

**1999 No. 2214**

**EDUCATION, ENGLAND**

**The Education (National Curriculum) (Modern Foreign Languages) (Amendment) Order 1999**

*Made - - - - - 4th August 1999*

*Laid before Parliament 10th August 1999*

*Coming into force 1st September 1999*

In exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 354(2)(c) and 568(5) of the Education Act 1996<sup>(a)</sup>, the Secretary of State for Education and Employment hereby makes the following Order:

1. This Order may be cited as the Education (National Curriculum) (Modern Foreign Languages) (Amendment) Order 1999 and shall come into force on 1st September 1999.

2. The Education (National Curriculum) (Modern Foreign Languages) Order 1991<sup>(b)</sup> is amended as respects England by the insertion in the Schedule to that Order of the entry “Irish” after “Hindi”.

4th August 1999

*Jacqui Smith*  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,  
Department for Education and Employment

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<sup>(a)</sup> 1996 c. 56. By virtue of S.I. 1999/672, the powers conferred by these sections are exercisable by the Secretary of State only in relation to England.

<sup>(b)</sup> S.I. 1991/2567.

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

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

Section 354(2) of the Education Act 1996 provides that a modern foreign language specified in an Order made by the Secretary of State shall be one of the foundation subjects which comprise the National Curriculum. Such a language is to be studied by pupils in the third and fourth key stage, that is to say from the beginning of the school year when the majority of pupils in the class reach the age of twelve until the majority of those pupils cease to be of compulsory school age.

These languages were specified in the Education (National Curriculum) (Modern Foreign Languages) Order 1991. This Order adds Irish to the languages specified in that Order but only as respects England. It will be a foundation subject only if the school concerned also offers pupils who are required to study a modern foreign language as part of the National Curriculum the alternative of studying at least one of the official languages of the European Community as a foundation subject.

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