

*Status: Point in time view as at 28/06/2018.*

**Changes to legislation:** Equality Act 2010, Part 2 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 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)

## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 17

#### DISABLED PUPILS: ENFORCEMENT

##### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Sch. 17: power to amend or repeal conferred (10.2.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), s. 18(2)(c) (as amended by S.I. 2011/1651, art. 12(b)); S.I. 2012/320, art. 2(g)

#### PART 2

##### TRIBUNALS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

##### *Introductory*

- 2 This Part of this Schedule applies in relation to the English Tribunal and the Welsh Tribunal.

##### Commencement Information

- II** Sch. 17 para. 2 wholly in force; Sch. 17 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 216; Sch. 17 Pt. 2 in force at 1.10.2010 by S.I. 2010/2317, art. 2(1)(9)(k)(i) (with art. 15, and subject to transitional provision in art. 7)

##### *Jurisdiction* <sup>F1</sup>— *England and Wales*

##### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Sch. 17 para. 3 cross-heading inserted (E.W.) (6.3.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), s. 9(2) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by [The Right of a Child to Make a Disability Discrimination Claim \(Schools\) \(Wales\) Order 2011](#) (S.I. 2011/1651), art. 3); S.I. 2012/320, art. 3(f)

- 3 A claim that a responsible body has contravened Chapter 1 of Part 6 because of a person's disability may be made <sup>F2</sup>—
- (a) to the English Tribunal by the person's parent or, if the person is over compulsory school age, the person;
  - (b) to the Welsh Tribunal by the person's parent.]

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### Textual Amendments

- F2** Words in Sch. 17 para. 3 substituted (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), ss. 60, 139\(6\); S.I. 2014/889, art. 7\(a\)](#) (with savings and transitional provisions in [S.I. 2014/2270](#) (as amended (1.4.2015)) by [S.I. 2015/505](#))

### Commencement Information

- I2** Sch. 17 para. 3 wholly in force; Sch. 17 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 216; Sch. 17 Pt. 2 in force at 1.10.2010 by [S.I. 2010/2317, art. 2\(1\)\(9\)\(k\)\(i\)](#) (with [art. 15](#), and subject to transitional provision in [art. 7](#))

## [<sup>F3</sup>Jurisdiction — Wales

### Textual Amendments

- F3** Sch. 17 para. 3A and cross-heading inserted (E.W.) (6.3.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), s. 9(3) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by The Right of a Child to Make a [Disability Discrimination Claim \(Schools\) \(Wales\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/1651\), art. 3](#); [S.I. 2012/320, art. 3\(f\)](#))

- 3A (1) A claim that a responsible body for a school in Wales has contravened Chapter 1 of Part 6 in relation to a person because of disability may be made to the Tribunal by that person (“the relevant person”).
- (2) But this paragraph does not apply to a claim to which paragraph 13 or 14 applies.
- (3) The relevant person's right to claim is exercisable concurrently with the right of the relevant person's parent under paragraph 3.
- (4) The exercise of rights under this paragraph is subject to provision made by regulations under paragraphs 6 and 6A.]

### *Time for bringing proceedings*

- 4 (1) Proceedings on a claim may not be brought after the end of the period of 6 months starting with the date when the conduct complained of occurred.

<sup>F4</sup>(2) .....

[<sup>F5</sup>(2A) If, in relation to proceedings or prospective proceedings on a claim under paragraph 3 or 3A, the dispute is referred for resolution in pursuance of arrangements under paragraph 6C <sup>F6</sup>... before the end of the period of 6 months mentioned in sub-paragraph (1), that period is extended by 3 months.]

- (3) The Tribunal may consider a claim which is out of time.
- (4) Sub-paragraph (3) does not apply if the Tribunal has previously decided under that sub-paragraph not to consider a claim.
- (5) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)—
- (a) if the contravention is attributable to a term in a contract, the conduct is to be treated as extending throughout the duration of the contract;
  - (b) conduct extending over a period is to be treated as occurring at the end of the period;

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- (c) failure to do something is to be treated as occurring when the person in question decided on it.
- (6) In the absence of evidence to the contrary, a person (P) is to be taken to decide on failure to do something—
- (a) when P acts inconsistently with doing it, or
  - (b) if P does not act inconsistently, on the expiry of the period in which P might reasonably have been expected to do it.

