



Education Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 56

PART I

GENERAL

CHAPTER III

[^{F1}LOCAL AUTHORITIES]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by [The Local Education Authorities and Children's Services Authorities \(Integration of Functions\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/1158\)](#), **Sch. 2 para. 7(3)** (with Sch. 2 para. 7(4)(5))

The authorities

- ^{F2}12** [^{F1}Local authorities] and their areas.

.....

Textual Amendments

- F2** S. 12 repealed (5.5.2010) by [The Local Education Authorities and Children's Services Authorities \(Integration of Functions\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/1158\)](#), arts. 1, 2, **Sch. 3 Pt. 1**

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General functions

13 General responsibility for education.

- (1) A ^{F3}[local authority] shall (so far as their powers enable them to do so) contribute towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community by securing that efficient primary education, ^{F4}[and secondary education]^{F5}and, in the case of a ^{F3}[local authority] in England, further education,] are available to meet the needs of the population of their area.
- (2) The duty imposed by subsection (1) does not extend to matters in respect of which any duty is imposed on—
- ^{F6}(a) the ^{F7}[the Secretary of State under Part 4 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009]^{F8}...]
 - ^{F9}(ba) the Commission for Tertiary Education and Research, or]
 - (c) the Office for Students.
- ^{F10}(3) The reference in subsection (1) to further education is to further education for persons—
- (none) “(a) who are over compulsory school age but under 19, or
 - (b) who are aged 19 or over ^{F11}[and for whom an EHC plan is maintained].”
- ^{F12}(4)
- ^{F13}(5)
- (6) For the purposes of subsection (1), persons who are subject to a detention order are to be regarded as part of the population of the area in which they are detained (and not any other area).]

Textual Amendments

- F3** Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by [The Local Education Authorities and Children’s Services Authorities \(Integration of Functions\) Order 2010](#) (S.I. 2010/1158), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)** (with Sch. 2 para. 7(4)(5))
- F4** Words in s. 13(1) substituted (28.7.2000 for certain purposes, otherwise 1.4.2001) by 2000 c. 21, ss. 149, 154, **Sch. 9 para. 52(2)** (with s. 150); S.I. 2001/654, art. 2(2), **Sch. Pt. II** (with art. 3); S.I. 2001/1274, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. I**
- F5** Words in s. 13(1) inserted (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009](#) (c. 22), s. 269(4), **Sch. 2 para. 2(2)**; S.I. 2010/303, art. 3, Sch. 2
- F6** S. 13(2)(a)(b) substituted (28.7.2000 for certain purposes, otherwise 1.4.2001) by 2000 c. 21, ss. 149, 154, **Sch. 9 para. 52(3)** (with s. 150); S.I. 2001/654, art. 2(2), **Sch. Pt. II** (with art. 3)
- F7** Words in s. 13(2)(a) substituted (26.5.2015) by [Deregulation Act 2015](#) (c. 20), s. 115(3)(g), **Sch. 14 para. 43**
- F8** Words in s. 13(2)(a) omitted (1.4.2006) by virtue of [The National Council for Education and Training for Wales \(Transfer of Functions to the National Assembly for Wales and Abolition\) Order 2005](#) (S.I. 2005/3238), art. 1(1), **Sch. 1 para. 32(a)** (with art. 7)
- F9** S. 13(2)(ba) substituted for s. 13(2)(aa)(b) (1.4.2026) by [Tertiary Education and Research \(Wales\) Act 2022](#) (asc 1), s. 148(2), **Sch. 4 para. 8(2)** (with s. 19); W.S.I. 2026/62, art. 2(wv)(iv)
- F10** S. 13(3)-(6) inserted (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009](#) (c. 22), s. 269(4), **Sch. 2 para. 2(3)**; S.I. 2010/303, art. 3, Sch. 2

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- F11** Words in s. 13(3)(b) substituted (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), s. 139\(6\), Sch. 3 para. 3\(2\)](#); [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](#)))
- F12** S. 13(4) omitted (1.9.2014) by virtue of [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), s. 139\(6\), Sch. 3 para. 3\(3\)](#); [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](#)))
- F13** S. 13(5) omitted (1.9.2014) by virtue of [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), s. 139\(6\), Sch. 3 para. 3\(3\)](#); [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](#)))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** [S. 13](#) modified (prosp.) by [Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 \(c. 41\), ss. 36, 162](#) (with [s. 159](#))
- C2** [S. 13](#) modified (temp.) (1.8.2024) by [The Tertiary Education and Research \(Wales\) Act 2022 \(Commencement No. 4 and Transitory and Transitional Provisions\) Order 2024 \(S.I. 2024/806\), art. 19](#) (with [art. 28](#))

[^{F14}13A Duty to promote high standards and fulfilment of potential

- (1) A local education authority in England must ensure that their relevant education functions and their relevant training functions are (so far as they are capable of being so exercised) exercised by the authority with a view to—
- (a) promoting high standards,
 - (b) ensuring fair access to opportunity for education and training, and
 - (c) promoting the fulfilment of learning potential by every person to whom this subsection applies.
- (2) Subsection (1) applies to the following—
- (a) persons under the age of 20;
 - (b) persons aged 20 or over [^{F15}and for whom an EHC plan is maintained].
- (3) A local education authority in Wales must ensure that their relevant education functions and their relevant training functions are (so far as they are capable of being so exercised) exercised by the authority with a view to—
- (a) promoting high standards, and
 - (b) promoting the fulfilment of learning potential by every person to whom this subsection applies.
- (4) Subsection (3) applies to persons under the age of 20.
- (5) In this section—
- “education” and “training” have the same meanings as in section 15ZA;
 - “relevant education function”, in relation to a local education authority in England, means a function relating to the provision of education for—
 - (a) persons of compulsory school age (whether at school or otherwise);
 - (b) persons (whether at school or otherwise) who are over compulsory school age and to whom subsection (1) applies;
 - (c) persons who are under compulsory school age and are registered as pupils at schools maintained by the authority;
 - “relevant education function”, in relation to a local education authority in Wales, means a function relating to the provision of education for—

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- (a) persons of compulsory school age (whether at school or otherwise);
 - (b) persons (whether at school or otherwise) who are over compulsory school age but under the age of 20;
 - (c) persons who are under compulsory school age and are registered as pupils at schools maintained by the authority;
- “relevant training function” means a function relating to the provision of training.]

Textual Amendments

- F14** S. 13A substituted (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 269(4), [Sch. 2 para. 3](#); S.I. 2010/303, art. 3, Sch. 2
- F15** Words in s. 13A(2)(b) substituted (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), s. 139(6), [Sch. 3 para. 4](#); 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))

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C3** S. 13A functions made exercisable concurrently (23.12.2016) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(Functions and Amendment\) Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/1267\)](#), arts. 1(2), [12\(1\)\(b\)\(2\)\(3\)](#)
- C4** S. 13A functions made exercisable concurrently (2.11.2018) by [The Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland Combined Authority \(Establishment and Functions\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/1133\)](#), arts. 1, [18](#) (with art. 28)
- C5** S. 13A: functions made exercisable concurrently (28.7.2020) by [The Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority \(Functions and Amendment\) Order 2020 \(S.I. 2020/806\)](#), arts. 1, [5\(1\)\(2\)\(b\)\(3\)-\(5\)](#)
- C6** S. 13A: functions made exercisable concurrently (30.1.2021) by [The West Yorkshire Combined Authority \(Election of Mayor and Functions\) Order 2021 \(S.I. 2021/112\)](#), arts. 1(2), [5\(1\)-\(5\)](#)
- C7** S. 13A: functions made exercisable concurrently (7.5.2024) by [The North East Mayoral Combined Authority \(Establishment and Functions\) Order 2024 \(S.I. 2024/402\)](#), arts. 1(3), [33](#) (with art. 9)

14 Functions in respect of provision of primary and secondary schools.

- (1) A [^{F3}local authority] shall secure that sufficient schools for providing—
- (a) primary education, and
 - (b) education that is secondary education by virtue of section 2(2)(a),
- are available for their area.
- (2) The schools available for an area shall not be regarded as sufficient for the purposes of subsection (1) unless they are sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education.
- (3) In subsection (2) “appropriate education” means education which offers such variety of instruction and training as may be desirable in view of—
- (a) the pupils’ different ages, abilities and aptitudes, and
 - (b) the different periods for which they may be expected to remain at school,
- including practical instruction and training appropriate to their different needs.
- [^{F16}(3A) A [^{F3}local authority] in England shall exercise their functions under this section with a view to—
- (a) securing diversity in the provision of schools, and
 - (b) increasing opportunities for parental choice.]

