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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1998 No. 1607**

**EDUCATION, ENGLAND AND WALES**

**The Education (Start of Compulsory School Age) Order 1998**

*Made* - - - - - *1st July 1998*  
*Laid before Parliament* *7th July 1998*  
*Coming into force* - - *1st August 1998*

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Secretary of State by section 8(4)(a) of the Education Act 1996<sup>(1)</sup>, the Secretary of State for Education and Employment, as respects England, and the Secretary of State for Wales, as respects Wales, hereby make the following Order:—

1. This Order may be cited as the Education (Start of Compulsory School Age) Order 1998 and shall come into force on 1st August 1998.
2. For the purposes of section 8(2) of the Education Act 1996—
  - (a) 31st August and 31st December shall be prescribed days for 1998 and successive years; and
  - (b) 31st March shall be a prescribed day for 1999 and successive years.

24th June 1998

*Estelle Morris*  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,  
Department for Education and Employment

1st July 1998

*Peter Hain*  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the  
Welsh Office

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(1) 1996 c. 56; section 8 is amended by the Education Act 1997 (c. 44) section 52(1) to (3), which will come into force on 1st August 1998 (see S.I.1998/386 (c.9)).

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

Section 8(2) and (4) of the Education Act 1996 (as amended by the Education Act 1997) provides for days in the year to be prescribed. These days will determine when a child begins to be of compulsory school age.

The days prescribed are 31st August, 31st December and 31st March starting with 31st August 1998.