



Education Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 56

PART X

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

CHAPTER III

OTHER PROVISIONS ABOUT SCHOOLS

[^{F1}Costs of school uniforms

[^{F1}551A Guidance about the costs of school uniforms: England

- (1) The Secretary of State must issue guidance to the appropriate authorities of relevant schools in England about the costs aspects of school uniform policies.
- (2) In this section “costs aspects of school uniform policies” means any aspects of school uniform policies that the Secretary of State considers relevant to the costs of school uniforms.
- (3) The appropriate authority of a relevant school must have regard to guidance issued under this section when developing and implementing a school uniform policy for the school.
- (4) The Secretary of State may from time to time revise guidance issued under this section.
- (5) In this section “relevant school” means—
 - (a) an Academy school;
 - (b) an alternative provision Academy;
 - (c) a maintained school (within the meaning given by section 437(8));
 - (d) a non-maintained special school (within the meaning given by section 337A);
 - (e) a pupil referral unit not established in a hospital.

Changes to legislation: Education Act 1996, Section 551A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 May 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. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- (6) In this section “the appropriate authority” means—
- (a) in relation to an Academy school, an alternative provision Academy or a non-maintained special school, the proprietor;
 - (b) in relation to a maintained school, the governing body;
 - (c) in relation to a pupil referral unit, the local authority.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 551A and cross-heading inserted (29.6.2021) by [Education \(Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms\) Act 2021 \(c. 20\), ss. 1, 2\(2\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

Education Act 1996, Section 551A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 25 May 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.

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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. 13(2)(ba) substituted for s. 13(2)(aa)(b) by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(2\)](#)
- s. 15A(3A) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(3\)](#)
- s. 15B(3)(c) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(4\)](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2014/1012 art. 12\(1\)Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2014/863 Sch. 2 para. 4](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2014/865 Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- s. 17A functions made exercisable concurrently by [S.I. 2016/653 Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- s. 17A-17D inserted by [2009 c. 22 s. 45](#)
- s. 17B-17D applied by [2009 c. 22 s. 86\(8\)](#)
- s. 457(4)(i)-(iia) repealed by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1](#)
- s. 457(4)(iii) words repealed by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1](#)
- s. 508(4) inserted by [2022 asc 1 Sch. 4 para. 8\(7\)](#)
- s. 537AA inserted by [2008 c. 25 Sch. 1 para. 8](#)
- s. 548(7A)(7B) inserted by [2008 c. 25 Sch. 1 para. 9\(5\)](#)
- s. 578(1) words repealed by [2005 c. 18 Sch. 19 Pt. 1](#)