

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO THE

EDUCATION (SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION) (ENGLAND) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2004 No.2141

1. This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Department for Education and Skills and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

2. Description

2.1 This statutory instrument amends the Education (School Performance Information) (England) Regulations 2001 for the purpose of requiring schools to provide additional information to the Secretary of State concerning their pupils' achievements; including, in particular, their achievements in external qualifications approved by him.

3. Matters of special interest to the [Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments or the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments]

3.1 None

4. Legislative Background

4.1 These amending regulations reflect final decisions made by the Secretary of State for Education and Skills on the content of the 2004 achievement and attainment tables. The amendments update the information that schools are required to provide to the Secretary of State in order to calculate the various indicators published in the tables.

4.2 In the past the main indicators in the secondary school tables have included achievements in GCSE and GNVQ examinations only. These amendments will require secondary schools to provide information on students at the end of compulsory schooling in all qualifications approved under section 96 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000. Secondary schools will also be required to provide details of students' prior attainment in Key Stage 2 tests in order to construct an additional value added measure spanning the whole five years of secondary education.

4.3 A final requirement will be placed on primary and secondary schools to provide the date of admission for each pupil.

5. Extent

5.1 This instrument applies to England.

6. European Convention on Human Rights

Not applicable

7. Policy background

7.1 The school achievement and attainment tables are published annually and contain information on the achievements of primary and secondary schools. The indicators published in the tables are based on information schools are required to provide to the Secretary of State through these regulations.

7.2 The regulations themselves are updated regularly in the light of decisions taken by the Secretary of State on the content of the tables in a particular year.

7.3 For 2004, the biggest change to the secondary tables will be the implementation of a 14-19 Green Paper commitment to report the achievements of pupils in all qualifications approved under Section 96 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000. In the past the tables have reported achievements in GCSEs and GNVQs only. Following the successful piloting of a new point score devised by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority in 2003, the reporting of all approved qualifications will be rolled out to all secondary schools in 2004. This change will be welcomed by schools since it will enable the achievements of pupils of all abilities to be counted in the tables rather than just those who have taken GCSEs and GNVQs.

8. Impact

8.1 A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as it has no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies]

9. Contact

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