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- (4) A [^{F3}local authority] is not by virtue of subsection (1)(a) under any duty in respect of children under [^{F17}compulsory school age].
- [^{F18}(4A) A [^{F3}local authority] for an area in Wales may secure that regional schools for providing—
- (a) primary education, and
 - (b) education that is secondary education by virtue of section 2(2)(a),
- are available for Wales or any part of Wales that includes the area of the authority.
- (4B) For this purpose a “regional school”, in relation to a [^{F3}local authority], is a school maintained by that authority which provides education to meet both—
- (a) the needs of pupils with particular [^{F19}special educational needs][^{F19}additional learning needs] in their area, and
 - (b) the needs of such pupils in the rest, or any other part, of Wales,
- whether or not the institution also provides education suitable to the requirements of other pupils.]
- ^{F20}(5)
- (6) In exercising their functions under this section, a [^{F3}local authority] shall in particular have regard to—
- (a) the need for securing that primary and secondary education are provided in separate schools;
 - (b) the need for securing that special educational provision is made for pupils who have special educational needs [^{F21}(in the case of a local authority in England) or the need for securing that additional learning provision is made for pupils who have additional learning needs (in the case of a local authority in Wales)]; and
 - (c) the expediency of securing the provision of boarding accommodation (in boarding schools or otherwise) for pupils for whom education as boarders is considered by their parents and the authority to be desirable.
- (7) The duty imposed by subsection (6)(a) does not apply in relation to middle schools or special schools.

Textual Amendments

- F3** Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by [The Local Education Authorities and Children's Services Authorities \(Integration of Functions\) Order 2010](#) (S.I. 2010/1158), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)** (with [Sch. 2 para. 7\(4\)\(5\)](#))
- F16** S. 14(3A) inserted (25.5.2007) by [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#) (c. 40), **ss. 2**, 188(3); S.I. 2007/935, art. 7(a)
- F17** Words in s. 14(4) substituted (1.8.1998) by 1997 c. 44, s. 57(1), **Sch. 7 para. 12**; S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. III**
- F18** S. 14(4A)(4B) inserted (19.12.2002) by [Education Act 2002](#) (c. 32), **ss. 194(1)**, 216(3) (with [ss. 210\(8\)](#), 214(4)); S.I. 2002/3185, arts. 2, 4, [Sch. Pt. 1](#)
- F19** Words in s. 14(4B) substituted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by [Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal \(Wales\) Act 2018](#) (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(3)(a)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1243, art. 3 (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1244, art. 3 (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 3); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, art. 3 (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3

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- (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, arts. 2, 4; S.I. 2022/894, art. 3; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, art. 3 (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, art. 3 (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F20** S. 14(5) repealed (1.9.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1)(3), Sch. 30 para. 62, **Sch.31** (with 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)
- F21** Words in s. 14(6)(b) inserted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by **Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018** (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(3)(b)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1243, art. 3 (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1244, art. 3 (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 3); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, art. 3 (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, arts. 2, 4; S.I. 2022/894, art. 3; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, art. 3 (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, art. 3 (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3

[^{F22}14A Duty of [^{F3}local authority] to consider parental representations

- (1) Where a [^{F3}local authority] in England receive any representation from a parent of a qualifying child as to the exercise by the authority of their functions under section 14, the authority shall—
 - (a) consider the representation and what action (if any) to take in response to it, and
 - (b) within a reasonable time provide the parent with a statement setting out—
 - (i) any action which the authority propose to take in response to the representation, or
 - (ii) where the authority are of the opinion that no such action is necessary, their reasons for being of that opinion.
- (2) In subsection (1) “qualifying child”, in relation to a [^{F3}local authority], means any child in the authority's area who is of or under compulsory school age.
- (3) Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to any representation which—
 - (a) appears to the [^{F3}local authority] to be frivolous or vexatious, or
 - (b) is the same as, or similar to, a representation previously received by the authority from the same person.
- (4) In exercising their functions under this section, a [^{F3}local authority] must have regard to any guidance given from time to time by the Secretary of State.]

Textual Amendments

- F3** Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by **The Local Education Authorities and Children's Services Authorities (Integration of Functions) Order 2010** (S.I. 2010/1158), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)** (with Sch. 2 para. 7(4)(5))
- F22** S. 14A inserted (25.5.2007) by **Education and Inspections Act 2006** (c. 40), **ss. 3, 188(3)**; S.I. 2007/935, art. 7(a)

^{F23}15 Functions in respect of provision of further education.

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Textual Amendments

F23 S. 15 repealed (28.7.2000 for certain purposes otherwise 1.4.2001) by 2000 c. 21, ss. 149, 153, 154, Sch. 9 para. 53, **Sch. 11** (with s. 150); S.I. 2001/654, art. 2(2), **Sch. Pt. II** (with art. 3); S.I. 2001/1274, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. I**

[^{F24}**15ZA Duty in respect of education and training for persons over compulsory school age: England**

- (1) A [^{F25}relevant authority] must secure that enough suitable education and training is provided to meet the reasonable needs of—
 - (a) persons in their area who are over compulsory school age but under 19, and
 - (b) persons in their area who are aged 19 or over [^{F26}and for whom an EHC plan is maintained].
- (2) A [^{F27}relevant authority] may comply with subsection (1) by securing the provision of education or training outside as well as within their area.
- (3) In deciding for the purposes of subsection (1) whether education or training is suitable to meet persons' reasonable needs, a [^{F28}relevant authority] must (in particular) have regard to—
 - (a) the persons' ages, abilities and aptitudes;
 - (b) any learning difficulties [^{F29}or disabilities] the persons may have;
 - (c) the quality of the education or training;
 - (d) the locations and times at which the education or training is provided.
- (4) In performing the duty imposed by subsection (1) a [^{F30}relevant authority] must—
 - (a) act with a view to encouraging diversity in the education and training available to persons;
 - (b) act with a view to increasing opportunities for persons to exercise choice;
 - (c) act with a view to enabling persons to whom Part 1 of the Education and Skills Act 2008 applies to fulfil the duty imposed by section 2 of that Act;
 - (d) take account of education and training whose provision the authority think might reasonably be secured by other persons.
- (5) A [^{F31}relevant authority] must, in—
 - (a) making any determination as to the provision of apprenticeship training that should be secured under subsection (1), or
 - (b) securing the provision of any apprenticeship training under that subsection,co-operate with [^{F32}the Secretary of State].
- (6) For the purposes of this section a person has a learning difficulty [^{F33}or disability] if—
 - (a) the person has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of persons of the same age, or
 - (b) the person has a disability which either prevents or hinders the person from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided by institutions providing education or training for persons who are over compulsory school age.
- (7) But a person is not to be taken to have a learning difficulty [^{F34}or disability] solely because the language (or form of language) in which the person is or will be taught

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is different from a language (or form of language) which has at any time been spoken in the person's home.

