
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1986 No. 594

The Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986

PART V

**RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF PARENTS AND
PROVISIONS RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL PUPILS**

Employment of children and young persons

Adaptation of enactments relating to the employment of children or young persons

63.—(1) For the purposes of any enactment relating to the prohibition or regulation of the employment of children or young persons, any person who is not for the purposes of this Order over compulsory school age shall be deemed to be a child within the meaning of that enactment.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other enactment, a child may, to the like extent and subject to the like conditions as a young person be employed in employment in pursuance of arrangements made or approved by [^{F1}the Authority] for the purpose of giving that child work experience as part of his education^{F2} but may be so employed only—

- (a) in the school year in which he ceases to be of compulsory school age; and
- (b) in the school year immediately preceding that year.]

(3) In paragraph (2)—

Definition rep. by 1993 NI 12

Definition rep. by 1998 NI 13

[^{F2}“school year” means a year ending on 31st July;]

“work experience” means the participation of children in employment in industrial, commercial, public authority and statutory undertakings, the object of which is to give to the children a greater understanding of the conditions, disciplines and relationships in those undertakings.

F1 Words in Order substituted (1.4.2015) by [Education Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), [Sch. 3 para. 1\(1\)\(a\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 4\(3\)](#), [Sch. 3 para. 1\(2\)](#)); S.R. 2015/35, art. 2(b)

F2 [1998 NI 13](#)

Power of boards to prohibit or restrict employment of children

64.—(1) If it appears to [^{F1}the Authority] that a child who is a registered pupil at a school is being employed in such manner as to be prejudicial to his health or otherwise to render him unfit to obtain the full benefit of the education provided for him, [^{F1}the Authority] may, by notice in writing served on the employer, prohibit him from employing the child or impose such restrictions on his employment of the child as appears to it to be expedient in the interests of the child.

Changes to legislation: *The Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, Cross Heading: Employment of children and young persons is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 28 June 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*

(2) A board may, by notice in writing served on the parent or employer of a child who is a registered pupil at a school, require the parent or employer to furnish to [F1the Authority] , within such time as may be specified in the notice, such information as appears to [F1the Authority] to be necessary for the purpose of enabling it to ascertain whether the child is being employed in such a manner as to render him unfit to obtain the full benefit of the education provided for him.

(3) Any person who employs a child in contravention of any prohibition or restriction imposed under paragraph (1) or who fails to comply with a notice served under paragraph (2) shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

(4) If it is made to appear to a court of summary jurisdiction on the complaint of an officer of [F1the Authority] that there is reasonable cause to believe that a child who is a registered pupil at a school is employed in contravention of a prohibition or restriction imposed under paragraph (1) in any place whether a building or not, the court may by order addressed to an officer of [F1the Authority] empower him to enter such place at any reasonable time within forty-eight hours of the making of the order and to make inquiries therein with respect to the child.

(5) Any person who obstructs an officer of [F1the Authority] in the due exercise of any powers conferred on him by or under this Article or who refuses to answer or answers falsely any inquiry authorised by or under this Article to be made shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction in respect of each offence to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(6) Proceedings under this Article may be brought by or in the name of an officer of [F1the Authority] .

F1 Words in Order substituted (1.4.2015) by [Education Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2014 \(c. 12\), Sch. 3 para. 1\(1\)\(a\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 4\(3\)](#), [Sch. 3 para. 1\(2\)](#)); S.R. 2015/35, art. 2(b)

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[View outstanding changes](#)

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):

- Sch. 18 repealed in part by [S.I. 2003/435 \(N.I.\) art. 49\(2\)](#)[Sch. 2](#)
- [art.77\(3\)](#) revoked by [S.I. 1996/2967 reg.11\(7\)](#)