STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1995 No. 755 (N.I. 2)

The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995

- - - 15th March 1995

THE CHILDREN (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1995

PART I

INTRODUCTORY

- 1. Title and commencement
- 2. Interpretation

PART II

GENERAL

Child's welfare

- 3. Child's welfare to be paramount consideration
- 4. Reports on child's welfare

Parental responsibility

- 5. Parental responsibility for children
- 6. Meaning of "parental responsibility"
- 7. Acquisition of parental responsibility

PART III

ORDERS WITH RESPECT TO CHILDREN IN FAMILY PROCEEDINGS

General

- 8. Residence, contact and other orders with respect to children
- 9. Restrictions on making Article 8 orders
- 10. Power of court to make Article 8 orders
- 11. General principles and supplementary provisions
- 12. Residence orders and parental responsibility
- 12A Residence and contact orders and domestic violence
- 13. Change of child's name or removal from jurisdiction
- 14. Enforcement of residence orders

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

Financial relief

15. Orders for financial relief with respect to children

Family assistance orders

16. Family assistance orders

PART IV

SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Children in need and their families

- 17. Interpretation
- 17A Assessments and services for children who are carers
- 18. General duty of authority to provide social care for children in need, their families and others
- 18A Assessments: carers of disabled children

......

- 18C Direct payments
- 18D Information for carers
- 19. Day care for pre-school and other children
- 20. Review of provision for day care, child minding, etc.
- 21. Provision of accommodation for children: general
- 22. Powers of person with parental responsibility
- 23. Provision of accommodation for children in police protection
- 24. Recoupment of cost of providing services, etc.

Children looked after by an authority

- 25. Interpretation
- 26. General duty of authority
- 27. Accommodation and maintenance for children
- 28. Regulations under Article 27
- 29. Promotion and maintenance of contact between child and family
- 30. Visits to or by children: expenses
- 31. Appointment of visitor for child who is not being visited
- 32. Power to guarantee apprenticeship deeds, etc.
- 33. Arrangements to assist children to live abroad
- 34. Death of children being looked after by an authority
- 34A Preparation for ceasing to be looked after
- 34B The responsible authority and relevant children
- 34C Additional functions of the responsible authority in respect of relevant children
- 34D Continuing functions in respect of former relevant children
- 34E Personal advisers
- 34F Pathway Plans

Advice and assistance for certain children and young persons

- 35. Persons qualifying for advice and assistance
- 35A Advice and assistance
- 35B Employment, education and training
- 35C Information
- 35D Representations: Articles 34B to 35B

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

Arts. 36, 37 rep. by 2002 c. 11 (NI)

Contributions towards maintenance of children looked after by an authority

- 38. Interpretation
- 39. Liability to contribute
- 40. Agreed contributions
- 41. Contribution orders
- 42. Enforcement of contribution orders, etc.
- 43. Regulations

Miscellaneous

- 44. Secure accommodation
- 45. Reviews and representations
- 46. Co-operation between authorities and other bodies
- 47. Consultation with the Education Authority
- 48. Miscellaneous

PART V

CARE AND SUPERVISION

Introductory

49. Interpretation

General

- 50. Care orders and supervision orders
- 51. Timetable for proceedings

Care orders

- 52. Effect of care order
- 53. Parental contact etc. with children in care

Supervision orders

54. Supervision orders

Education supervision orders

55. Education supervision orders

Powers of court

- 56. Investigation into child's circumstances
- 57. Interim orders
- 57A Power to include exclusion requirement in interim care order
- 58. Discharge and variation, etc., of care orders and supervision orders
- 59. Orders pending appeals in cases about care or supervision orders

Children's court guardians

- 60. Representation of child and of his interests in certain proceedings
- 61. Right of children's court guardian to have access to records

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

PART VI

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

- 62. Child assessment orders
- 63. Orders for emergency protection of children
- 63A Power to include exclusion requirement in emergency protection order
- 64. Duration of emergency protection orders and other supplementary provisions
- 65. Removal and accommodation of children by police in cases of emergency
- 66. Authority's duty to investigate
- 67. Powers to assist in discovery of children who may be in need of emergency protection
- 68. Abduction of children in care, etc.
- 69. Recovery of abducted children, etc.
- 70. Refuges for children at risk
- 71. Rules of court and regulations

