

*These notes refer to the Education and Skills Act 2008
(c.25) which received Royal Assent on 26 November 2008*

EDUCATION AND SKILLS ACT 2008

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Local education authority

Legal background

Part 2: Support for participation in education or training: young adults with learning difficulties and young people in England

Section 81: Careers education

89. *Section 81* amends Part 7 of the 1997 Act which requires state secondary schools to provide all pupils with a programme of careers education and appropriate information, and up-to-date reference materials related to career options. Section 44 of the Act requires schools to provide access to external careers advisers to provide career advice and guidance to pupils. *Subsection (2)* of this section requires all local education authority maintained secondary schools in England to present careers information in an impartial manner and to provide careers advice which is in the best interests of the pupil, and not to promote the interests of the school or other persons or institutions contrary to the pupil's interests. *Subsection (3)* requires the information and reference materials provided to present a full range of learning and career options and not to promote unduly one option over another. *Subsection (4)* requires schools to have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State, which is intended to support them in delivering effectively the duties in Part 7 of the 1997 Act, as amended by subsections (2) and (3) of section 81.