

1972 No. 444

## EDUCATION, ENGLAND AND WALES

## The Raising of the School Leaving Age Order 1972

*Laid before Parliament in draft**Made* - - - 22nd March 1972*Coming into Operation* 1st September 1972

At the Court of Saint James, the 22nd day of March 1972

Present,

**Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother****Her Royal Highness The Princess Anne****Lord President****Mr. Amery****Earl St. Aldwyn****Chancellor of the Duchy  
of Lancaster**

Whereas Her Majesty, in pursuance of the Regency Acts 1937 to 1953, was pleased, by Letters Patent dated the fourth day of February 1972, to delegate to the following Counsellors of State (subject to the exceptions hereinafter mentioned) or any two or more of them, that is to say, His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, His Royal Highness The Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, Her Royal Highness The Princess Anne, Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, and His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester, full power and authority during the period of Her Majesty's absence from the United Kingdom to summon and hold on Her Majesty's behalf Her Privy Council and to signify thereat Her Majesty's approval for anything for which Her Majesty's approval in Council is required:

And whereas Her Majesty was further pleased to except from the number of the said Counsellors of State His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, His Royal Highness The Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, Her Royal Highness The Princess Anne and Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, while absent from the United Kingdom:

And whereas the Secretary of State for Education and Science and the Secretary of State for Wales are satisfied that it has become practicable to raise to sixteen the upper limit of the compulsory school age:

And whereas a draft of this Order has lain before Parliament for a period of 40 days in accordance with the proviso to section 35 of the Education Act 1944(a) and section 6(2) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946(b) and neither House of Parliament has resolved that the draft be not submitted to Her Majesty:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and Her Royal Highness The Princess Anne, being authorised thereto by the said Letters Patent, and in pursuance of the said section 35, do hereby, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council, on Her Majesty's behalf order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

*Citation and commencement*

1. This Order may be cited as the Raising of the School Leaving Age Order 1972 and shall come into operation on 1st September 1972.

*Raising of the School Leaving Age*

2. The definition in section 35 of the Education Act 1944 of the expression "compulsory school age" shall have effect as if for the references therein to the age of fifteen years there were substituted references to the age of sixteen years.

*W. G. Agnew.*

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Order.)*

This Order raises from fifteen to sixteen the upper limit of the compulsory school age.

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(a) 1944 c. 31.

(b) 1946 c. 36.

SI 1972/444  
ISBN 0-11-020444-1