(8) In this section—

“apprenticeship training” means training provided in connection with—

(aa) [^{F35}an approved English apprenticeship agreement (within the meaning given in section A1(3) of that Act),]

(a) an apprenticeship agreement (within the meaning given in section 32 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009),

(b) any other contract of employment, ^{F36}...

(c) any other kind of working in relation to which alternative English completion conditions apply under section 1(5) of that Act (meaning of “completing an English apprenticeship”);

(d) [^{F37}an alternative English apprenticeship (within the meaning given in section A1(4) of that Act);]

“education” includes full-time and part-time education;

“training” includes—

(a) full-time and part-time training;

(b) vocational, social, physical and recreational training;

(c) apprenticeship training.

[^{F38}(9) The duty in subsection (1) does not apply in relation to persons in a [^{F39}relevant authority]'s area who are subject to a detention order.]

Textual Amendments

- F24** Ss. 15ZA, 15ZB inserted (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009](#) (c. 22), **ss. 41**, 269(4); S.I. 2010/303, art. 3, Sch. 2
- F25** Words in s. 15ZA(1) substituted (29.4.2026) by [English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026](#) (c. 23), s. 108(1)(3), **Sch. 13 para. 15(2)** (with s. 102)
- F26** Words in s. 15ZA(1) substituted (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014](#) (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 5(2)**; 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)
- F27** Words in s. 15ZA(2) substituted (29.4.2026) by [English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026](#) (c. 23), s. 108(1)(3), **Sch. 13 para. 15(3)(a)** (with s. 102)
- F28** Words in s. 15ZA(3) substituted (29.4.2026) by [English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026](#) (c. 23), s. 108(1)(3), **Sch. 13 para. 15(3)(b)** (with s. 102)
- F29** Words in s. 15ZA(3)(b) inserted (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014](#) (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 5(3)**; 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)
- F30** Words in s. 15ZA(4) substituted (29.4.2026) by [English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026](#) (c. 23), s. 108(1)(3), **Sch. 13 para. 15(3)(c)** (with s. 102)
- F31** Words in s. 15ZA(5) substituted (29.4.2026) by [English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026](#) (c. 23), s. 108(1)(3), **Sch. 13 para. 15(3)(d)** (with s. 102)
- F32** Words in s. 15ZA(5) substituted (26.5.2015) by [Deregulation Act 2015](#) (c. 20), s. 115(3)(g), **Sch. 14 para. 44**
- F33** Words in s. 15ZA(6) inserted (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014](#) (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 5(4)**; 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)

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- F34** Words in s. 15ZA(7) inserted (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), s. 139\(6\), Sch. 3 para. 5\(4\)](#); [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](#)))
- F35** Words in s. 15ZA(8) inserted (24.11.2015) by [The English Apprenticeships \(Consequential Amendments to Primary Legislation\) Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/1852\), arts. 1, 2\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- F36** Word in s. 15ZA(8) omitted (24.11.2015) by virtue of [The English Apprenticeships \(Consequential Amendments to Primary Legislation\) Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/1852\), arts. 1, 2\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- F37** Words in s. 15ZA(8) inserted (24.11.2015) by [The English Apprenticeships \(Consequential Amendments to Primary Legislation\) Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/1852\), arts. 1, 2\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- F38** S. 15ZA(9) substituted (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\), s. 139\(6\), Sch. 3 para. 5\(5\)](#); [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](#)))
- F39** Words in s. 15ZA(9) substituted (29.4.2026) by virtue of [English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 \(c. 23\), s. 108\(1\)\(3\), Sch. 13 para. 15\(3\)\(e\)](#) (with s. 102)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C8** S. 15ZA(6)(7) applied (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\), ss. 83\(4\), 269\(4\)](#); [S.I. 2010/303, art. 3, Sch. 2](#)
- C9** S. 15ZA functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2011) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/908\), arts. 1, 10, Sch. 3 para. 6](#)
- C10** S. 15ZA functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2014) by [The Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/863\), art. 1, Sch. 2 para. 4](#)
- C11** S. 15ZA functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2014) by [The Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/865\), art. 1, Sch. 2 para. 3](#) (with art. 8(4))
- C12** S. 15ZA functions made exercisable concurrently (15.4.2014) by [The Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/1012\), arts. 1, 12\(1\), Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- C13** S. 15ZA functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2016) by [The Tees Valley Combined Authority Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/449\), arts. 1\(a\), 7, Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- C14** Ss. 15ZA-15ZC functions made exercisable concurrently (17.6.2016) by [The West Midlands Combined Authority Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/653\), art. 1\(2\), Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- C15** S. 15ZA functions made exercisable concurrently (9.2.2017) by [The West of England Combined Authority Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/126\), arts. 1\(3\), 25\(1\), Sch. 5 paras. 1, 3](#)
- C16** S. 15ZA functions made exercisable (3.3.2017) by [The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/251\), arts. 1\(2\)\(b\), 10\(b\)](#)
- C17** S. 15ZA functions made exercisable concurrently (2.11.2018) by [The Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland Combined Authority \(Establishment and Functions\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/1133\), arts. 1, 18](#) (with art. 28)
- C18** S. 15ZA: functions made exercisable concurrently (7.5.2024) by [The North East Mayoral Combined Authority \(Establishment and Functions\) Order 2024 \(S.I. 2024/402\), arts. 1\(3\), 33](#) (with art. 9)

15ZB Co-operation in performance of section 15ZA duty

[^{F40}Relevant authorities] must co-operate with each other in performing their duties under section 15ZA(1).]

Textual Amendments

- F24** Ss. 15ZA, 15ZB inserted (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\), ss. 41, 269\(4\)](#); [S.I. 2010/303, art. 3, Sch. 2](#)

Changes to legislation: Education Act 1996, Chapter III is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 August 2026. 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

F40 Words in s. 15ZB substituted (29.4.2026) by [English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 \(c. 23\)](#), s. 108(1)(3), **Sch. 13 para. 16** (with s. 102)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C14** Ss. 15ZA-15ZC functions made exercisable concurrently (17.6.2016) by [The West Midlands Combined Authority Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/653\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 3 para. 3**
- C19** S. 15ZB functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2011) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/908\)](#), arts. 1, 10, **Sch. 3 para. 6**
- C20** S. 15ZB functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2014) by [The Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/865\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 2 para. 3** (with art. 8(4))
- C21** S. 15ZB functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2014) by [The Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/863\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 2 para. 4**
- C22** S. 15ZB functions made exercisable concurrently (15.4.2014) by [The Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/1012\)](#), arts. 1, 12(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3**
- C23** S. 15ZB functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2016) by [The Tees Valley Combined Authority Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/449\)](#), arts. 1(a), 7, **Sch. 2 para. 3**
- C24** S. 15ZB functions made exercisable concurrently (9.2.2017) by [The West of England Combined Authority Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/126\)](#), arts. 1(3), 25(1), **Sch. 5 paras. 1, 3**
- C25** S. 15ZB functions made exercisable (3.3.2017) by [The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/251\)](#), arts. 1(2)(b), **10(b)**
- C26** S. 15ZB functions made exercisable concurrently (2.11.2018) by [The Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland Combined Authority \(Establishment and Functions\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/1133\)](#), arts. 1, **18** (with art. 28)
- C27** S. 15ZB: functions made exercisable concurrently (7.5.2024) by [The North East Mayoral Combined Authority \(Establishment and Functions\) Order 2024 \(S.I. 2024/402\)](#), arts. 1(3), **33** (with art. 9)

[^{F41}15ZC Encouragement of education and training for persons over compulsory school age: England

- (1) A [^{F42}relevant authority] must—
- encourage participation in education and training by persons in their area who are within section 15ZA(1)(a) or (b);
 - encourage employers to participate in the provision of education and training for such persons.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(b), participating in the provision of training includes participating by entering into—
- an apprenticeship agreement (within the meaning given in section 32 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009), ^{F43}...
 - [^{F44}(aa) an approved English apprenticeship agreement (within the meaning given in section A1(3) of that Act), or]
 - any other contract of employment in connection with which training is provided.
- (3) In this section “education” and “training” have the same meanings as in section 15ZA.]

