



Education Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 56

PART I

GENERAL

CHAPTER I

THE STATUTORY SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

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 [^{F1}(in the case of a child who is in the area of a local authority in England) or additional learning needs (in the case of a child who is in the area of a local authority in Wales)] he may have,

either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 7(b) inserted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes) by [Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal \(Wales\) Act 2018](#) (anaw 2), s. 100(3), [Sch. 1 para. 4\(2\)](#); S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, [art. 2](#)); S.I. 2021/1243, [art. 3](#) (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, [art. 2](#)); S.I. 2021/1244, [art. 3](#) (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, [art. 3](#)); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, [art. 3](#) (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, [art. 4](#); S.I. 2022/894, [art. 3](#); S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, [art. 3](#) (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, [art. 3](#) (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3

Status:

Point in time view as at 01/09/2022.

Changes to legislation:

Education Act 1996, Section 7 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 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.