



Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003

2003 CHAPTER 38

PART 3

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Truancy and exclusion from school

19 Parenting contracts in cases of exclusion from school or truancy

- (1) This section applies where a pupil has been excluded on disciplinary grounds from a relevant school for a fixed period or permanently.
- (2) This section also applies where a child of compulsory school age has failed to attend regularly at a relevant school at which he is a registered pupil.
- (3) A local education authority or the governing body of a relevant school may enter into a parenting contract with a parent of the pupil or child.
- (4) A parenting contract is a document which contains—
 - (a) a statement by the parent that he agrees to comply with such requirements as may be specified in the document for such period as may be so specified, and
 - (b) a statement by the local education authority or governing body that it agrees to provide support to the parent for the purpose of complying with those requirements.
- (5) The requirements mentioned in subsection (4) may include (in particular) a requirement to attend a counselling or guidance programme.
- (6) The purpose of the requirements mentioned in subsection (4)—
 - (a) in a case falling within subsection (1), is to improve the behaviour of the pupil,
 - (b) in a case falling within subsection (2), is to ensure that the child attends regularly at the relevant school at which he is a registered pupil.
- (7) A parenting contract must be signed by the parent and signed on behalf of the local education authority or governing body.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (8) A parenting contract does not create any obligations in respect of whose breach any liability arises in contract or in tort.
- (9) Local education authorities and governing bodies of relevant schools must, in carrying out their functions in relation to parenting contracts, have regard to any guidance which is issued by the appropriate person from time to time for that purpose.