Textual Amendments

- F41** S. 15ZC inserted (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\)](#), **ss. 42, 269(4)**; [S.I. 2010/303](#), art. 3, **Sch. 2**

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- F42** Words in s. 15ZC(1) substituted (29.4.2026) by [English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 \(c. 23\)](#), s. 108(1)(3), **Sch. 13 para. 17** (with s. 102)
- F43** Word in s. 15ZC(2)(a) omitted (24.11.2015) by virtue of [The English Apprenticeships \(Consequential Amendments to Primary Legislation\) Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/1852\)](#), arts. 1, **2(3)**
- F44** S. 15ZC(2)(aa) inserted (24.11.2015) by [The English Apprenticeships \(Consequential Amendments to Primary Legislation\) Order 2015 \(S.I. 2015/1852\)](#), arts. 1, **2(3)**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C14** Ss. 15ZA-15ZC functions made exercisable concurrently (17.6.2016) by [The West Midlands Combined Authority Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/653\)](#), art. 1(2), **Sch. 3 para. 3**
- C28** S. 15ZC functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2011) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/908\)](#), arts. 1, 10, **Sch. 3 para. 6**
- C29** S. 15ZC functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2014) by [The Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/865\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 2 para. 3** (with art. 8(4))
- C30** S. 15ZC functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2014) by [The Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/863\)](#), art. 1, **Sch. 2 para. 4**
- C31** S. 15ZC functions made exercisable concurrently (15.4.2014) by [The Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/1012\)](#), arts. 1, 12(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3**
- C32** S. 15ZC functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2016) by [The Tees Valley Combined Authority Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/449\)](#), arts. 1(a), 7, **Sch. 2 para. 3**
- C33** S. 15ZC functions made exercisable concurrently (9.2.2017) by [The West of England Combined Authority Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/126\)](#), arts. 1(3), 25(1), **Sch. 5 paras. 1, 3**
- C34** S. 15ZC functions made exercisable (3.3.2017) by [The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/251\)](#), arts. 1(2)(b), **10(b)**
- C35** S. 15ZC functions made exercisable concurrently (2.11.2018) by [The Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland Combined Authority \(Establishment and Functions\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/1133\)](#), arts. 1, **18** (with art. 28)
- C36** S. 15ZC: functions made exercisable concurrently (7.5.2024) by [The North East Mayoral Combined Authority \(Establishment and Functions\) Order 2024 \(S.I. 2024/402\)](#), arts. 1(3), **33** (with art. 9)

[^{F45}15ZD Sections 15ZA to 15ZC: duty to have regard to guidance

In performing the duties imposed by sections 15ZA(1), 15ZB and 15ZC(1)(b) (duties in relation to education and training for persons over compulsory school age), a local authority in England must have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.]

Textual Amendments

- F45** [S. 15ZD](#) inserted (1.4.2012) by [Education Act 2011 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 82(3), **Sch. 16 para. 11**; [S.I. 2012/924](#), art. 2

[^{F47}15A [^{F46}Powers in respect of education and training] for 16 to 18 year olds.

- (1) A [^{F3}local authority][^{F48}in Wales] may secure the provision for their area of full-time [^{F49}or part-time] education suitable to the requirements of persons over compulsory school age who have not attained the age of 19, including provision for persons from other areas.

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[A ^{F3}local authority] in England may secure the provision for their area of full-time or ^{F50}(1ZA) part-time education suitable to the requirements of persons from other areas who are over compulsory school age but have not attained the age of 19.]

[The power under ^{F52}subsections (1) and (1ZA)] to secure the provision of education ^{F51}(1A) includes power to secure the provision—

- (a) of training, including vocational, social, physical and recreational training, and
- (b) of organised leisure time occupation (within the meaning of section 2(6)) which is provided in connection with the provision of education or of training within paragraph (a).]

(2) Subsections (6) and (7) of section 14 shall apply in relation to functions under this section [in respect of secondary education] as they apply in relation to functions under that section.]

[^{F53}(3) In exercising their functions under this section in respect of further education]^{F54}—

- (a) a local authority in England must in particular have regard to the needs of persons with learning difficulties or disabilities (within the meaning of section 15ZA(6) and (7));
- (b) a local authority in Wales must in particular have regard to the needs of persons with [^{F55}learning difficulties (within the meaning of section 41(5) and (6) of the Learning and Skills Act 2000)] [^{F55}additional learning needs].]

[In exercising its functions under this section a local authority in Wales must also ^{F56}(3A) have regard to the Commission for Tertiary Education and Research’s strategic plan approved under section 15 of the Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Act 2022.]

(4) A [^{F3}local authority] may do anything which appears to them to be necessary or expedient for the purposes of or in connection with the exercise of their functions under this section.]

Textual Amendments

- F3** Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by [The Local Education Authorities and Children’s Services Authorities \(Integration of Functions\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/1158\)](#), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)** (with Sch. 2 para. 7(4)(5))
- F46** Words in s. 15A title substituted (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 269(4), **Sch. 2 para. 4(6)**; S.I. 2010/303, art. 3, Sch. 2
- F47** S. 15A inserted (1.9.1999) by 1998 c. 31, s. 140(1), **Sch. 30 para. 63** (with ss. 138(9), 144(6)); S.I. 1999/2323, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1** (with savings in Sch. 7 paras. 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 12)
- F48** Words in s. 15A(1) inserted (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 269(4), **Sch. 2 para. 4(2)**; S.I. 2010/303, art. 3, Sch. 2
- F49** Words in s. 15A(1) inserted (28.7.2000 for certain purposes otherwise 1.4.2001) by 2000 c. 21, ss. 149, 154(5), **Sch. 9 para. 54(2)** (with s. 150); S.I. 2001/654, art. 2(2), **Sch. Pt. II** (with art. 3); S.I. 2001/1274, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. I**
- F50** S. 15A(1ZA) inserted (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 269(4), **Sch. 2 para. 4(3)**; S.I. 2010/303, art. 3, Sch. 2
- F51** S. 15A(1A) inserted (28.7.2000 for certain purposes otherwise 1.4.2001) by 2000 c. 21, ss. 149, 154(5), **Sch. 9 para. 54(3)** (with s. 150) S.I. 2001/654, art. 2(2), **Sch. Pt. II** (with art. 3); S.I. 2001/1274, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. I**
- F52** Words in s. 15A(1A) substituted (1.4.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 269(4), **Sch. 2 para. 4(4)**; S.I. 2010/303, art. 3, Sch. 2

