1973. No. 491 **[C]**

EDUCATION

School Premises (Standards)

REGULATIONS, DATED 10TH DECEMBER 1973, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION UNDER THE EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1972.

The Ministry of Education (hereinafter referred to as "the Ministry") on behalf of the Secretary of State and in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 15 and 125 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(**a**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

PART I

CITATION AND DEFINITIONS

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the School Premises (Standards) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973.

(2) These Regulations shall come into operation on 1st January 1974.

(3) The School Premises (Standards) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1965(**b**) are hereby revoked.

Definitions

2.—(1) In these Regulations the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them, that is to say:—

"enrolment" means in relation to any school the approved maximum number of pupils for whom it is intended that permanent provision should be made in the school;

"ordinary classroom" means a classroom which is not a special subjects room;

"paved space" means an outdoor area having a hard impervious surface;

"school" means a grant-aided school;

"special subjects room" means a classroom specially designed and equipped for the teaching of a particular subject or group of subjects.

(2) In these Regulations the abbreviations in the first column below are used to denote the expressions in the second column:—

ha . .	hectare
mm . .	millimetre
m . .	metre
m^2 . .	square metre

(a) S.I. 1972, No. 1263 (N.I. 12). (b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1965, No. 82.

PART II

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOLS—INCLUDING BOARDING ACCOMMODATION

Precautions for health and safety

3. In all parts of the buildings of every school, the design, the construction, the limit of the surface spread of flame, the fire resistance of the elements of the structure and the properties of the materials shall be such that the health and safety of the occupants, and in particular their safe escape in the event of fire, shall be reasonably assured.

Structural loadings

4. The load bearing structure of every school shall be such as to be capable of safely sustaining and transmitting dead load and imposed loads and the horizontal and inclined forces to which it is likely to be subjected.

Protection against the weather

5. The buildings of every school shall be so designed and constructed as to resist the penetration of rain, snow, wind and moisture rising from the ground.

Acoustics

6. In all parts of the building of every school the acoustic conditions and the insulations against disturbance by noise shall be appropriate to the use of each part of the building.

Lighting

7. In every school the lighting, both natural and artificial, of each teaching room or other space shall be adequate and appropriate for the purpose for which the room or other space is normally to be used.

Ventilation and heating

8.—(1) In every school each teaching room shall be provided with means of ventilation such that there shall be not less than two air changes per hour.

(2) In every school, in each room in which there may be steam or noxious fumes, adequate measures shall be taken to prevent condensation or to expel noxious fumes as the case may be.

(3) The heating system of every school shall be such that, when the school is adequately ventilated as provided in paragraph (1), the temperature of each room or other space may be appropriate for the purpose for which the room or other space is used.

Water supply

9.—(1) In every school an adequate supply of wholesome water shall be provided for drinking.

(2) Where a public supply of piped water is provided to such a point as to make it reasonable that a school should be connected thereto, the school shall be so connected unless an adequate and suitable supply of water is available from some other source.

Sanitation

10.—(1) Subject to the provision of paragraph 5, water closets shall be provided in every school and, in the case of every such school which includes boys, urinals may be provided, which closets and urinals are hereinafter collectively referred to as sanitary fittings.

(2) For all pupils above the age of 6 separate sanitary fittings shall be provided for boys and girls.

(3) Subject to the provision of paragraph (5), there shall be provided at least 1 sanitary fitting for every 15 girls or part thereof included in the enrolment and at least 1 sanitary fitting (at least one third of which must be water closets) for every 15 boys or part thereof included in the enrolment.

(4) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (5), there shall be provided in every school at least 1 wash basin with a suitable supply of warm water for each sanitary fitting specified in paragraph (3) as appropriate to the number of pupils for whom the school is designed.

(5) Where a school is not connected to a public supply of piped water and cannot reasonably be so connected, and an adequate supply of water is not available and cannot reasonably be made available from some other source, such alternative sanitary provision shall be made for the purposes of this Regulation as the Ministry may approve.

(6) This Regulation shall not apply to nursery schools or to nursery classes and for the purposes of this Regulation children in nursery classes shall not be taken into account in determining the enrolment of a school.

Medical inspection

11.—(1) Accommodation shall be available in every school at any time during school hours for the inspection and treatment of pupils by doctors, dentists and nurses.

(2) The accommodation for such inspection and treatment shall be well and suitably lighted, ventilated and heated and shall be conveniently accessible to a water closet, and every room provided for such purposes shall include a wash basin with a supply of hot and cold water.

Cloak and storage space

12.—(1) In every school sufficient and suitable facilities shall be provided for storing and drying pupils' outdoor clothing and for storing pupils' other belongings.

(2) In every school sufficient and suitable facilities shall be provided for the storage of apparatus, equipment and materials required for teaching and for the operation of the school.

(3) Where fuel has to be stored at the school sufficient and suitable accommodation shall be provided. Where necessary, as for bottled gas, the accommodation shall be separate, and at a suitable distance from the school building.

PART III

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Sites

13.—(1) The site of every primary school shall comprise an area sufficient to accommodate in a satisfactory manner the school buildings and in addition a paved space or, in the case of a school where the enrolment exceeds 164, paved spaces, laid on suitable foundations and properly graded and drained, of suitable dimensions and not less in total area than—

(*a*) 500m² if the enrolment exceeds 24 but does not exceed 94;

(*b*) if the enrolment exceeds 94, 500m² increased by 150m² for every 35 pupils in excess of 94: provided that where the excess is not a multiple of 35 it shall be deemed for the purposes of this sub-paragraph to be the next lower multiple of 35.

(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph (1), in every primary school where the enrolment exceeds 164 there shall be two paved spaces, and no such space shall be less than 350m² in area.

Grass areas

14. Every primary school shall have appropriated to it a grass area or grass areas suitable for playing games and not less in total area than is shown in the following table opposite the enrolment of the school:—

Enrolment of the school	*Total grass area*
25 but not exceeding 94	0·2 ha
95 but not exceeding 164	0·3 ha
165 but not exceeding 339	0·5 ha
340 but not exceeding 549	0·7 ha
Exceeding 549	1·0 ha

Teaching accommodation

15.—(1) Every primary school shall include teaching accommodation not less in total area than is shown in column (4) of the following table opposite the enrolment of the school, which teaching accommodation shall be the number of class bases shown in column (2) plus an area of additional space not less than that shown in column (3).

(1) *Enrolment of the school*	(2) *No. of class bases*	(3) *Additional room or hall* (m^2)	(4) *Total Teaching Area* (m^2)
25 but not exceeding 59	2	65	165
60 but not exceeding 94	3	65	215
95 but not exceeding 129	4	110	320
130 but not exceeding 164	5	110	370
165 but not exceeding 199	6	110	430
200 but not exceeding 234	7	160	540
235 but not exceeding 269	9	160	640
270 but not exceeding 304	10	160	690
305 but not exceeding 339	11	160	740
340 but not exceeding 374	12	160	790
375 but not exceeding 409	13	160	840
410 but not exceeding 444	14	160	900
445 but not exceeding 479	15	160	950