



Education Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 56

U.K.

An Act to consolidate the Education Act 1944 and certain other enactments relating to education, with amendments to give effect to recommendations of the Law Commission. [24th July 1996]

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Act to be construed with 1996 c. 57 (1.11.1996) by virtue of 1996 c. 57, **ss. 46(4)**, 48(2)
Act to be construed with 1997 c. 44 (14.6.1997) by virtue of 1997 c. 44, **s. 56(2)**; S.I. 1997/1468, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1 Pt. I**
Act to be construed with 1997 c. 59, **ss. 1-3** (31.7.1997) by virtue of 1997 c. 59, **s. 4(3)**
Act to be construed with 1998 c. 18 (11.9.1998) by virtue of 1998 c. 18, **ss. 36(6)**, 55(2)
Act to be construed with 1998 c. 31 (24.7.1998) by virtue of 1998 c. 31, **s. 142(8)(9)**
Act to be construed with specified provisions of Education Act 2002 (24.7.2002) by virtue of **Education Act 2002** (c. 32), **ss. 212(2)-(4)**, 216(1) (with **ss. 210(8)**, 214(4))
- C2** Act applied (24.7.1998) by 1998 c. 31, **ss. 20**, 145(4), **Sch. 2 para. 3**
Act applied (1.6.2001) by S.I. 2001/1507, **reg. 2**, **Sch. 2 para. 2**
- C3** Act excluded (26.5.1999) by S.I. 1999/1287, **reg. 5(2)(3)**
- C4** Act: powers transferred in part (1.7.1999) by S.I. 1999/672, art. 2, **Sch. 1**; S.I. 1999/3178, **art. 2(1)**
Act: power to delegate certain functions restricted (1.9.1999) by S.I. 1999/2242, **reg. 42(1)(5)**
Act: certain functions of a local education authority made exercisable (E.) (1.4.2002) by authorised persons by **Contracting Out (Local Education Authority Functions) (England) Order 2002** (S.I. 2002/928), art. 3, **Sch. 1**
- C5** Act modified (1.9.1999) by 1998 c. 31, **s. 126**
- C6** Act construed with 1998 c. 38, s. 145B (as inserted (1.4.2005) by **Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004** (c. 23), **ss. 4**, 73; S.I. 2005/558, art. 2, **Sch. 1**)
- C7** Act applied (1.4.2005) by **The Central Sussex College (Government) Regulations 2005** (S.I. 2005/397), **Sch. 2 para. 2**

Changes to legislation: Education Act 1996, Introductory Text is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 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

- C8** Act modified (7.4.2005) by [Education Act 2005 \(c. 18\), s. 96\(2\)](#)
- C9** Act modified (7.4.2005) by [Education Act 2005 \(c. 18\), s. 122](#)
- C10** Act Education Acts modified (temp.) (1.4.2007) by [Education and Inspections Act 2006 \(c. 40\), s. 188\(3\), Sch. 6 para. 3\(3\)](#); S.I. 2007/935, art. 5(bb)
- C11** Act modified (12.11.2009) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\), s. 264\(5\)](#)
- C12** Act modified (27.7.2010) by [Academies Act 2010 \(c. 32\), s. 17\(4\)](#)
- C13** Act modified (29.7.2010) by [Academies Act 2010 \(c. 32\), ss. 4\(6\), 19\(2\)](#); S.I. 2010/1937, art. 2, Sch. 1
- C14** Act applied (with modifications) (1.10.2010) by [The Employment and Support Allowance \(Transitional Provisions, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit\) \(Existing Awards\) Regulations 2010 \(S.I. 2010/875\), regs. 1\(2\), 16, Sch. 2](#) (which amending S.I. was revoked (27.8.2010) by S.I. 2010/1906, reg. 2)
- C15** Act applied (with modifications) (1.10.2010) by [The Employment and Support Allowance \(Transitional Provisions, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit\) \(Existing Awards\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2010 \(S.I. 2010/1907\), reg. 16\(2\)\(c\), Sch. 2](#)
- C16** Act construed as one with 2013 anaw 1 (26.4.2013 for specified purposes, 4.5.2013 in so far as not already in force) by [School Standards and Organisation \(Wales\) Act 2013 \(anaw 1\), s. 98\(1\)\(2\), 100\(4\)](#); S.I. 2013/1000, arts. 2(d), 3(b)
- C17** Act modified (1.9.2013) by [The Operation of the Local Curriculum \(Wales\) Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/1793\), reg. 4](#)
- C18** Act modified (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 100\(6\), 139\(6\)](#); S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(c)
- C19** Act modified (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 83\(7\), 139\(6\)](#); S.I. 2014/889, art. 7(a) (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2014/2270 (as amended (1.4.2015) by S.I. 2015/505)
- C20** Act: to be construed as one with this Act (5.8.2015) by virtue of [Qualifications Wales Act 2015 \(anaw 5\), ss. 57\(1\)\(2\), 60\(1\)\(c\)](#)
- C21** Act modified (25.1.2018) by [Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal \(Wales\) Act 2018 \(anaw 2\), s. 99\(6\)\(7\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

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[View outstanding changes](#)

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

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

- s. 13(2)(ba) substituted for s. 13(2)(aa)(b) by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(2\)](#)
- s. 15A(3A) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(3\)](#)
- s. 15B(3)(c) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(4\)](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2014/1012 art. 12\(1\)Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2014/863 Sch. 2 para. 4](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2014/865 Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2016/653 Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- s. 17A-17D inserted by [2009 c. 22 s. 45](#)
- s. 17B-17D applied by [2009 c. 22 s. 86\(8\)](#)
- s. 457(4)(i)-(iia) repealed by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1](#)
- s. 457(4)(iii) words repealed by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1](#)
- s. 508(4) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(7\)](#)
- s. 537AA inserted by [2008 c. 25 Sch. 1 para. 8](#)
- s. 548(7A)(7B) inserted by [2008 c. 25 Sch. 1 para. 9\(5\)](#)
- s. 578(1) words repealed by [2005 c. 18 Sch. 19 Pt. 1](#)