#### Textual Amendments

- F4** Sch. 17 para. 4(2) omitted (25.6.2013) by virtue of [Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 \(c. 24\)](#), [ss. 64\(14\)\(a\)](#), 103(2)
- F5** Sch. 17 para. 4(2A) inserted (E.W.) (6.3.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), s. 10(2) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by The Right of a Child to Make a [Disability Discrimination Claim \(Schools\) \(Wales\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/1651\)](#), [art. 4](#); S.I. 2012/320, [art. 3\(g\)](#))
- F6** Words in Sch. 17 para. 4(2A) omitted (25.6.2013) by virtue of [Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 \(c. 24\)](#), [ss. 64\(14\)\(b\)](#), 103(2)

#### Commencement Information

- I3** Sch. 17 para. 4 wholly in force; Sch. 17 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 216; Sch. 17 Pt. 2 in force at 1.10.2010 by [S.I. 2010/2317](#), [art. 2\(1\)\(9\)\(k\)\(i\)](#) (with [art. 15](#), and subject to transitional provision in [art. 7](#))

#### *Powers*

- 5
- (1) This paragraph applies if the Tribunal finds that the contravention has occurred.
  - (2) The Tribunal may make such order as it thinks fit.
  - (3) The power under sub-paragraph (2)—
    - (a) may, in particular, be exercised with a view to obviating or reducing the adverse effect on the person of any matter to which the claim relates;
    - (b) does not include power to order the payment of compensation.

#### Commencement Information

- I4** Sch. 17 para. 5 wholly in force; Sch. 17 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 216; Sch. 17 Pt. 2 in force at 1.10.2010 by [S.I. 2010/2317](#), [art. 2\(1\)\(9\)\(k\)\(i\)](#) (with [art. 15](#), and subject to transitional provision in [art. 7](#))

#### *Procedure*

- 6
- (1) This paragraph applies in relation to the Welsh Tribunal.
  - (2) The Welsh Ministers may by regulations make provision as to—
    - (a) the proceedings on a claim under paragraph 3 [<sup>F7</sup> or 3A];
    - (b) the making of a claim.
  - (3) The regulations may, in particular, include provision—
    - (a) as to the manner in which a claim must be made;

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- (b) for enabling functions relating to preliminary or incidental matters (including in particular a decision under paragraph 4(3) to be performed by the President or by the person occupying the chair);
  - (c) enabling hearings to be conducted in the absence of a member other than the person occupying the chair;
  - [<sup>F8</sup>(ca) for adding and substituting parties;]
  - (d) as to persons who may appear on behalf of the parties;
  - (e) for granting such rights to disclosure or inspection of documents or to further particulars as may be granted by the county court;
  - (f) requiring persons to attend to give evidence and produce documents;
  - (g) for authorising the administration of oaths to witnesses;
  - (h) for deciding claims without a hearing in prescribed circumstances;
  - (i) as to the withdrawal of claims;
  - (j) for enabling the Tribunal to stay proceedings;
  - (k) for the award of costs or expenses;
  - (l) for settling costs or expenses (and, in particular, for enabling costs to be assessed in the county court);
  - (m) for the registration and proof of decisions and orders;
  - (n) for enabling prescribed decisions to be reviewed, or prescribed orders to be varied or revoked, in such circumstances as may be decided in accordance with the regulations.
- (4) Proceedings must be held in private, except in prescribed circumstances.
- (5) The Welsh Ministers may pay such allowances for the purpose of or in connection with the attendance of persons at the Tribunal as they may decide.
- (6) Part 1 of the Arbitration Act 1996 does not apply to the proceedings, but regulations may make provision in relation to such proceedings that corresponds to a provision of that Part.
- (7) The regulations may make provision for a claim to be heard, in prescribed circumstances, with an appeal under Part 4 of the Education Act 1996 (special educational needs).
- (8) A person commits an offence by failing to comply with—
- (a) a requirement in respect of the disclosure or inspection of documents imposed by virtue of sub-paragraph (3)(e), or
  - (b) a requirement imposed by virtue of sub-paragraph (3)(f).
- (9) A person guilty of the offence is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

#### Textual Amendments

- F7** Words in [Sch. 17 para. 6\(2\)\(a\)](#) inserted (E.W.) (10.2.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), [s. 11\(2\)\(a\)](#) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by The Right of a Child to Make a [Disability Discrimination Claim \(Schools\) \(Wales\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/1651\)](#), [art. 5](#)); S.I. 2012/320, [art. 2\(d\)](#)
- F8** [Sch. 17 para. 6\(3\)\(ca\)](#) inserted (E.W.) (10.2.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), [s. 11\(2\)\(b\)](#) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by The Right of a Child to Make a [Disability Discrimination Claim \(Schools\) \(Wales\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/1651\)](#), [art. 5](#)); S.I. 2012/320, [art. 2\(d\)](#)