PART VII

HOMES PROVIDED BY AN AUTHORITY

- 72. Provision of homes by an authority
- 73. Regulations

PART VIII

VOLUNTARY HOMES AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Introductory

74. Interpretation

Voluntary organisations

- 75. Provision of accommodation for children
- 76. Duties of voluntary organisations
- 77. Duties of an authority

Voluntary homes

- 78. Persons disqualified from carrying on, or being employed in, voluntary homes
- 78A Appeal against refusal of consent under Article 78 Arts. 79#88 rep. by 2003 NI 9

Regulations

89. Regulations

PART IX

PRIVATE CHILDREN'S HOMES

Introductory

- 90. Interpretation
- 91. "Children's home" further defined

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

General

- 92. Duties of person carrying on private children's home
- 93. Duties of an authority
- 94. Persons disqualified from carrying on, or being employed in, private children's homes
- 94A Appeal against refusal of consent under Article 94

Registration

Arts. 95#104 rep. by 2003 NI 9

Regulations

105. Regulations

PART X

PRIVATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR FOSTERING CHILDREN

- 106. Interpretation
- 107. Privately fostered children further defined
- 108. Welfare of privately fostered children
- 109. Persons disqualified from being private foster parents
- 110. Power to prohibit private fostering
- 111. Power to impose requirements
- 112. Regulations requiring notification of fostering, etc.
- 113. Appeals
- 114. Application of this Part to certain school children during holidays
- 115. Advertisements relating to fostering
- 116. Avoidance of insurances on lives of privately fostered children
- 117. Offences

PART XI

CHILD MINDING AND DAY CARE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

- 118. Registration
- 119. Persons who act as child minders
- 120. Persons who provide day care for children under the age of twelve
- 121. Exemptions
- 122. Disqualified persons
- 123. Application for registration
- 124. Refusal of registration
- 125. Requirements to be complied with by child minders
- 126. Requirements to be complied with by persons providing day care for young children
- 127. Certificate of registration
- 128. Cancellation of registration
- 129. Protection of children in an emergency
- 130. Inspection
- 131. Appeals
- 132. Offences

PART XII

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

Introductor	٦,
miroaucior	V

133.	Interr	oretation
100.	TITLET	JI Ctuti OI

134. Exemptions and saving

General

- 135. General restrictions on the employment of children
- 136. Regulations with respect to the employment of children

Performances

- 137. Restrictions on taking part in public performances, etc.
- 138. Granting of licences
- 139. Variation and revocation of licences
- 140. Requirement to keep and produce records

Dangerous performances

- 141. Performances endangering life or limb
- 142. Training for performances of a dangerous nature
- 143. Licensing of training children over twelve for performances of a dangerous nature

Supplementary

- 144. Notice of refusal of licence, etc.
- 145. Appeal against refusal of licence, etc.
- 146. Powers of entry
- 147. Offences
- 148. Defences

PART XIII

DEPARTMENT'S SUPERVISORY FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 149. Inspection of children's homes, etc., by Department
- 150. Powers of persons authorised by Department
- 151. Power to exempt children's homes, etc., from inspection Art. 152 rep. by 2005 c. 12
- 153. Child care training
- 154. Research and information

PART XIV

PARENTS NOT MARRIED TO EACH OTHER

- 155. Parents not being married to, or civil partners of, each other to have no effect in law on relationships
- 156. Application of principle to certain existing statutory provisions
- 157. Property rights
- 158. Repeal of Illegitimate Children (Affiliation Orders) Act (Northern Ireland) 1924

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

PART XV

GUARDIANS

159.	App	ointm	ent by	court

- 160. Appointment by parent or guardian
- 161. Revocation of appointment by parent or guardian
- 162. Disclaimer of appointment by parent or guardian
- 163. Termination by court

PART XVI

JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURE

- 164. Jurisdiction
- 165. Rules of court
- 166. Appeals
- 167. Attendance of child and his parents, etc., at hearing under Part V or VI
- 168. Power to clear court while child is giving evidence in certain proceedings
- 169. Evidence given by, or with respect to, children
- 170. Privacy for children involved in certain proceedings
- 171. Self-incrimination
- 172. Legal aid, advice and assistance
- 173. Restrictions on use of wardship jurisdiction

PART XVII

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

Children accommodated in certain establishments

- 174. Children accommodated in hospitals
- 175. Children accommodated in certain homes and in private hospitals
- 176. Children accommodated in schools
- 177. Children not accommodated in schools

Search warrants

178. Police assistance in exercise of powers of search and inspection

Effect and duration of orders, etc.

