (ii) by other bodies,
 which are provided for, or available for use by persons in, their area, and
  - (b) the requirements of persons over compulsory school age who have learning difficulties.
- (6) Subject to subsection (7), a person has a “learning difficulty” for the purposes of subsection (5) if—
- (a) he has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of persons of his age, or
  - (b) he has a disability which either prevents or hinders him from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided in pursuance of the duty under subsection (1) for persons of his age.
- (7) A person is not to be taken as having a learning difficulty solely because the language (or form of the language) in which he is, or will be, taught is different from a language (or form of a language) which has at any time been spoken in his home.
- (8) A local education authority may do anything which appears to them to be necessary or expedient for the purposes of or in connection with the exercise of their functions under this section.

#### Marginal Citations

**M4** 1992 c. 13.

#### [<sup>F15</sup>15A Functions in respect of full-time education for 16 to 18 year olds.

- (1) A local education authority may secure the provision for their area of full-time education suitable to the requirements of persons over compulsory school age who have not attained the age of 19, including provision for persons from other areas.
- (2) Subsections (6) and (7) of section 14 shall apply in relation to functions under this section as they apply in relation to functions under that section.]

#### Textual Amendments

**F15** S. 15A inserted (1.9.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1), **Sch. 30 para.63** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

**Status:** Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.  
**Changes to legislation:** Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)

VALID FROM 28/07/2000

**[<sup>F16</sup>15B Functions in respect of education for persons over 19.**

- (1) A local education authority may secure the provision for their area of full-time or part-time education suitable to the requirements of persons who have attained the age of 19, including provision for persons from other areas.
- (2) The power under subsection (1) to secure the provision of education includes power to secure the provision—
  - (a) of training, including vocational, social, physical and recreational training, and
  - (b) of organised leisure time occupation (within the meaning of section 2(6)) which is provided in connection with the provision of education or of training within paragraph (a).
- (3) In exercising their functions under this section a local education authority shall in particular have regard to the needs of persons with learning difficulties (within the meaning of section 13(5) and (6) of the Learning and Skills Act 2000).
- (4) A local education authority may do anything which appears to them to be necessary or expedient for the purposes of or in connection with the exercise of their functions under this section.
- (5) This section does not apply to higher education.]

**Textual Amendments**

**F16** S. 15B inserted (28.7.2000 for certain purposes otherwise 1.4.2001) by 2000 c. 21, ss. 149, 154(5), **Sch. 9 para. 55** (with s. 150); S.I. 2001/654, art. 2(2), **Sch. Pt. II** (with art. 3); S.I. 2001/1274, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. I**

*Establishment etc. of schools*

**16 Power to establish, maintain and assist primary and secondary schools.**

- (1) For the purpose of fulfilling their functions under this Act, a local education authority may—
  - (a) establish primary schools and secondary schools;
  - (b) maintain primary and secondary schools, whether established by them or not; and
  - (c) assist any primary or secondary school which is not maintained by them.
- (2) A local education authority may under subsection (1) establish, maintain and assist schools outside as well as inside their area.
- (3) A local education authority may not under subsection (1) establish a school to provide—
  - (a) part-time education suitable to the requirements of persons of any age over compulsory school age; or

**Status:** Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

**Changes to legislation:** Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)

- (b) full-time education suitable to the requirements of persons who have attained the age of 19.

## 17 Powers in respect of nursery education.

- (1) A local education authority may—
- (a) establish nursery schools;
  - (b) maintain nursery schools established by them or by an authority which was a local education authority within the meaning of any enactment repealed by the <sup>M5</sup>Education Act 1944 or an earlier Act; and
  - (c) assist any nursery school not so established.
- (2) Section 14(4) does not affect a local education authority’s power under section 16(1) to establish, maintain and assist schools at which education is provided both for children under [<sup>F17</sup>compulsory school age] and for older pupils (including schools at which there are nursery classes for children under [<sup>F17</sup>compulsory school age]).

### Textual Amendments

**F17** Words in s. 17(2) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1997 c. 44, s. 57(1), **Sch. 7 para.13**; S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt.III**

### Marginal Citations

**M5** 1944 c. 31.

### *Other arrangements for provision of education*

## 18 Power to arrange provision of education at non-maintained schools.

A local education authority may make arrangements for the provision of primary and secondary education for pupils at schools not maintained by them or another local education authority.

## 19 Exceptional provision of education in pupil referral units or elsewhere.

- (1) Each local education authority shall make arrangements for the provision of suitable <sup>F18</sup>. . . education at school or otherwise than at school for those children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless such arrangements are made for them.
- (2) Any school established (whether before or after the commencement of this Act) and maintained by a local education authority which—
- (a) is specially organised to provide education for such children, and
  - (b) is not a county school or a special school,
- shall be known as a “pupil referral unit”.
- (3) A local education authority may secure the provision of boarding accommodation at any pupil referral unit.
- (4) A local education authority may make arrangements for the provision of suitable <sup>F18</sup>. . . education otherwise than at school for those young persons who, by reason of illness,

**Status:** Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

**Changes to legislation:** Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)

exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless such arrangements are made for them.

