

Explanatory Memorandum to the Education (Disapplication of the National Curriculum for Wales at Key Stage 1) (Wales) Regulations 2008

This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Curriculum and Assessment Division of the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, and is laid before the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Order 24.1.

Description

The National Curriculum for Wales will be revised from 1 August 2008 and will for the first time include provisions for the Foundation Phase for 3-7 year olds. This Order sets out arrangements for the phased disapplication of Key Stage 1 and the phasing in the Foundation Phase as follows:

- 1 August 2008 for all 3 to 4-year-olds in the Foundation Phase
- 1 August 2009 for all 4 to 5-year-olds in the Foundation Phase
- 1 August 2010 for all 5 to 6-year-olds in the Foundation Phase
- 1 August 2011 for all 6 to 7-year-olds in the Foundation Phase

Matters of special interest to the Subordinate Legislation Committee

None

Legislative Background

Sections 112 and 210 of the Education Act 2002 (1) conferred the relevant powers on the National Assembly for Wales. These were subsequently transferred to the Welsh Ministers by virtue of paragraph 30 of Schedule 11 of the Government of Wales Act 2006.

These regulations are subject to the negative resolution procedure.

Purpose and intended effect of the legislation.

The legislation specifies the coming into force dates for the Foundation Phase areas of learning, desirable outcomes and educational programmes.

Implementation

The Order will ensure the smooth implementation of the Foundation Phase from September 2008 as announced in Plenary on 9 October 2007.

Consultation

No specific consultation was undertaken on the legislation but a large consultation was undertaken on the revised curriculum from 1 January 2007 to 31 March 2007; the results of this formed the basis for the statement of 9 October 2007 to Plenary.

Regulatory Impact Assessment

The proposed Order imposes no additional costs or additional duties on schools or Local Authorities and no formal RIA has been undertaken.