STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1996 No. 477

CHILDREN

The Employment of Children Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996

Made - - - -	*8th October 1996*
Coming into operation	*4th November 1996*

The Department of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 136(1)(*a*), (*b*) and (*c*)(ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995(**1**) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, with the approval of the Department of Education, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement, interpretation and application

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Employment of Children Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996 and shall come into operation on 4th November 1996.

(2) In these Regulations—

"the Order" means the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995;

"appropriate board" means the board established under Article 3 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986(**2**) for the area in which the child lives;

"authorised officer" means an officer of the board authorised to act on behalf of the board under Article 64 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 for the purposes of these Regulations;

"board" means an education and library board established under Article 3 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986;

"employment card" means a card issued by the appropriate board under regulation 6;

"parent" includes any person who is not a parent of the child but who has parental responsibility for him;

"permitted occupation" is an occupation listed in the Schedule.

(3) Where a child is employed by more than one employer—

(a) these Regulations shall apply to each such employer; and

(**1**) S.I.1995/755 (N.I. 2)
(**2**) S.I. 1986/594 (N.I. 3)

(b) any restriction imposed by regulation 3, 4 or 5 in relation to the periods during which that child may be employed shall apply to the aggregate of the periods during which he is employed by all such employers.

Permitted employment

2. No child shall be employed in any occupation other than in an occupation specified in the Schedule.

Conditions of employment for all children

3.—(1) No child shall be employed for a period more than one hour before the commencement of school hours on any day on which he is required to attend school, and such period shall end not later than half an hour before the school he is required to attend is due to open on that day.

(2) No child shall be employed for more than two hours on a Sunday.

(3) A child engaged in employment shall be allowed an uninterrupted period of two weeks holiday during the period between 1st July and 31st August (both dates inclusive).

(4) No child shall be employed in any other occupation on the day of, days of, or day following a performance to which Article 137 of the Order applies.

(5) No child shall be employed in any occupation out of doors unless the employer ensures that the child is suitably shod and suitably clad for protection against the weather.

(6) No child shall be employed without the written consent of his parent.

Conditions of employment for children under the age of 15 years

4. A child under the age of 15 years—

(a) shall not be employed for more than five hours on a Saturday or week-day other than a day on which he is required to attend school;

(b) shall not be employed for more than twenty-seven hours in any week;

(c) shall be allowed a continuous interval for rest of not less than three hours between seven o'clock in the morning and seven o'clock in the evening on any day;

(d) subject to paragraph (*e*), shall be allowed at least one hour for meals and rest following any continuous employment for a period of three hours;

(e) shall be allowed at least one hour for meals and rest following any continuous employment for a period of four hours on a Saturday.

Conditions of employment for children over the age of 15 years

5. A child aged 15 or over—

(a) shall not be employed for more than seven hours on a Saturday or week-day other than a day on which he is required to attend school;

(b) shall not be employed for more than thirty-seven hours in any week;

(c) shall be allowed at least one hour for meals and rest following any continuous employment for a period of four hours.