



# Education Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 56

### PART V

#### THE CURRICULUM

#### CHAPTER I

##### PRELIMINARY

#### **350 Meaning of “maintained school” etc. in Part V**

- (1) In this Part “maintained school” means—
  - (a) any county or voluntary school,
  - (b) except where otherwise stated, any maintained special school which is not established in a hospital, and
  - (c) except so far as that expression has effect in relation to a local education authority, any grant-maintained school.
- (2) In this Part “assess” includes examine and test, and related expressions shall be construed accordingly.

#### **351 General duties in respect of the curriculum**

- (1) The curriculum for a school satisfies the requirements of this section if it is a balanced and broadly based curriculum which—
  - (a) promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and
  - (b) prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- (2) The Secretary of State shall exercise his functions with a view to securing that the curriculum for every maintained school satisfies the requirements of this section.

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (3) Every local education authority shall exercise their functions with a view to securing that the curriculum for every maintained school which they maintain satisfies the requirements of this section.
- (4) The governing body and head teacher of every maintained school shall exercise their functions with a view to securing that the curriculum for the school satisfies the requirements of this section.
- (5) The functions referred to in subsections (2) to (4) include in particular functions conferred by this Part in relation to religious education, religious worship and the National Curriculum.

### **352 Basic curriculum for every maintained school**

- (1) The curriculum for every maintained school shall comprise a basic curriculum which includes—
  - (a) provision for religious education for all registered pupils at the school (in accordance with such of the provisions of sections 376 to 381 as apply in relation to the school),
  - (b) a curriculum for all registered pupils at the school of compulsory school age (known as “the National Curriculum”) which meets the requirements of section 353,
  - (c) in the case of a secondary school, provision for sex education for all registered pupils at the school, and
  - (d) in the case of a special school, provision for sex education for all registered pupils at the school who are provided with secondary education.
- (2) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply in the case of a maintained special school (provision as to religious education in special schools being made by regulations under section 342(6)).
- (3) In this Act “sex education” includes education about—
  - (a) Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and Human Immunodeficiency Virus, and
  - (b) any other sexually transmitted disease.