School Premises (Standards) Regulations

REGULATIONS, DATED 17TH JULY, 1957, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION UNDER THE EDUCATION ACTS (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1947 TO 1956.

1957. No. 135 **[C]**

The Ministry of Education in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Sections 7 and 112 of the Education Act (Northern Ireland), 1947, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf hereby makes the following Regulations:—

PART I

CITATION AND DEFINITIONS

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the School Premises (Standards) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1957.

(2) These Regulations shall come into operation on 1st October, 1957.

2. 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 grant-aided school;

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

PART II

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Fire Precautions

3. In every school the design, the construction, the fire resistance of the elements of the structure and the properties of the materials shall in all parts of the school buildings be such that the safe escape of the occupants in the event of fire shall be reasonably assured.

Lighting

4. 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

5.—(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

6.—(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

7.—(1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (5) there shall be provided in every school:—

(*a*) if the number of girls included in the enrolment does not exceed 160, one water-closet for every 16 girls; and

(*b*) if the number of girls included in the enrolment exceeds 160, 10 girls' water-closets and in addition one water-closet for every 20 girls in excess of 160; and

(*c*) if the number of boys included in the enrolment does not exceed 160, one water-closet for every 40 boys; and

(*d*) if the number of boys included in the enrolment exceeds 160, 4 boys' water-closets and in addition one water-closet for every 50 boys in excess of 160.

(2) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (5) there shall be provided in every school 2 feet of urinal space or one urinal stall for every 16 boys included in the enrolment.

(3) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (5) there shall be provided:—

(*a*) in every school in which the enrolment does not exceed 320, one wash-basin with a suitable supply of warm water for every 20 pupils; and

(*b*) in every school in which the enrolment exceeds 320, 16 such wash-basins and in addition one such wash-basin for every 25 pupils in excess of 320.

(4) If the number of boys or girls or pupils included in the enrolment of a school (or for the purposes of sub-paragraphs (*b*) and (*d*) of paragraph (1) and sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph (3) the number of such boys or girls or pupils in excess of 160 or 320 as the case may be) is not a multiple of the number of boys or girls or pupils for whom one or one additional water-closet, urinal stall or wash-basin is to be provided in accordance with

the provisions of this Regulation, it shall be deemed to be the next higher multiple of such number.

(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

8. Accommodation shall be available in every school for the medical inspection of pupils and for that purpose shall be provided with a wash basin with a supply of hot and cold water:

Provided that it shall not be necesary to reserve such accommodation exclusively for use for medical inspection.

Cloak and Storage Space

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

(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) In every school separate and suitably situated accommodation shall be provided for the storage of fuel.

Part III

Primary Schools

Sites

10.—(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 144, paved spaces, laid on suitable foundations and properly graded and drained, of suitable dimensions and not less in total area than—

(*a*) 400 square yards if the enrolment does not exceed 24;

(*b*) 600 square yards if the enrolment exceeds 24 but does not exceed 104; and

(*c*) if the enrolment exceeds 104, 600 square yards increased by 200 square yards for every 40 pupils in excess of 104: provided that where the excess is not a multiple of 40 it shall be deemed for the purposes of this subparagraph to be the next lower multiple of 40.

(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph (1), in every primary school where the enrolment exceeds 144 there shall be two paved spaces, and no such space shall be less than 400 square yards in area.

Grass Areas

11. 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*
Not more than 24	$\frac{1}{4}$ acre
More than 24 but not more than 84	$\frac{1}{2}$ acre
More than 84 but not more than 184 ...	$\frac{2}{3}$ acre
More than 184 but not more than 384 ...	$1\frac{1}{4}$ acres
More than 384, but not more than 584 ...	$1\frac{3}{4}$ acres
More than 584	$2\frac{1}{2}$ acres

Teaching Accommodation

12.—(1) Every primary school shall include teaching accommodation not less in total area than is shown in column (2) of the following table opposite the enrolment of the school:—

(1) *Enrolment of the school*	(2) *Total area of teaching accommodation in square feet*	(3) *Number of Classrooms*	(4) *Area of additional room or hall in square feet*
24	600	1	200
44	1,100	2	300
64	1,350	2	450
84	1,850	3	550
104	2,100	3	600
144	3,250	4	1,200
184	4,010	5	1,200
224	4,650	6	1,200
264	5,560	7	1,500
304	6,110	8	1,650
344	6,660	9	1,650
384	7,180	10	1,650
424	7,830	11	1,750
464	8,380	12	1,750
504	9,020	13	1,750
544	9,570	14	1,750
584	10,090	15	1,750

Provided that where the enrolment exceeds 584 the area of teaching accommodation shall be such as the Ministry may approve, not being less than the area appropriate for a school where the enrolment is 584.

(2) The teaching accommodation specified in paragraph (1) shall include the number of classrooms specified in column (3) and in addition a room or hall not less in area than is shown in column (4) of the table opposite the enrolment of the school.

(3) The minimum area of a classroom in a primary school (other than a classroom which is additional to the accommodation prescribed in paragraphs (1) and (2)) shall be:

(*a*) 400 square feet if the enrolment of the school does not exceed 84;

(*b*) 450 square feet if the enrolment of the school exceeds 84 but does not exceed 144; and