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- F53** S. 15A(3)(4) inserted (28.7.2000 for certain purposes otherwise 1.4.2001) by 2000 c. 21, ss. 149, 154(5), **Sch. 9 para. 54(5)** (with s. 150) S.I. 2001/654, art. 2(2), **Sch. Pt. II** (with art. 3); S.I. 2001/1274, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. I**
- F54** S. 15A(3)(a)(b) substituted for words (1.9.2014) by Children and Families Act 2014 (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 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)
- F55** Words in s. 15A(3)(b) substituted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(4)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1243, art. 3 (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1244, art. 3 (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 3); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, art. 3 (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, arts. 2, 4; S.I. 2022/894, art. 3; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, art. 3 (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, art. 3 (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F56** S. 15A(3A) inserted (1.8.2024) by Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Act 2022 (asc 1), s. 148(2), **Sch. 4 para. 8(3)** (with s. 19); S.I. 2024/806, **art. 2(k)(vi)** (with art. 28)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C37** S. 15A restricted (1.4.2001 (W.) and 1.8.2002 (E.)) by 2000 c. 21, s. 110(4) (with s. 150); S.I. 2001/1274, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. I**; S.I. 2002/279, **art. 2(3)(b)**
- C38** S. 15A functions made exercisable concurrently (23.12.2016) by The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (Functions and Amendment) Order 2016 (S.I. 2016/1267), arts. 1(2), **12(1)(c)(2)(3)**
- C39** S. 15A: functions made exercisable concurrently (28.7.2020) by The Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority (Functions and Amendment) Order 2020 (S.I. 2020/806), arts. 1, **5(1)(2)(c)(3)-(5)**
- C40** Words in s. 15A(2) inserted (28.7.2000 for certain purposes otherwise 1.4.2001) by 2000 c. 21, ss. 149, 154(5), **Sch. 9 para. 54(4)** (with s. 150); S.I. 2001/654, art. 2(2), **Sch. Pt. II** (with art. 3); S.I. 2001/1274, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. I**

[^{F57}15B Functions in respect of education for persons over 19.

- (1) A [^{F3}local authority] may secure the provision for their area of full-time or part-time education suitable to the requirements of persons who have attained the age of 19, including provision for persons from other areas.
- (2) The power under subsection (1) to secure the provision of education includes power to secure the provision—
 - (a) of training, including vocational, social, physical and recreational training, and
 - (b) of organised leisure time occupation (within the meaning of section 2(6)) which is provided in connection with the provision of education or of training within paragraph (a).
- (3) In exercising their functions under this section[^{F58}—
 - (a) a local authority in England must in particular have regard to the needs of persons with learning difficulties or disabilities (within the meaning of section 15ZA(6) and (7));
 - (b) a local authority in Wales must in particular have regard to the needs of persons with [^{F59}learning difficulties (within the meaning of section 41(5) and (6) of the Learning and Skills Act 2000)][^{F59}additional learning needs].]

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[a local authority in Wales must also have regard to the Commission for
^{F60}(c) Tertiary Education and Research’s strategic plan approved under section 15
 of the Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Act 2022.]

(4) A [^{F3}local authority] may do anything which appears to them to be necessary or
 expedient for the purposes of or in connection with the exercise of their functions
 under this section.

(5) This section does not apply to higher education.]

Textual Amendments

- F3** Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by [The Local Education Authorities and Children’s Services Authorities \(Integration of Functions\) Order 2010](#) (S.I. 2010/1158), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)** (with Sch. 2 para. 7(4)(5))
- F57** S. 15B inserted (28.7.2000 for certain purposes otherwise 1.4.2001) by 2000 c. 21, ss. 149, 154(5), **Sch. 9 para. 55** (with s. 150); S.I. 2001/654, art. 2(2), **Sch. Pt. II** (with art. 3); S.I. 2001/1274, art. 2(1), **Sch. Pt. I**
- F58** S. 15B(3)(a)(b) substituted for words (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014](#) (c. 6), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 7**; 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))
- F59** Words in s. 15B(3)(b) substituted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by [Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal \(Wales\) Act 2018](#) (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(5)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1243, art. 3 (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1244, art. 3 (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 3); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, art. 3 (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, arts. 2, 4; S.I. 2022/894, art. 3; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, art. 3 (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, art. 3 (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F60** S. 15B(3)(c) inserted (1.8.2024) by [Tertiary Education and Research \(Wales\) Act 2022](#) (asc 1), s. 148(2), **Sch. 4 para. 8(4)** (with s. 19); S.I. 2024/806, **art. 2(k)(vi)** (with art. 28)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C41** S. 15B functions made exercisable concurrently (23.12.2016) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(Functions and Amendment\) Order 2016](#) (S.I. 2016/1267), arts. 1(2), **12(1)(d)(2)(3)**
- C42** S. 15B: functions made exercisable concurrently (28.7.2020) by [The Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority \(Functions and Amendment\) Order 2020](#) (S.I. 2020/806), arts. 1, **5(1)(2)(d)(3)-(5)**

Establishment etc. of schools

16 Power to establish, maintain and assist primary and secondary schools.

- (1) For the purpose of fulfilling their functions under this Act, a [^{F3}local authority] may—
- establish primary schools and secondary schools;
 - maintain primary and secondary schools, whether established by them or not; and
 - assist any primary or secondary school which is not maintained by them.
- (2) A [^{F3}local authority] may under subsection (1) establish, maintain and assist schools outside as well as inside their area.

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- (3) A [^{F3}local authority] may not under subsection (1) establish a school to provide—
- (a) part-time education suitable to the requirements of persons of any age over compulsory school age; or
 - (b) full-time education suitable to the requirements of persons who have attained the age of 19.

[^{F61}(3A) A [^{F3}local authority] in England may not under subsection (1) establish a school which is principally concerned with the provision of full-time education suitable to the requirements of pupils who are over compulsory school age but under 19.]

Textual Amendments

- F3** Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by [The Local Education Authorities and Children's Services Authorities \(Integration of Functions\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/1158\)](#), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)** (with Sch. 2 para. 7(4)(5))
- F61** S. 16(3A) inserted (12.1.2010) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\)](#), **ss. 126(1), 269(4)**; S.I. 2009/3317, art. 2, Sch.

17 Powers in respect of [^{F62}nursery schools] .

- (1) A [^{F3}local authority] may—
- (a) establish nursery schools;
 - (b) maintain nursery schools established by them or by an authority which was a [^{F3}local authority] within the meaning of any enactment repealed by the ^{M1}Education Act 1944 or an earlier Act; and
 - (c) assist any nursery school not so established.
- (2) Section 14(4) does not affect a [^{F3}local authority]'s power under section 16(1) to establish, maintain and assist schools at which education is provided both for children under [^{F63}compulsory school age] and for older pupils (including schools at which there are nursery classes for children under [^{F63}compulsory school age]).

Textual Amendments

- F3** Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by [The Local Education Authorities and Children's Services Authorities \(Integration of Functions\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/1158\)](#), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)** (with Sch. 2 para. 7(4)(5))
- F62** Words in s. 17 heading substituted (1.9.2008 for E.) by [Childcare Act 2006 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 109(2), **Sch. 2 para. 20**; S.I. 2008/2261, art. 2 (with Sch. 1)
- F63** Words in s. 17(2) substituted (1.8.1998) by [1997 c. 44](#), s. 57(1), **Sch. 7 para.13**; S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt.III**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C43** S. 17 functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2016) by [The Tees Valley Combined Authority Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/449\)](#), arts. 1(a), 7, **Sch. 2 para. 3**
- C44** S. 17 functions made exercisable concurrently (9.2.2017) by [The West of England Combined Authority Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/126\)](#), arts. 1(3), 25(1), Sch. 5 paras. 1, 3
- C45** S. 17 functions made exercisable (3.3.2017) by [The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/251\)](#), arts. 1(2)(b), **10(b)**

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Marginal Citations

M1 1944 c. 31.

Other arrangements for provision of education

18 Power to arrange provision of education at non-maintained schools.

A [^{F3}local authority] may make arrangements for the provision of primary and secondary education for pupils at schools not maintained by them or another [^{F3}local authority].

