
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1998 No. 1759

Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998

PART V

PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION

CHAPTER II

ADMISSION TO PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION AT GRANT-AIDED SCHOOLS

General

Admission criteria

32.—(1) Subject to the following provisions of this Article, the Board of Governors of each school shall draw up, and may from time to time amend, the criteria to be applied in selecting children for admission to the school under Article 26 or 30.

(2) When drawing up or amending criteria under paragraph (1)—

- (a) the Board of Governors of a controlled school shall consider any representations made to it by [^{F1}the Authority] responsible for the management of the school;
- (b) the Board of Governors of a Catholic maintained school shall consider any representations made to it by the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools.

(3) Where the criteria to be applied in respect of any school year have been published under Article 33(2), the Board of Governors shall not amend those criteria in respect of that school year without the approval of the Department.

(4) The criteria drawn up by the Board of Governors of a school under paragraph (1) shall provide for all children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the school to be selected for admission to the school before any child not so resident may be selected for admission.

(5) The criteria drawn up under paragraph (1) shall be such as to ensure that the Board of Governors by applying those criteria can comply with Article 26 or 30 before the criteria are exhausted.

(6) Regulations may provide that the criteria drawn up under paragraph (1)—

- (a) shall include such matters or matters of such description as are specified in the regulations;
- (b) shall not include such matters or matters of such description as are so specified.

F1 Words in *Order* substituted (1.4.2015) by *Education Act (Northern Ireland) 2014* (c. 12), **Sch. 3 para. 1(1)(a)** (with *Sch. 2 para. 4(3)*, *Sch. 3 para. 1(2)*); *S.R. 2015/35*, art. 2(b)

Changes to legislation:

Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, Section 32 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 30 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

- Order words substituted by [2014 c. 12 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 1\(1\)\(b\)](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- art. 89A inserted by [2022 c. 45 s. 5](#)