- 179. Effect and duration of orders, etc.
- 180. The Isle of Man and the Channel Islands

Miscellaneous

- 181. Report on the operation of this Order
- 181A Delegation of functions by Lord Chief Justice
- 182. Temporary exercise of functions of authorities by Department
- 183. Regulations and orders
- 184. Transitional provisions and savings

Article 185— Amendments and Repeals

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

	SCHEDIII ES
SC	SCHEDULES CHEDULE 1 — FINANCIAL PROVISION FOR CHILDREN
1	— Interpretation
1.	(1) In this Schedule "child" includes, in any case where an application is made under
2.	 Orders for financial relief against parents (1) On an application made by a parent or guardian of a child, or by
۷.	— Orders for financial relief for persons over 18
3.	(1) If, on an application by a person who has reached the age of 18,
5.	— Duration of orders for financial relief
4.	(1) The term to be specified in an order for periodical payments made under
••	paragraph
	Matters to which court is to have regard in making orders for
	financial relief
5.	(1) In deciding whether to exercise its powers under paragraph 2 or 3, and if
	Provisions relating to lump sums
6.	(1) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph 2, an order under that
0.	paragraph for
	Variation, etc., of orders for periodical payments
7.	(1) In exercising its powers under paragraph 2 or 3 to vary or discharge an
, .	Variation of orders for periodical payments etc. made by court of
	summary jurisdiction
8.	(1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (7) and (8), the power of a court of summary
	jurisdiction—
	 Variation of orders for secured periodical payments after death of
	parent
9.	(1) Where the parent liable to make payments under a secured periodical
	payments order has
	 Financial relief under other statutory provisions
10.	(1) This paragraph applies where a residence order is made with respect to a
	child
1 1	— Interim orders
11.	(1) Where an application is made under paragraph 2 or 3 the court may, at
10	— Alteration of maintenance agreements
12.	(1) In this paragraph and in paragraph 13 "maintenance agreement" means
13.	any agreement in writing
13.	(1) Where a maintenance agreement provides for the continuation, after the death of one of
	Notice of change of address
14.	(1) Any person for the time being under an obligation to make payments in
17.	pursuance
	Direction for settlement of instrument by conveyancing counsel
15.	Where the High Court or a county court decides to make an order under
- •	this
	— Jurisdiction
16.	(1) The court has jurisdiction in relation to an application under paragraph 2

— Contribution by an authority to child's maintenance

17. (1) Where a child lives, or is to live, with a person as the result...

in respect...

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

SCHEDULE 2 —	PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR FAMILIES: SPECIFIC
	POWERS AND DUTIES

- Identification of children in need
- 1. Every authority shall take reasonable steps to identify the extent to which there are children...
 - Provision of information
- 2. (1) Every authority shall publish information— (a) about services provided by the authority under Articles...
 - Children's services plans
- 2A (1) Every Board shall, on or before 31st March 1999—...
 - Maintenance of register of disabled children
- 3. (1) Every authority shall open and maintain a register of disabled children within the authority's...
 - Assessment of children's needs
- 4. Where it appears to an authority that a child within the authority's area is in...
 - Prevention of neglect and abuse
- 5. (1) Every authority shall take reasonable steps, through the provision of services under Part IV,...
 - Provision of accommodation for another person to protect child
- 6. (1) Where—(a) it appears to an authority that a child who is living on...
 - Services for disabled children
- 7. Every authority shall provide services designed— (a) to minimise the effect on disabled children within...
 - Steps to reduce need for care proceedings, etc.
- 8. Every authority shall take reasonable steps designed— (a) to reduce the need to bring— (i)...
 - Provision for children living with their families
- 9. Every authority shall make such provision as the authority considers appropriate for the following services...
 - Family centres
- 10. (1) Every authority shall provide such family centres as the authority considers appropriate in relation...
 - Maintenance of the family home
- 11. Every authority shall take such steps as are reasonably practicable, where any child within the...
 - Duty to consider racial groups to which children in need belong
- 12. Every authority shall, in making any arrangements— (a) for the provision of day care within...

