



# Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003

## 2003 CHAPTER 38

### PART 3

#### PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

##### *Truancy and exclusion from school*

#### **20 Parenting orders in cases of exclusion from school**

- (1) This section applies where—
  - (a) a pupil has been excluded on disciplinary grounds from a relevant school for a fixed period or permanently, and
  - (b) such conditions as may be prescribed in regulations made by the appropriate person are satisfied.
- (2) A local education authority may apply to a magistrates' court for a parenting order in respect of a parent of the pupil.
- (3) If such an application is made, the court may make a parenting order in respect of a parent of the pupil if it is satisfied that making the order would be desirable in the interests of improving the behaviour of the pupil.
- (4) A parenting order is an order which requires the parent—
  - (a) to comply, for a period not exceeding twelve months, with such requirements as are specified in the order, and
  - (b) subject to subsection (5), to attend, for a concurrent period not exceeding three months, such counselling or guidance programme as may be specified in directions given by the responsible officer.
- (5) A parenting order under this section may, but need not, include a requirement mentioned in subsection (4)(b) in any case where a parenting order under this section or any other enactment has been made in respect of the parent on a previous occasion.

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (6) A counselling or guidance programme which a parent is required to attend by virtue of subsection (4)(b) may be or include a residential course but only if the court is satisfied that the following two conditions are fulfilled.
- (7) The first condition is that the attendance of the parent at a residential course is likely to be more effective than his attendance at a non-residential course in improving the behaviour of the pupil.
- (8) The second condition is that any interference with family life which is likely to result from the attendance of the parent at a residential course is proportionate in all the circumstances.