EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order.)

This Order, made under Article 7(1) of the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 ("the 1989 Order"), specifies a programme of study for key stages 3 and 4 and attainment targets for key stage 3 in relation to Irish in Irish Speaking Schools.

Article 7(5) of the 1989 Order allows for an Order under Article 7(1), instead of containing the provisions to be made, to refer to provisions in a Document published by The Stationery Office and to direct that these provisions shall have effect according to the Order.

This Order accordingly refers to "Key Stages 3 and 4, Programme of Study and Attainment Targets in Irish (in Irish Speaking Schools)" and provides for the programme of study and attainment targets set out in it to have effect for all pupils at the third and fourth key stages who have followed the programme of study and attainment targets for Irish in Irish Speaking Schools as specified under the Curriculum (Programmes of Study and Attainment Targets at Key Stages 1 and 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 1996. The Order applies to all such pupils, whether or not they attend an Irish speaking post-primary school.

It further provides that any contents printed in italics in the Document, or which are not printed on a tinted background, are for illustrative purposes only and do not form part of the provisions which have effect by virtue of this Order.

This Order comes into operation on a phased basis from 1st August 1998.

Copies of the Document entitled "Key Stages 3 and 4, Programme of Study and Attainment Targets in Irish (in Irish Speaking Schools)" may be obtained from The Stationery Office Bookshop, 16 Arthur Street, Belfast BT1 4GD.