SCHEDULE 3 — SUPERVISION ORDERS

- Meaning of "responsible person"
- 1. In this Schedule, "the responsible person", in relation to a supervised child, means— (a) any...
 - Power of supervisor to give directions to supervised child
- 2. (1) A supervision order may require the supervised child to comply with any directions given...
 - Imposition of obligations on responsible person
- 3. (1) With the consent of any responsible person, a supervision order may include a requirement—...
 - Psychiatric and medical examinations
- 4. (1) A supervision order may require the supervised child— (a) to submit to a medical...

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

5.	 — Psychiatric and medical treatment (1) Where a court which proposes to make or vary a supervision order is satisfied,
6.	— Life of supervision order (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2) and Article 179 (effect and duration of orders, etc.),
7.	— Information to be given to supervisor, etc. (1) A supervision order may require the supervised child— (a) to keep the supervisor informed
8.	 — Selection of supervisor A supervision order shall not designate an authority as the supervisor unless — (a) the authority
9.	— Effect of supervision order on earlier orders The making of a supervision order with respect to any child brings to an end
10.	 Regulations The Department may make regulations with respect to the exercise by an authority of its
S	CHEDULE 4 — EDUCATION SUPERVISION ORDERS
1.	— Interpretation In this Schedule— "1986 Order" means the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 "parent"
2.	 Effect of orders (1) Where an education supervision order is in force with respect to a child,
3.	it (1) Where an education supervision order is in force with respect to a child, the
4.	— Effect where child also subject to other orders (1) This paragraph applies where— (a) an education supervision order; and (b) a supervision order,
5.	— Duration of orders (1) An education supervision order shall have effect for a period of one year, beginning
6.	— Information to be given to supervisor, etc. (1) An education supervision order may require the child— (a) to keep the supervisor informed
7.	— Discharge of orders (1) The court may discharge any education supervision order on the application of— (a) the
8.	 Offences (1) If a parent of a child with respect to whom an education supervision order
9.	 Persistent failure of child to comply with directions (1) Where a child with respect to whom an education supervision order is in force
C.	CHERLINE & DOCTOR BURENIES AND WES ON NUMBER OF FOSTER

SCHEDULE 5 — FOSTER PARENTS: LIMITS ON NUMBER OF FOSTER **CHILDREN**

- Interpretation
- For the purposes of this Schedule, a person fosters a child if— (a) he is...
 The usual fostering limit

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

- 2. Subject to what follows, a person shall not foster more than three children ("the...
 - Siblings
- 3. A person may exceed the usual fostering limit if the children concerned are all siblings...
 - Exemption by an authority
- 4. (1) A person may exceed the usual fostering limit if he is exempted from it...
 - Effects of exceeding fostering limit
- 5. (1) A person shall cease to be treated for the purposes of this Order and...
 - Complaints, etc.
- 6. (1) Every authority shall establish a procedure for considering any representations (including any complaint) made...

SCHEDULE 6 — PROPERTY RIGHTS WHERE PARENTS NOT MARRIED TO OR CIVIL PARTNERS OF EACH OTHER

- Succession on intestacy
- 1. (1) In Part II of the Administration of Estates Act (Northern Ireland) 1955 (which deals...
 - Dispositions of property
- 2. (1) In the following dispositions, namely— (a) dispositions inter vivos made after the commencement of...
 - No special protection for trustees and personal representatives
- 3. Article 6 of the Family Law Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1977 (which enables trustees and...
 - Entitlement to grant of probate, etc.
- 4. (1) For the purpose of determining the person or persons who would in accordance with...

SCHEDULE 7 — JURISDICTION

- Commencement of proceedings
- 1. (1) The Lord Chancellor may, after consultation with the Lord Chief Justice, by order...
 - Transfer of proceedings
- 2. (1) The Lord Chancellor may, after consultation with the Lord Chief Justice, by order...
 - Emergency protection orders
- 3. In such circumstances as the Lord Chancellor may, after consultation with the Lord Chief...
 - General
- 4. (1) For the purposes of this Schedule— (a) the commencement of proceedings under this Order...
 - SCHEDULE 8 Article 184(1). TRANSITIONALS AND SAVINGS Pending proceedings, etc. (1) (1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and...
 - TRANSITIONALS AND SAVINGS

Pending proceedings, etc.

