EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

Section 313 of the Education Act 1996 requires the Secretary of State to issue, and allows him from time to time to amend, a Code of Practice giving practical guidance in respect of the discharge by local education authorities and governing bodies of maintained schools of their functions under that Act in relation to special educational needs. The powers of the Secretary of State have been transferred to the National Assembly in relation to Wales. The National Assembly has issued a Code entitled the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice for Wales. This Order appoints 1st April 2002 as the date on which the Code comes into force.

Copies of the Code may be obtained from the National Assembly for Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ. It is also accessible on the Internet at www.wales.gov.uk.

The Code replaces, in relation to Wales, an earlier Code issued by the Secretary of State for Wales and the Secretary of State for Education jointly on 25th May 1994.