[<sup>F19</sup>(4A) In determining what arrangements to make under subsection (1) or (4) in the case of any child or young person a local education authority shall have regard to any guidance given from time to time by the Secretary of State.]

(5) Any child for whom education is provided otherwise than at school in pursuance of this section, and any young person for whom full-time education is so provided in pursuance of this section, shall be treated for the purposes of this Act as a pupil.

(6) In this section “suitable education”, in relation to a child or young person, means efficient education suitable to his age, ability and aptitude and to any special educational needs he may have.

(7) Schedule 1 has effect in relation to pupil referral units.

**Textual Amendments**

**F18** Words in s. 19(1) and (4) repealed (1.9.1998) by 1997 c. 44, ss. 47(2)(3), 57(4), **Sch.8**; S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. IV**

**F19** S. 19(4A) inserted (1.9.1998) by 1997 c. 44, s. 47(4); S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt.IV**

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C4** S. 19 excluded (prosp.) by Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 (c. 41), ss. 36(5)(c)(10), 162 (with s. 159)

**CHAPTER IV**

**THE FUNDING AUTHORITIES**

*The Authorities*

<sup>F20</sup>**20** .....

**Textual Amendments**

**F20** S. 20 repealed (1.11.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 66, **Sch.31** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

<sup>F21</sup>**21** .....

**Textual Amendments**

**F21** S. 21 repealed (1.4.1999) by 1998 c. 31, ss. 133, 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 66, **Sch.31**; S.I. 1999/1016, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

*Status:* Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

*Changes to legislation:* Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)

*Functions*

F22 **22** .....

**Textual Amendments**  
F22 S. 22 repealed (1.4.1999 in relation to s. 22 except s. 22(1)(a) and otherwise 1.11.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 66, **Sch. 31** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/1016, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**; S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

F23 **23** .....

**Textual Amendments**  
F23 S. 23 repealed (1.11.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 66, **Sch.31** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

F24 **24** .....

**Textual Amendments**  
F24 S. 24 repealed (1.11.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 66, **Sch.31** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

*Supplemental*

F25 **25** .....

**Textual Amendments**  
F25 S. 25 repealed (1.11.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 66, **Sch.31** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

F26 **26** .....

**Textual Amendments**  
F26 S. 26 repealed (1.11.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 66, **Sch. 31** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

**Status:** Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

**Changes to legislation:** Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)

**CHAPTER V**

**ALLOCATION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR EDUCATION AT SCHOOL BETWEEN LEA AND FUNDING AUTHORITY**

**F27** 27 .....

**Textual Amendments**

**F27** S. 27 repealed (1.4.1999) by 1998 c. 31, ss. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 66, **Sch.31** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/1016, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

**CHAPTER VI**

**SUPPLEMENTAL**

*Allocation of functions*

**F28** 28 .....

**Textual Amendments**

**F28** S. 28 repealed (1.11.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 66, **Sch.31** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)

*Provision of information*

**29 Provision of information by local education authorities.**

- (1) A local education authority shall—
  - (a) make such reports and returns to the Secretary of State, and
  - (b) give to the Secretary of State such information,
 as he may require for the purpose of the exercise of his functions under this Act.

**F29** (2) .....

- (3) A local education authority shall—
  - (a) compile such information, and
  - (b) make such provision for conducting, or assisting the conduct of, research,
 as may be required for the purpose of providing the Secretary of State <sup>F30</sup> . . . , in such form and at such times as may be prescribed, with such information relating to the provision of primary or secondary education in the area of the local education authority as may be prescribed.

*Status: Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.*

*Changes to legislation: Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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)*

- (4) The Secretary of State shall exercise his powers under subsection (3) so as to secure, in particular, the provision of information relating to the provision of education for children with special educational needs.
- (5) A local education authority shall, at such time or times and in such manner as may be required by regulations, publish such information as may be so required with respect to their policy and arrangements in respect of any matter relating to primary or secondary education.
- (6) Nothing in subsection (5) applies in relation to—
- (a) nursery schools, or
  - (b) children who will be under [<sup>F31</sup>compulsory school age] at the time of their proposed admission.

#### Textual Amendments

- F29** S. 29(2) repealed (1.11.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 67(a), **Sch.31** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)
- F30** Words in s. 29(3) repealed (1.11.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 67(b), **Sch.31**; S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)
- F31** Words in s. 29(6)(b) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1997 c. 44, s. 57(1), **Sch. 7 para. 14**; S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, Pt. III

<sup>F32</sup>**30** .....

#### Textual Amendments

- F32** S. 30 repealed (1.11.1999) by 1998 c. 31, ss. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 68, **Sch.31**; S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)



**Status:**

Point in time view as at 01/11/1999. This version of this part contains provisions that are not valid for this point in time.

**Changes to legislation:**

Education Act 1996, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 March 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.