
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2003 No. 1965

The Federation of Schools (Community Schools, Community Special Schools, Voluntary Controlled Schools and Maintained Nursery Schools) (England) Regulations 2003

PART 2

ESTABLISHING OR JOINING A FEDERATION

Prescribed condition

3. A federation shall not contain more than five schools.

Prescribed cases

4.—(1) Regulations 6 to 9 apply where at least two but no more than five eligible governing bodies propose to federate in accordance with section 24 of the 2002 Act.

(2) Regulations 10 and 11 apply where it is proposed to establish an eligible school and either—

- (a) the temporary governing body wishes to federate with one or more eligible governing bodies, or
- (b) the authority or, where the school is to be a voluntary controlled school, the promoters propose that the school be a federated school.

Procedure for schools wishing to federate

5. If, before 1st September 2003, any action was taken which (had it been taken on or after that day) would to any extent have satisfied the requirements of regulations 6 to 9, those requirements are to that extent to be treated as satisfied.

6.—(1) Where an eligible governing body are considering federation, they shall first consider a report on the proposal.

(2) The report shall be specified as an item on the agenda for the meeting of which notice has been given in accordance with regulation 11(4) of the Procedure Regulations.

7.—(1) Where an eligible governing body propose that they should federate with the governing body of a federation, they shall give notice of the proposal to the governing body of the federation.

(2) Upon receipt of the notice, the governing body of the federation shall consider whether they should—

- (a) give preliminary consent to the school joining the federation (“preliminary consent”); or
- (b) determine that the school should not join the federation.

8.—(1) Where an eligible governing body decide that they should federate with one or more other eligible governing bodies and, where necessary, preliminary consent has been given, they shall jointly with the other governing body or bodies publish proposals for federation.

(2) The proposals shall contain the following—

- (a) the name or names of the governing body or bodies with which the governing body propose to federate and confirmation that that governing body, or those governing bodies, have resolved likewise to federate,
- (b) the proposed size of the governing body of the federation,
- (c) the proposed number of governors for each category of governor,
- (d) the proposed arrangements for staffing the schools within the federation,
- (e) the proposed federation date,
- (f) the identity of the admission authority or authorities for the schools within the federation,
- (g) the date, not less than 6 weeks after the publication of the proposals, by which written representations may be made to the governing body regarding the proposals and the address to which they should be sent, and
- (h) such other matters as the governing bodies consider appropriate.

(3) The governing bodies proposing to federate shall publish the proposals by sending them to—

- (a) the relevant authorities,
- (b) the head teacher of each school,
- (c) in the case of any school with a foundation—
 - (i) the foundation governors,
 - (ii) any trustees of a trust relating to the school, and
 - (iii) where the school is designated under section 69(3) of the 1998 Act as having a religious character, the appropriate diocesan authority in the case of a Church of England or Roman Catholic school, or the appropriate religious body in the case of all other such schools,
- (d) all staff paid to work at any of the schools,
- (e) every person known to them to be a parent of a registered pupil at any of the schools, and
- (f) such other persons as the governing bodies consider appropriate.

(4) A copy of the proposals shall be made available for inspection at all reasonable times at each school.

9.—(1) The governing bodies proposing to federate shall jointly consider any responses to the proposals and each governing body shall determine whether—

- (a) to proceed with the proposals for federation as published;
- (b) to proceed with the proposals for federation with such modifications as the governing body consider appropriate; or
- (c) not to proceed with the proposals for federation.

(2) The modifications referred to in paragraph (1)(b) shall not include a change in the identity of the schools proposing to federate.

(3) All the governing bodies that have determined to proceed shall jointly give notice of that fact to the relevant authority or authorities.

New schools wishing to federate

10.—(1) Where it is proposed that a new school (which will be an eligible school) should federate with one or more eligible schools or a federation, paragraph (2) or (3) applies as appropriate.

(2) Where a temporary governing body has been established, regulations 6 to 9 have effect as if references to an eligible governing body proposing to federate were references to a temporary governing body proposing to federate.

(3) Where a temporary governing body is yet to be established, regulations 6 to 9 have effect as if—

- (a) references to the governing body proposing to federate were references to the authority or, where proposals are to establish a voluntary controlled school, the promoters proposing that a new school be a federated school;
- (b) regulation 6(2) were omitted; and
- (c) in regulation 8(2)(a) for “the governing body propose to federate” there were substituted “the authority or the promoters propose that the temporary governing body of the new school should federate”.

11.—(1) Where it is proposed that two or more new schools should federate together, with or without one or more other eligible schools or other federation, the authority may make arrangements providing for the constitution of a single temporary governing body for those new schools.

(2) Where one or more of the new schools referred to in paragraph (1) is to be a voluntary controlled school, the authority shall consult the promoters—

- (a) as to whether the power given to the authority in paragraph (1) should be exercised; and
- (b) if the authority proposes to exercise it, as to the date on which the arrangements should be made.

(3) Parts 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 of the New School Regulations(1) shall apply to a temporary governing body constituted pursuant to this regulation.

(4) Schedule 1 shall apply to a temporary governing body constituted pursuant to this regulation.

Incorporation of governing bodies of federations and dissolution of former governing bodies

12.—(1) On the federation date—

- (a) the governing bodies of the federating schools or federations shall be dissolved;
- (b) the governing body of the federation shall be incorporated;
- (c) all land and property which, immediately before the federation date, was held by the governing body of a federating school or federation shall be transferred to, and by virtue of these Regulations vest in, the governing body of the federation; and
- (d) all rights and liabilities subsisting immediately before the federation date which were acquired or incurred by the governing body of a federating school or federation shall be transferred to the governing body of the federation.

(2) Section 198 of the Education Reform Act 1988(2) (which, with Schedule 10 to that Act, makes further provision in relation to transfers of property, rights and liabilities) shall apply in relation to transfers effected by this regulation as they apply in relation to transfers to which that section and Schedule apply.

(1) As these Regulations only apply to community, community special, voluntary controlled and maintained nursery schools, those provisions within the New School Regulations which apply only to voluntary aided, foundation or foundation special schools cannot apply to temporary governing bodies constituted under regulation 11. By virtue of regulation 6(c) of the Interpretation Act 1978 (c. 30) words in the singular include the plural and words in the plural include the singular.

(2) 1988 c. 40.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.