Textual Amendments

F3 Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by [The Local Education Authorities and Children's Services Authorities \(Integration of Functions\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/1158\)](#), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)** (with [Sch. 2 para. 7\(4\)\(5\)](#))

[^{F64}18A Provision of education for persons subject to youth detention

- (1) A local authority must secure that—
 - (a) enough suitable education is provided to meet the reasonable needs of children subject to youth detention in their area;
 - (b) enough suitable education and training is provided to meet the reasonable needs of persons who are—
 - (i) over compulsory school age but under 19, and
 - (ii) subject to youth detention in their area.
- (2) In deciding for the purposes of subsection (1) whether education or training is suitable to meet persons' reasonable needs, a local authority [^{F65}in England] must (in particular) have regard to—
 - (a) the persons' ages, abilities and aptitudes;
 - (b) [^{F66}in the case of a local authority in England,] any special educational needs [^{F67}... the persons may have;
 - [^{F68}(ba) [^{F69}in the case of a local authority in England,] any learning difficulties or disabilities (within the meaning of section 15ZA(6) and (7)) the persons may have;
 - [^{F70}(bb) in the case of a local authority in Wales, [^{F71}any learning difficulties (within the meaning of section 41(5) and (6) of the Learning and Skills Act 2000)] [^{F71}any additional learning needs] the persons may have;]]
 - (c) the desirability of enabling persons to complete programmes of study or training which they have begun;
 - (d) any relevant curriculum and the desirability that education received by persons subject to youth detention should be comparable with education which they could be expected to receive if they were attending a school or institution implementing a relevant curriculum;
 - (e) the desirability of the core entitlement being satisfied in relation to persons over compulsory school age but under 19.
- (3) In subsection (2)(d), “relevant curriculum” means—

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- (a) [^{F72}in relation to a local authority in England,] the National Curriculum for England established under section 87 of the Education Act 2002 as subsisting for the time being;
- [^{F73}(b) in relation to a local authority in Wales—
 - (i) the National Curriculum for Wales established under section 108 of that Act as subsisting for the time being, or
 - (ii) any local curriculum formed by the authority under section 116A of the Education Act 2002 (formation of local curricula for pupils in Key Stage 4) or for their area under section 33A of the Learning and Skills Act 2000 (formation of local curricula for students aged 16 to 18).]
- (4) Section 17C (the core entitlement) applies for the purposes of subsection (2)(e).
- [In deciding for the purposes of subsection (1) whether education or training is suitable
^{F74}(4A) to meet persons' reasonable needs, a local authority in Wales must (in particular) have regard to—
 - (a) the persons' ages, abilities and aptitudes;
 - (b) any additional learning needs the persons may have;
 - (c) the desirability of enabling persons to complete programmes of study or training which they have begun;
 - (d) the desirability that education received by young persons subject to youth detention should be comparable with education which they could be expected to receive if they were attending a school or institution implementing a relevant curriculum;
 - (e) the desirability that education received by children subject to youth detention should—
 - (i) enable them to develop in the ways described in the four purposes,
 - (ii) offer them appropriate progression,
 - (iii) be broad and balanced, so far as is appropriate for them, and
 - (iv) provide teaching and learning that encompasses the areas of learning and experience (including the mandatory elements within those areas) and develops the cross-curricular skills.
- (4B) In subsection (4A)(d), “relevant curriculum”, in relation to a local authority in Wales, means any local curriculum formed by the authority for their area under section 33A of the Learning and Skills Act 2000 (formation of local curricula for students aged 16 to 18).
- (4C) In subsection (4A)(e), expressions that are defined in, or are given a meaning by, the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 have the same meaning as in that Act.]
- (5) Any arrangements made by a local authority under subsection (1) for the provision by another person (the “learning provider”) of education or training must require the learning provider, in making any determination as to the education or training to be provided for a particular person (“P”), to have regard to any information within subsection (6).
- (6) The information within this subsection is—
 - (a) information provided under section 562F by a local authority as to the level of P's literacy and numeracy skills;

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- (b) any other information provided under section 562F by P's home authority (within the meaning of Chapter 5A of Part 10) for the purpose of assisting a determination such as is mentioned in subsection (5).
- (7) In performing the duty imposed by subsection (1), a local authority must have regard to any guidance issued—
 - (a) in the case of a local authority in England, by the Secretary of State;
 - (b) in the case of a local authority in Wales, by the Welsh Ministers.
- (8) For the purposes of subsection (1), a person is subject to youth detention in the area of a local authority if—
 - (a) subject to a detention order, and
 - (b) detained in relevant youth accommodation in the area of the authority.]

Textual Amendments

- F64** S. 18A inserted (1.9.2010 for E. for specified purposes) by [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(c. 22\)](#), **ss. 48, 269(3)(4)** (as amended (15.1.2012) by 2011 c. 21, s. 30(7)); [S.I. 2010/303](#), art. 6, Sch. 5
- F65** Words in s. 18A(2) inserted (1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2023 for specified purposes, 1.9.2024 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by [The Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(Consequential Amendments\) \(Primary Legislation\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/744\)](#), reg. 1(3), **Sch. 2 para. 2(2)(a)(i)**
- F66** Words in s. 18A(2)(b) inserted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by [Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal \(Wales\) Act 2018 \(anaw 2\)](#), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(6)(a)**; [S.I. 2021/373](#), arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by [S.I. 2021/938](#), art. 2); [S.I. 2021/1243](#), art. 3 (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by [S.I. 2021/1428](#), art. 2); [S.I. 2021/1244](#), art. 3 (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by [S.I. 2021/1428](#), art. 3); [S.I. 2021/1245](#), arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); [S.I. 2022/891](#), art. 3 (with arts. 4-25); [S.I. 2022/892](#), arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); [S.I. 2022/893](#), arts. 2, 4; [S.I. 2022/894](#), art. 3; [S.I. 2022/895](#), arts. 3, 4; [S.I. 2022/896](#), art. 3 (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); [S.I. 2022/897](#), art. 3 (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); [S.I. 2022/898](#), arts. 2, 3
- F67** Words in s. 18A(2)(b) omitted (1.9.2014) by virtue of [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 8(a)**; [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](#)))
- F68** S. 18A(2)(ba)(bb) inserted (1.9.2014) by [Children and Families Act 2014 \(c. 6\)](#), s. 139(6), **Sch. 3 para. 8(b)**; [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](#)))
- F69** Words in s. 18A(2)(ba) omitted (1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2023 for specified purposes, 1.9.2024 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by virtue of [The Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(Consequential Amendments\) \(Primary Legislation\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/744\)](#), reg. 1(3), **Sch. 2 para. 2(2)(a)(ii)**
- F70** S. 18A(2)(bb) omitted (1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2023 for specified purposes, 1.9.2024 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by virtue of [The Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(Consequential Amendments\) \(Primary Legislation\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/744\)](#), reg. 1(3), **Sch. 2 para. 2(2)(a)(iii)**
- F71** Words in s. 18A(2)(bb) substituted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by [Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal \(Wales\) Act 2018 \(anaw 2\)](#), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(6)(b)**; [S.I. 2021/373](#), arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by [S.I. 2021/938](#), art. 2); [S.I. 2021/1243](#), art. 3 (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by [S.I. 2021/1428](#), art. 2); [S.I. 2021/1244](#), art. 3 (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by [S.I. 2021/1428](#), art. 3); [S.I. 2021/1245](#), arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); [S.I. 2022/891](#), art. 3 (with arts. 4-25); [S.I. 2022/892](#), arts. 2, 3