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### Commencement Information

- I5** Sch. 17 para. 6 wholly in force; Sch. 17 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 216; Sch. 17 para. 6(1)-(7) in force for certain purposes at 6.7.2010 by S.I. 2010/1736, art. 2, Sch.; Sch. 17 Pt. 2 in force at 1.10.2010 in so far as not already in force by S.I. 2010/2317, art. 2(1)(9)(k)(i) (with art. 15, and subject to transitional provision in art. 7)

## *<sup>F9F10</sup>Case friends — Wales*

### Textual Amendments

- F9** Sch. 17 para. 6A and cross-heading inserted (E.W.) (10.2.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), s. 12(2) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by The Right of a Child to Make a Disability Discrimination Claim (Schools) (Wales) Order 2011 (S.I. 2011/1651), art. 6; S.I. 2012/320, art. 2(e))
- F10** Sch. 17 para. 6A and cross-heading inserted (E.W.) (10.2.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), s. 12(2) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by The Right of a Child to Make a Disability Discrimination Claim (Schools) (Wales) Order 2011 (S.I. 2011/1651), art. 6; S.I. 2012/320, art. 2(e))

- 6A (1) The Welsh Ministers may by regulations provide for—
- (a) a disabled child in a local authority area in Wales to have a person to make representations on behalf of the disabled child with a view to avoiding or resolving disagreements about contraventions of Chapter 1 of Part 6; and
  - (b) a relevant person (within the meaning of paragraph 3A) to have another person to exercise the relevant person's rights under that paragraph on the relevant person's behalf.
- (2) A person exercising rights or making representations on behalf of a disabled child or a relevant person under sub-paragraph (1) is referred to in this Schedule as a “case friend”.
- (3) A case friend must—
- (a) make representations and exercise rights fairly and competently;
  - (b) have no interest adverse to that of the disabled child or relevant person;
  - (c) ensure that all steps and decisions taken by the case friend are for the benefit of the disabled child or relevant person and take account of the disabled child or relevant person's views.
- (4) Regulations made under this paragraph may (among other things)—
- (a) confer functions on the Welsh Tribunal;
  - (b) make provision about procedures in relation to case friends;
  - (c) make provision about the appointment and removal of case friends;
  - (d) specify the circumstances in which a person may or may not act as a case friend;
  - (e) specify the circumstances in which a relevant person (within the meaning of paragraph 3A) must have a case friend;
  - (f) specify further requirements in respect of the conduct of case friends.
- (5) In this paragraph and in paragraphs 6B, 6C, 6D and 6E, “local authority” has the meaning given in section 89(10).
- (6) In this paragraph and in paragraphs 6B, 6C and 6D—

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“disabled child” means any disabled person who is a pupil (or a prospective pupil) of—

- (a) a maintained school or maintained nursery school,
- (b) a pupil referral unit,
- (c) an independent school, or
- (d) a special school not maintained by a local authority;

“proprietor” has the meaning given in section 89(4);

“school” has the meanings given in section 89(5).

(7) In sub-paragraph (6)—

“independent school” has the meaning given in section 89(8);

“maintained school” has the meaning given in section 20(7) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998;

“maintained nursery school” has the meaning given in section 22(9) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998

“pupil” has the meanings given in section 89(3);

“pupil referral unit” has the meaning given in section 19 of the Education Act 1996; and

“special school” has the meaning given in section 89(9).]

### *[<sup>F11</sup> Advice and information — Wales*

#### **Textual Amendments**

**F11** Sch. 17 para. 6B and cross-heading inserted (E.W.) (6.3.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), s. 13(2) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by The Right of a Child to Make a [Disability Discrimination Claim \(Schools\) \(Wales\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/1651\)](#), [art. 7](#); S.I. 2012/320, [art. 3\(h\)](#))

- 6B (1) A local authority in Wales must arrange for any disabled child in its area and for the case friend of any such child to be provided with advice and information about matters relating to disability discrimination in schools.
- (2) In making the arrangements, the local authority must have regard to any guidance given by the Welsh Ministers.
- (3) The arrangements must comply with any provisions made in regulations by the Welsh Ministers that relate to the arrangements.
- (4) The local authority must take such steps as it considers appropriate for making the services provided under sub-paragraph (1) known to—
- (a) disabled children in its area,
  - (b) parents of disabled children in its area,
  - (c) head teachers and proprietors of schools in its area, and
  - (d) such other persons as it considers appropriate.]

