STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2007 No. 46

EDUCATION

The Education (Curriculum Minimum Content) Order (Northern Ireland) 2007

Made - - - -	*26th January 2007*
Coming into operation	*1st August 2007*

The Department of Education makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 7(2) and 43(5) of the Education (Northern Ireland) Order 2006(**1**):

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as The Education (Curriculum Minimum Content) Order (Northern Ireland) 2007 and shall come into operation as set out in Schedule 1.

Specification of Minimum Content

2. The Minimum Content for the area of learning at each Key Stage is specified in Schedule 2.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Education on 26th January 2007.

L.S.

David Woods
Assistant Secretary
Department of Education

(**1**) S.I.2006/1915 (N.I.11)

SCHEDULE 1 Article 1

Commencement

The provisions of this Order shall come into operation for pupils in each year of each key stage on 1st August of the school year shown in the following table:

Commencement Date	*Year Group*
2007/2008	1st year of the Foundation Stage
	1st year of Key Stage 2
	1st year of Key Stage 3
	1st year of Key Stage 4
2008/2009	2nd year of the Foundation Stage
	2nd year of Key Stage 2
	2nd year of Key Stage 3
	2nd year of Key Stage 4
2009/2010	1st and 2nd years of Key Stage 1
	3rd year of Key Stage 2
	3rd year of Key Stage 3

SCHEDULE 2 Article 2

Specification of Minimum Content

PART 1

Statutory Requirements Relating to the Curriculum

The statutory Northern Ireland Curriculum from Foundation Stage to Key Stage 4

is a balanced and broadly based curriculum which—

(a) promotes the spiritual, emotional, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development of pupils at the school and thereby of society; and

(b) prepares such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life by equipping them with appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills.

In order to meet their statutory requirements, schools must provide learning opportunities in relation to the following:

(a) Religious Education – in accordance with the core syllabus drafted by the four main Christian Churches in Northern Ireland and specified by the Department of Education.

(b) the following Areas of Learning:

At Foundation Stage:

Areas of Learning	*Contributory Elements*
Language and Literacy	Talking and Listening
	Reading
	Writing
Mathematics and Numeracy	Number
	Measures
	Shape and Space
	Sorting
	Patterns and Relationships
The Arts	Art and design
	Music
	Drama
The World Around Us	The World Around Us
Personal Development and Mutual Understanding	Personal Understanding and Health
	Mutual Understanding in the Local and Wider Community
Physical Development and Movement	Physical Development and Movement

At Key Stages 1 and 2:

Areas of Learning	*Contributory Elements*
Language and Literacy	Talking and Listening
	Reading
	Writing
Mathematics and Numeracy	Processes in Mathematics
	Number
	Measures
	Shape and Space
	Handling Data
The Arts	Art and Design

Areas of Learning	*Contributory Elements*
	Music
	Drama
The World Around Us	History
	Geography
	Science and Technology
Personal Development and Mutual Understanding	Personal Understanding and Health
	Mutual Understanding in the Local and Wider Community
Physical Education	Physical Education

At Key Stage 3:

Areas of Learning	*Contributory Elements*
Language and Literacy	English
	Irish (in Irish-speaking schools)
	Media education
Mathematics and Numeracy	Mathematics
	Financial capability
Modern Languages	Any official language of the European Union (other than English and, in Irish speaking schools, Irish).
The Arts	Art and Design
	Music
	Drama
Environment and Society	History
	Geography
Science and Technology	Science
	Technology and Design
Learning for Life and Work	Employability
	Local and Global Citizenship
	Personal Development

Areas of Learning	*Contributory Elements*
	Home Economics
Physical Education	Physical Education

At Key Stage 4:

Areas of Learning	*Contributory Elements*
Language and Literacy	
Mathematics and Numeracy	
Modern Languages	
The Arts	
Environment and Society	
Science and Technology	
Learning for Life and Work	Employability
	Local and Global Citizenship
	Personal Development
Physical Education	Physical Education

Minimum Content

The Minimum Content for each Area of Learning and Key Stage means the knowledge, understanding and skills within that Area of Learning which are required to be taught to pupils of different abilities and maturities during that stage.

PART 2

Foundation Stage

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

The minimum content for Language and Literacy is set out below.

Teachers should enable children to develop knowledge, understanding and skills in:

TALKING AND LISTENING

Pupils should be enabled to develop:

- attention and listening skills through:
    - listening to a wide range of stories, poems, songs and music;
    - following instructions;
    - identifying environmental sounds;
    - repeating familiar phrases/sound sequences;
    - recalling sequence and detail.