



Education Reform Act 1988

1988 CHAPTER 40

An Act to amend the law relating to education.

[29th July 1988]

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:—

Extent Information

- E1** Act extends primarily to England & Wales but see s. 238(3)-(6) for extensions to Scotland and Northern Ireland

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Act applied (Canterbury and York, except Channel Islands and Isle of Man) (1.8.1991) by [Diocesan Boards of Education Measure 1991 \(No. 2\), s. 7\(3\)](#); [Archbishops' Instrument 1991 No. 1](#) (made 26.7.1991)
Act modified (1.4.1993) by [S.I. 1993/563, art.2](#)
Act applied (1.6.2001) by [S.I. 2001/1507, reg. 2, Sch. 2 art. 2](#)
- C2** Power to amend Act conferred (1.2.1999) by [School Standards and Framework Act 1998 \(c. 31\), s. 137\(2\)](#) (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); [S.I. 1999/120, art. 2, Sch. 1](#) (with art. 3)
- C3** Act (except ss. 197, 199, 209, 226, Sch. 8, Sch. 11): powers transferred (1.7.1999) by [S.I. 1999/672, art. 2, Sch. 1](#)
- C4** Act: for any reference to the Education Assets Board there is substituted (1.10.1998) a reference to the Education Transfer Council by virtue of [School Standards and Framework Act 1998 \(c. 31\), s. 136](#); [S.I. 1998/2212, art. 2\(1\), Sch. 1 Pt. I](#)
- C5** Act applied (E.W.) (1.4.2005) by [Central Sussex College \(Government\) Regulations 2005 \(S.I. 2005/397\), Sch. 2 para. 2](#)
- C6** Act modified (7.4.2005) by [Education Act 2005 \(c. 18\), s. 96\(2\)](#)
- C7** 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\(bb\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

Education Reform Act 1988, Introductory Text is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 05 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.

[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. 120(4A) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 5\(2\)](#)
- s. 124A(9A)(9B) inserted by [2022 asc 1 s. 137\(3\)](#)
- s. 125(8)(9) inserted by [2022 asc 1 s. 138\(2\)](#)
- s. 128(1)(b)(iib) omitted by [2011 c. 21 Sch. 16 para. 8](#)
- s. 128(1)(b)(iia) omitted by [2015 c. 20 Sch. 14 para. 35](#)
- s. 128(1A)-(1C) inserted by [2022 asc 1 s. 139\(3\)](#)
- s. 128(7)-(10) inserted by [2022 asc 1 s. 139\(6\)](#)
- s. 232(4ZA)-(4ZC) inserted by [2022 asc 1 s. 138\(3\)\(b\)](#)