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## *[<sup>F12</sup>Resolution of disputes — Wales*

### **Textual Amendments**

**F12** Sch. 17 para. 6C and cross-heading inserted (E.W.) (6.3.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), s. 14(2) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by The Right of a Child to Make a [Disability Discrimination Claim \(Schools\) \(Wales\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/1651\)](#), [art. 8](#)); S.I. 2012/320, [art. 3\(i\)](#)

- 6C (1) A local authority in Wales must make arrangements with a view to avoiding or resolving disagreements between responsible bodies and disabled children in its area about contraventions of Chapter 1 of Part 6.
- (2) The arrangements must provide for the appointment of independent persons with the functions of facilitating the avoidance or resolution of such disagreements.
- (3) In making the arrangements, the local authority must have regard to any guidance given by the Welsh Ministers.
- (4) The arrangements must comply with any provisions made in regulations by the Welsh Ministers that relate to the arrangements.
- (5) The local authority must take such steps as it considers appropriate for making the arrangements under sub-paragraph (1) known to—
- disabled children in its area,
  - parents of disabled children in its area,
  - head teachers and proprietors of schools in its area, and
  - such other persons as it considers appropriate.
- (6) The arrangements cannot affect the entitlement of any person to make a claim to the Tribunal, and the local authority must take such steps as it considers appropriate to make that fact known to disabled children, to parents of disabled children and to case friends for disabled children in its area.]

## *[<sup>F13</sup>Independent advocacy services — Wales*

### **Textual Amendments**

**F13** Sch. 17 para. 6D and cross-heading inserted (E.W.) (6.3.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), s. 15(2) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by The Right of a Child to Make a [Disability Discrimination Claim \(Schools\) \(Wales\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/1651\)](#), [art. 9](#)); S.I. 2012/320, [art. 3\(j\)](#)

- 6D (1) Every local authority in Wales must—
- make arrangements for the provision of independent advocacy services in its area;
  - refer any disabled child in its area who requests independent advocacy services to a service provider;
  - refer any person who is a case friend for a disabled child in its area and who requests independent advocacy services to a service provider.
- (2) In this paragraph “independent advocacy services” are services providing advice and assistance (by way of representation or otherwise) to a disabled child who is—

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- (a) making, or intending to make a claim that a responsible body has contravened Chapter 1 of Part 6 because of the child's disability; or
  - (b) considering whether to make such a claim; or
  - (c) taking part in or intending to take part in dispute resolution arrangements made under paragraph 6C.
- (3) In making arrangements under this paragraph, every local authority must have regard to the principle that any services provided under the arrangements must be independent of any person who is—
- (a) the subject of a claim to the Tribunal, or
  - (b) involved in investigating or adjudicating on such a claim.
- (4) The arrangements must comply with any provisions made in regulations by the Welsh Ministers that relate to the arrangements.
- (5) Every local authority in Wales must take such steps as it considers appropriate for making the arrangements under this paragraph known to—
- (a) disabled children in its area,
  - (b) parents of disabled children in its area,
  - (c) head teachers and proprietors of schools in its area, and
  - (d) such other persons as it considers appropriate.
- (6) The arrangements may include provision for payments to be made to, or in relation to, any person carrying out functions in accordance with the arrangements.
- (7) A local authority must have regard to any guidance given from time to time by the Welsh Ministers.]

*[<sup>F14</sup>Power of direction — Wales*

**Textual Amendments**

**F14** Sch. 17 para. 6E and cross-heading inserted (E.W.) (6.3.2012) by Education (Wales) Measure 2009 (nawm 5), s. 16(2) (as substituted (6.7.2011) by The Right of a Child to Make a [Disability Discrimination Claim \(Schools\) \(Wales\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/1651\)](#), **art. 10**); S.I. 2012/320, **art. 3(k)**

- 6E (1) If the Welsh Ministers are satisfied (whether on a complaint or otherwise) that a local authority—
- (a) has acted, or is proposing to act, unreasonably in the discharge of a duty imposed by or under paragraph 6B, 6C or 6D, or
  - (b) has failed to discharge a duty imposed by or under any of those paragraphs,
- they may give that local authority such directions as to the discharge of the duty as appear to them to be expedient.
- (2) A direction may be given under sub-paragraph (1) even if the performance of the duty is contingent on the opinion of the local authority.
- (3) A direction—
- (a) may be varied or revoked by the Welsh Ministers;
  - (b) may be enforced, on the application of the Welsh Ministers, by a mandatory order obtained in accordance with section 31 of the Senior Courts Act 1981.]



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