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- (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, arts. 2, 4; S.I. 2022/894, art. 3; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, art. 3 (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, art. 3 (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F72** Words in s. 18A(3)(a) omitted (1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2023 for specified purposes, 1.9.2024 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by virtue of [The Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(Consequential Amendments\) \(Primary Legislation\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/744\)](#), reg. 1(3), [Sch. 2 para. 2\(2\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- F73** S. 18A(3)(b) omitted (1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2023 for specified purposes, 1.9.2024 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by virtue of [The Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(Consequential Amendments\) \(Primary Legislation\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/744\)](#), reg. 1(3), [Sch. 2 para. 2\(2\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)
- F74** S. 18A(4A)-(4C) inserted (1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2023 for specified purposes, 1.9.2024 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by [The Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(Consequential Amendments\) \(Primary Legislation\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/744\)](#), reg. 1(3), [Sch. 2 para. 2\(2\)\(c\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C46** S. 18A(1)(b) functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2011) by [The Greater Manchester Combined Authority Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/908\)](#), arts. 1, 10, [Sch. 3 para. 6](#)
- C47** S. 18A(1)(b) functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2014) by [The Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/863\)](#), art. 1, [Sch. 2 para. 4](#)
- C48** S. 18A(1)(b) functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2014) by [The Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/865\)](#), art. 1, [Sch. 2 para. 3](#) (with art. 8(4))
- C49** S. 18A(1)(b) functions made exercisable concurrently (15.4.2014) by [The Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland Combined Authority Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/1012\)](#), arts. 1, 12(1), [Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- C50** S. 18A(1)(b) functions made exercisable concurrently (1.4.2016) by [The Tees Valley Combined Authority Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/449\)](#), arts. 1(a), 7, [Sch. 2 para. 3](#)
- C51** S. 18A(1)(b) functions made exercisable concurrently (17.6.2016) by [The West Midlands Combined Authority Order 2016 \(S.I. 2016/653\)](#), art. 1(2), [Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- C52** S. 18A(1)(b) functions made exercisable concurrently (9.2.2017) by [The West of England Combined Authority Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/126\)](#), arts. 1(3), 25(1), [Sch. 5 paras. 1, 3](#)
- C53** S. 18A(1)(b) functions made exercisable (3.3.2017) by [The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 \(S.I. 2017/251\)](#), arts. 1(2)(b), [10\(b\)](#)
- C54** S. 18A(1)(b) functions made exercisable concurrently (2.11.2018) by [The Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside and Northumberland Combined Authority \(Establishment and Functions\) Order 2018 \(S.I. 2018/1133\)](#), arts. 1, [18](#) (with art. 28)
- C55** S. 18A(1)(b): functions made exercisable concurrently (7.5.2024) by [The North East Mayoral Combined Authority \(Establishment and Functions\) Order 2024 \(S.I. 2024/402\)](#), arts. 1(3), [33](#) (with art. 9)

19 Exceptional provision of education in pupil referral units or elsewhere [^{F75}: England]

- (1) Each [^{F3}local authority][^{F76}in England] shall make arrangements for the provision of suitable ^{F77} . . . education at school or otherwise than at school for those children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless such arrangements are made for them.

[^{F78}(1A) ^{F79}... Subsection (1) does not apply in the case of a child—

- (a) who will cease to be of compulsory school age within the next six weeks, and

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(b) does not have any relevant examinations to complete.

In paragraph (b) “relevant examinations” means any public examinations or other assessments for which the child has been entered.]

^{F80}(2)

^{F80}[^{F81}(2A)

(2B) Any school established in England (whether before or after the commencement of this Act) and maintained by a [^{F3}local authority][^{F82}in England] which—

(a) is specially organised to provide education for such children, and

(b) is not a community or foundation school, a community or foundation special school, or a maintained nursery school,

shall be known as a “pupil referral unit”.]

(3) A [^{F3}local authority][^{F83}in England] may secure the provision of boarding accommodation at any pupil referral unit.

[^{F84}[^{F85}(3A) ^{F86}... The education to be provided for a child in pursuance of arrangements made by a local authority under subsection (1) shall be—

(a) full-time education, or

(b) in the case of a child within subsection (3AA), education on such part-time basis as the authority consider to be in the child's best interests.

(3AA) A child is within this subsection if the local authority consider that, for reasons which relate to the physical or mental health of the child, it would not be in the child's best interests for full-time education to be provided for the child.]

(3B) [^{F87}Regulations may provide that the education to be provided for a child in pursuance of arrangements made by a local authority in England under subsection (1)] must be provided from a day that, in relation to the pupil concerned, is determined in accordance with [^{F88}the regulations] .]

(4) A [^{F3}local authority][^{F89}in England] may make arrangements for the provision of suitable ^{F77} . . . education otherwise than at school for those young persons who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless such arrangements are made for them.

[^{F90}(4A) In determining what arrangements to make under subsection (1) or (4) in the case of any child or young person a [^{F3}local authority] shall have regard to any guidance given from time to time by the Secretary of State.]

(5) Any child for whom education is provided otherwise than at school in pursuance of this section, and any young person for whom full-time education is so provided in pursuance of this section, shall be treated for the purposes of this Act as a pupil.

[^{F91}(6) In this section—

“relevant school” means—

(a) a maintained school,

(b) an Academy,

(c) a city technology college, or

(d) a city college for the technology of the arts;

“suitable education”, in relation to a child or young person [^{F92}in the area of a local authority in England], means efficient education suitable to his age,

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ability and aptitude and to any special educational needs he may have [^{F93}and in relation to a child or young person in the area of a local authority in Wales, means efficient education suitable to the child's or young person's age, ability and aptitude and to any additional learning needs the child or young person may have] (and “suitable full-time education” is to be read accordingly).]

(7) Schedule 1 has effect in relation to pupil referral units [^{F94}maintained by a local authority in England].

Textual Amendments

- F3** Words in Act substituted (5.5.2010) by [The Local Education Authorities and Children's Services Authorities \(Integration of Functions\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/1158\)](#), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)** (with Sch. 2 para. 7(4)(5))
- F75** Word in s. 19 heading inserted (30.4.2021) by [Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(asc 4\)](#), s. 84(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3(2)** (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2022/111, regs. 1, 3)
- F76** Words in s. 19(1) inserted (30.4.2021) by [Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(asc 4\)](#), s. 84(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3(3)** (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2022/111, regs. 1, 3)
- F77** Words in s. 19(1) and (4) repealed (1.9.1998) by [1997 c. 44](#), ss. 47(2)(3), 57(4), **Sch.8**; S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. IV**
- F78** S. 19(1A) inserted (1.9.2011) by [Children, Schools and Families Act 2010 \(c. 26\)](#), ss. 3(2), 29(5) (with s. 27); S.I. 2011/1100, art. 2
- F79** Words in s. 19(1A) omitted (30.4.2021) by [Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(asc 4\)](#), s. 84(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3(4)** (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2022/111, regs. 1, 3)
- F80** S. 19(2)(2A) omitted (30.4.2021) by [Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(asc 4\)](#), s. 84(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3(5)** (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2022/111, regs. 1, 3)
- F81** S. 19(2A)(2B) inserted (2.7.2007) by [The Education Act 1996 \(Amendment of Section 19\) \(England\) Regulations 2007 \(S.I. 2007/1507\)](#), regs. 1, 2
- F82** Words in s. 19(2B) inserted (30.4.2021) by [Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(asc 4\)](#), s. 84(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3(6)** (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2022/111, regs. 1, 3)
- F83** Words in s. 19(3) inserted (30.4.2021) by [Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(asc 4\)](#), s. 84(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3(7)** (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2022/111, regs. 1, 3)
- F84** S. 19(3A)(3AA) substituted for s. 19(3A) (1.9.2011) by [Children, Schools and Families Act 2010 \(c. 26\)](#), ss. 3(3), 29(5) (with s. 27); S.I. 2011/1100, art. 2
- F85** S. 19(3A)(3B) inserted (1.9.2007) by [Education and Inspections Act 2006 \(c. 40\)](#), ss. 101(2), 188(3); S.I. 2007/1801, art. 4(g)
- F86** Words in s. 19(3A) omitted (30.4.2021) by virtue of [Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(asc 4\)](#), s. 84(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3(8)** (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2022/111, regs. 1, 3)
- F87** Words in s. 19(3B) substituted (1.9.2011) by [Children, Schools and Families Act 2010 \(c. 26\)](#), ss. 3(4)(a), 29(5) (with s. 27); S.I. 2011/1100, art. 2
- F88** Words in s. 19(3B) substituted (1.9.2011) by [Children, Schools and Families Act 2010 \(c. 26\)](#), ss. 3(4)(b), 29(5) (with s. 27); S.I. 2011/1100, art. 2
- F89** Words in s. 19(4) inserted (30.4.2021) by [Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021 \(asc 4\)](#), s. 84(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3(9)** (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2022/111, regs. 1, 3)
- F90** S. 19(4A) inserted (1.9.1998) by [1997 c. 44](#), s. 47(4); S.I. 1998/386, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. IV**
- F91** S. 19(6) substituted (1.9.2007) by [Education and Inspections Act 2006 \(c. 40\)](#), ss. 101(3), 188(3); S.I. 2007/1801, art. 4(g)
- F92** Words in s. 19(6) inserted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by [Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal \(Wales\) Act 2018 \(anaw 2\)](#), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(7)(a)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1243, art. 3 (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1244, art. 3 (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 3); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, art. 3 (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3

