

Explanatory Memorandum to the Education (School Day and School Year (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2008

This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Curriculum and Assessment Division of the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, and is laid before the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Order 24.1.

Description

These Regulations allow the continuance of two additional INSET days for the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 in order to support implementation of the Foundation Phase and revised school curriculum from September 2008, on-going roll out of key stages 2/3 assessment arrangements to secure teacher assessment and the 14-19 agenda.

Matters of special interest to the Subordinate Legislation Committee

None

Legislative Background

The Welsh Ministers have the power under sections 551 and 569(4) and (5) of the Education Act 1996(1) to provide for up to four sessions in each of the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school years to count as sessions to be devoted to the provision of preparation and planning.

These functions of the National Assembly for Wales were transferred to the Welsh Ministers by paragraph 30 of Schedule 11 to the Government of Wales Act 2006.

These Regulations are subject to the negative resolution procedure.

Purpose and intended effect of the legislation.

Existing provision of two additional INSET days was put in place in 2006 for the school years 2006/07 and 2007/08 by the Education (School Day and school Year) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/1262). Currently there is no additional provision in place to support schools during implementation of the new arrangements from September 2008. These Regulations are intended to continue the support previously provided.

Implementation

The Regulations will provide continuity for schools in terms of INSET days and will continue to be complemented by resourcing via the Better Schools Fund.

Consultation

No specific consultation was undertaken on the regulations but schools were consulted on the areas of work which the provision of the additional INSET days are intended to cover.

Regulatory Impact Assessment

The proposed Order imposes no additional costs or additional duties on schools or LEAs and no formal RIA has been undertaken.