1. (1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (5), nothing in any provision of this Order (other...

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

2. Where, immediately before the commencement of Part V, there was in force an order under...

— CUSTODY ORDERS, ETC.

Cessation of declarations of unfitness, etc.

3. Where, immediately before the commencement of Parts II and III, there was in force—...

Orders to which paragraphs 5 to 10 apply

4. (1) In paragraphs 5 to 10 "an existing order" means any order which— (a) is...

Parental responsibility of parents

5. (1) Where— (a) a child's father and mother were married to each other at the...

Persons who are not parents but who have custody or care and control

6. (1) Where a person who is not the parent or guardian of a child has...

Persons who have care and control

7. (1) Sub-paragraphs (2) to (6) apply where a person has care and control of a...

Persons who have access

8. (1) Sub-paragraphs (2) to (4) apply where a person has access by virtue of an...

Enforcement of certain existing orders

9. (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies in relation to any existing order which, but for the repeal...

Discharge of existing orders

10. (1) The making of a residence order or care order with respect to a child...

— CHILDREN IN CARE

Children in compulsory care

11. (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where, immediately before the commencement of Part V— (a) a person...

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

12. (1) This sub-paragraph applies to a child who has been placed or allowed to remain...

Cessation of wardship where child is in care

13. (1) Where a child who is a ward of court is in the care of...

Children placed with parent, etc., while in compulsory care

14. (1) This paragraph applies where a child is deemed by paragraph 11 to be in...

Children in voluntary care

15. (1) This paragraph applies where, immediately before the commencement of Part IV, a child—(a)...

Boarded out children

16. (1) Where, immediately before the commencement of Part IV, a child in the care of...

Children in care to qualify for advice and assistance

17. Any reference in Part IV to a person qualifying for advice and assistance shall be...

Emigration of children in care

18. Where the Head of the Department is considering whether to give his consent under section...

Contributions for maintenance of children in care

19. (1) Where, immediately before the commencement of Part IV, there was in force an order...

Supervision ordersOrders under the 1968 Act

- 20. (1) This paragraph applies to any supervision order made under the Children and Young Persons...
- 21. (1) This paragraph applies to any supervision order made under the Children and Young Persons...

Other supervision orders

 (1) This paragraph applies to any order for the supervision of a child which was...

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

Place of safety orders

23. (1) This paragraph applies to— (a) any order or warrant authorising the taking or removal...

Voluntary homes

24. (1) This paragraph applies to a voluntary home which is registered in the register kept...

Foster children

25. (1) This paragraph applies where— (a) immediately before the commencement of Part IX, a person...

Child minders

26. (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where, immediately before the commencement of Part XI, any premises are...

Guardians

Existing guardians to be guardians under this Order

27. (1) Any appointment of a person as guardian for a child which— (a) was made—...

Appointment of guardian not yet in effect

28. Any appointment of a person to be a guardian of a child—(a) which was...

Children accommodated in certain establishments

29. In calculating, for the purposes of Article 174(1)(a) or (2)(a) or Article 175(1)(a) or 177(1)(a)...

Training school orders

30. (1) This paragraph applies where, immediately before the commencement of Part V, a person was...

MiscellaneousMarriage consents

31. (1) In the circumstances mentioned in sub-paragraph (2), section 1 of, and the Schedule to,...

Changes to legislation: The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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)

Affiliation orders, etc.

32. (1) This paragraph applies to the following orders— (a) any affiliation order in force immediately...

Property rights where parents not married to each other

33. (1) In this paragraph "the 1977 Order" means the Family Law Reform (Northern Ireland) Order...

Attendance of child before court

34. Section 170 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 (power to enforce...

Saving for certain amendments of 1968 Act

- 36. Notwithstanding the repeal by this Order of Part I of Schedule 16 to the Health...
 - Schedule 9—Amendments
 - Schedule 10—Repeals

Status:

Point in time view as at 01/04/2024.

Changes to legislation:

The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 June 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.