



Education Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 32

PART 3

MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

CHAPTER 1

GOVERNMENT OF MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

[^{F1}23A Parent councils

- (1) A school is for the purposes of this section a “qualifying school” if—
 - (a) it is a foundation or foundation special school in England,
 - (b) it has a foundation established otherwise than under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, and
 - (c) the instrument of government for the school provides that the majority of governors are to be foundation governors.
- (2) The governing body of any qualifying school must establish in accordance with regulations a body to be known as a parent council.
- (3) The purpose of a parent council is to advise the governing body on matters relating to the conduct of the school and the exercise by the governing body of their powers under section 27.
- (4) Regulations may make provision as to—
 - (a) the person or persons by whom, and the manner in which, members of a parent council are to be elected or appointed,
 - (b) eligibility for election or appointment,
 - (c) the duration of membership, and
 - (d) meetings and proceedings of a parent council.
- (5) Regulations—

Changes to legislation: Education Act 2002, Section 23A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 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. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

- (a) must require the majority of members of a parent council to be parent members, and
 - (b) may enable a person who is not the parent of a registered pupil to be a member of a parent council if appointed in accordance with the regulations by the parent members.
- (6) Regulations may confer functions relating to parent councils on the governing bodies of qualifying schools.
- (7) The governing body of a qualifying school must, in exercising their functions under this section with respect to the school's parent council, have regard to any guidance given from time to time by the Secretary of State.
- (8) The reference in subsection (1)(b) to a foundation is to be read in accordance with section 21 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.
- (9) In this section “parent member”, in relation to a parent council, means a member of the council who is the parent of a registered pupil at the school.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 23A inserted (25.5.2007) by [Education and Inspections Act 2006 \(c. 40\)](#), **ss. 34**, 188(3); S.I. 2007/935, art. 7(i)

Changes to legislation:

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2003/1667 Sch. para. 1 by [S.I. 2004/571 Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2003/1667 Sch. para. 1A and 2 by [S.I. 2005/2570 art. 2](#)

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. 27(1A) inserted by [2010 c. 26 s. 4\(1\)](#)
- s. 29(2A)-(2D) inserted by [2009 c. 22 s. 260\(4\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 250 omitted (1.9.2012) by virtue of 2011 c. 21, s. 29(9)(d); S.I. 2012/1087, art. 3)
- s. 29B inserted by [2008 c. 25 s. 157](#)
- s. 8585A substituted for s. 85 by [2006 c. 40 s. 74\(1\)](#)
- s. 85A amendment to earlier affecting provision 2006 c. 40 s. 74(1) by [2011 c. 21 s. 31\(2\)](#)
- s. 85A(5) words substituted by [2009 c. 22 Sch. 12 para. 34](#)
- s. 86(1) s. 86 renumbered as s. 86(1) by [2006 c. 40 s. 74\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 86(2) inserted by [2006 c. 40 s. 74\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 88(2)-(7) inserted by [2006 c. 40 s. 74\(3\)](#)
- s. 88(7) repealed by [S.I. 2010/1080 Sch. 1 para. 45Sch. 2 Pt. 1](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). The insertion of s. 88(2)-(7) by 2006 c. 40, s 74(3) was repealed without ever being brought into force.)
- s. 142(9)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2010/1158 Sch. 2 para. 11\(10\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 210A inserted by [2008 c. 25 Sch. 1 para. 79](#)