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- (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, arts. 2, 4; S.I. 2022/894, art. 3; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, art. 3 (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, art. 3 (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F93** Words in s. 19(6) inserted (1.9.2021 for specified purposes, 1.1.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by [Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal \(Wales\) Act 2018](#) (anaw 2), s. 100(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(7)(b)**; S.I. 2021/373, arts. 3, 4, 6, 7 (as amended by S.I. 2021/938, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1243, art. 3 (with arts. 4-23) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 2); S.I. 2021/1244, art. 3 (with arts. 4-21) (as amended by S.I. 2021/1428, art. 3); S.I. 2021/1245, arts. 3, 4 (with art. 1(4)); S.I. 2022/891, art. 3 (with arts. 4-25); S.I. 2022/892, arts. 2, 3 (with arts. 4-18); S.I. 2022/893, arts. 2, 4; S.I. 2022/894, art. 3; S.I. 2022/895, arts. 3, 4; S.I. 2022/896, art. 3 (with arts. 1(7), 4-22); S.I. 2022/897, art. 3 (with arts. 1(8), 4-21); S.I. 2022/898, arts. 2, 3
- F94** Words in s. 19(7) inserted (30.4.2021) by [Curriculum and Assessment \(Wales\) Act 2021](#) (asc 4), s. 84(1), **Sch. 2 para. 3(10)** (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2022/111, regs. 1, 3)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C56** S. 19 excluded (prosp.) by [Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002](#) (c. 41), **ss. 36(5)(c)(10)**, 162 (with s. 159)
- C57** S. 19: power to modify conferred (temp.) (25.3.2020) by [Coronavirus Act 2020](#) (c. 7), s. 87(1), **Sch. 17 para. 5** (with ss. 88-90)
- C58** S. 19(3A) modified (18.5.2012) by [The Wiltshire Council \(Arrangements for the Provision of Suitable Education\) Order 2012](#) (S.I. 2012/1107), arts. 1(2)(a), **6(2)** (with art. 5)

[^{F95}19A Exceptional provision of education in pupil referral units or elsewhere: Wales

- (1) Each local authority in Wales must make arrangements for the provision of suitable education at school or otherwise than at school for children within the authority's area who—
 - (a) are of compulsory school age, and
 - (b) by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not receive suitable education for a period unless such arrangements are made for them.
- (2) A school established (whether before or after the commencement of this Act) and maintained by a local authority in Wales which—
 - (a) is specially organised to provide education for children falling within subsection (1), and
 - (b) is not a special school,
 is to be known as a “pupil referral unit”.
- (3) A local authority in Wales may secure the provision of boarding accommodation at any pupil referral unit.
- (4) A local authority in Wales may make arrangements for the provision of suitable education otherwise than at a school for young persons within the authority's area who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not receive a suitable education for a period unless such arrangements are made for them.
- (5) In this section, “suitable education”, in relation to a child or young person means efficient education suitable to [^{F96}the child's or] the young person's age, ability and aptitude and to any additional learning needs the child or young person may have.
- (6) The following persons are to be treated as pupils for the purposes of this Act—
 - (a) any child for whom education is provided otherwise than at school under this section, and

Changes to legislation: Education Act 1996, Chapter III is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 August 2026. 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

- (b) any young person for whom full-time education is provided otherwise than at school under this section.
- (7) Schedule 1 has effect in relation to pupil referral units maintained by local authorities in Wales.]

Textual Amendments

- F95** S. 19A inserted (30.4.2021) by Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 (asc 4), s. 84(1), Sch. 2 para. 4 (with savings and transitional provisions in S.I. 2022/111, regs. 1, 3)
- F96** Words in s. 19A(5) inserted (1.9.2022 for specified purposes, 1.9.2023 for specified purposes, 1.9.2024 for specified purposes, 1.9.2025 for specified purposes) by The Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 (Consequential Amendments) (Primary Legislation) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/744), reg. 1(3), Sch. 2 para. 2(3)

^{F97}Contribution of individual schools

Textual Amendments

- F97** S. 19B and cross-heading inserted (29.6.2026) by Children’s Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026 (c. 21), ss. 61(2), 78(2)(k)

19B Schools to co-operate with local authority in securing adequate provision (England)

- (1) This section applies where it is reasonably foreseeable that decisions about a relevant school in England will affect the ability of a local authority in England to discharge its duties under section 14 or section 19(1).
- (2) The responsible body for the school must co-operate with the local authority with a view to achieving the objective in subsection (3).
- (3) The objective is that decisions about the school will result in the school contributing, so far as is reasonable, to the effective discharge by the local authority of the duties concerned.
- (4) For the purposes of subsection (1), a “relevant school” is a school within the first column of the following table, and the “responsible body” for such a school is identified in the second column—

“Relevant school”	“Responsible body”
A community school, foundation school, voluntary school, community special school or foundation special school	The governing body for the school
An Academy school or an alternative provision Academy	The proprietor of the school
A pupil referral unit for which there is a management committee (see paragraph 15 of Schedule 1)	The management committee for the unit

Changes to legislation: Education Act 1996, Chapter III is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 August 2026. 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](#)

- (5) In the application of this section to the management committee for a pupil referral unit, the reference in subsection (2) to the local authority is to be read as a reference to the local authority so far as it acts other than through the committee.]

Changes to legislation:

Education Act 1996, Chapter III is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 August 2026. 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 :

- s. 17A-17D inserted by [2009 c. 22 s. 45](#)
- s. 436U and cross-heading inserted by [2026 c. 21 s. 41](#)
- s. 447A and cross-heading inserted by [2026 c. 21 Sch. 2 para. 2\(6\)](#)
- 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. 512ZB(4D) inserted by [2026 c. 21 s. 32\(b\)](#)
- 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. 551ZA inserted by [2026 c. 21 s. 35\(3\)](#)

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. 17A-17D inserted by [2009 c. 22 s. 45](#)
- s. 436U and cross-heading inserted by [2026 c. 21 s. 41](#)
- s. 447A and cross-heading inserted by [2026 c. 21 Sch. 2 para. 2\(6\)](#)
- 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. 512ZB(4D) inserted by [2026 c. 21 s. 32\(b\)](#)
- 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. 551ZA inserted by [2026 c. 21 s. 35\(3\)](#)