1970. No. 96 **[C]**

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS

Attendance Centre Rules

RULES, DATED THE 5TH DAY OF MAY 1970, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION 134 OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1968.

The Ministry of Home Affairs in exercise of the powers vested in it by section 134 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968(a) and all other powers enabling it in that behalf hereby makes the following Rules:—

Citation and Commencement

1. These Rules may be cited as the Attendance Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1970 and shall come into force on the 1st June 1970.

Interpretation

2. In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say:—

"centre" has the meaning assigned to it in Rule 3;

"member of the staff" means any person, other than the officer in charge, for the time being carrying out any instruction or supervisory duties at a centre;

"officer in charge" means the person for the time being in charge of a centre;

"order" means an order made by a court under section 135 of the Act requiring an offender to attend at a centre;

"the Act" means the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968;

"the Ministry" means the Ministry of Home Affairs.

General

3. These Rules shall apply to any attendance centre (hereinafter called "a centre") provided by the Ministry under sub-section (1) of section 134 of the Act for the reception of male persons.

Occupation and Instruction

4.—(1) The occupation and instruction given at a centre shall be such as to occupy the persons attending there during the period of attendance in a manner conducive to health of mind and body.

(2) The occupation and instruction shall be in accordance with a scheme approved by the Ministry.

(a) 1968. c. 34 (N.I.).

Officer in Charge

5.—(1) The officer in charge shall maintain a register in which shall be recorded in respect of each person required to attend:—

(*a*) every attendance or failure to attend;

(*b*) the duration of each attendance; and

(*c*) the commission of any breach of these Rules and the manner in which it is dealt with.

(2) Subject to the provisions of Rule 11, it shall be the duty of the officer in charge to ensure that any person attending at the centre who has not completed the period of attendance specified in the order is, before leaving the centre, informed (both orally and in writing) of the day and time when he is next required to attend at the centre unless in any particular case it is impracticable to give this information.

Attendance

6.—(1) Persons required to attend at a centre shall so attend:—

(*a*) on the first occasion, at the time specified in the order; and

(*b*) on any subsequent occasion, at such time as may be notified to them in accordance with paragraph (2) of Rule 5, or, if no such notification has been given, at such time as may be notified to them in writing by or on behalf of the officer in charge;

and on attending shall report to, and place themselves under the direction of, the officer in charge.

(2) The occasions of a person's attendance at a centre and the duration of each attendance shall, so far as practicable and subject to the provisions of Rule 11, be so arranged by the officer in charge that the duration of attendance on any occasion is not less than one hour.

Admission to Centre

7. No person, other than a person on an occasion when he is required to attend in pursuance of an order, shall be admitted to, or remain in, a centre except with the permission of the Ministry or the officer in charge.

Unfitness for Attendance

8.—(1) The officer in charge may at any time require a person attending at the centre to leave it if, in the opinion of the officer in charge, that person is:—

(*a*) so unwell as to be unfit to remain at the centre on that occasion; or

(*b*) infested with vermin or suffering from any infectious disease or otherwise in a condition likely to be detrimental to other persons attending at the centre.

(2) Where a person is so required to leave, he shall be instructed in accordance with paragraph (2) of Rule 5 as to his further attendance at the centre.

Discipline

9. The discipline of a centre shall be maintained by the personal influence of the officer in charge and staff and no corporal punishment shall be administered.

10. Persons shall while attending at a centre conduct themselves in an orderly manner and shall obey any order given or instruction issued by the officer in charge or any member of the staff.

11.—(1) Any person committing a breach of these Rules may be required to leave the centre at any time.

(2) Where a person is so required to leave, he shall either:—

(*a*) be instructed in accordance with paragraph (2) of Rule 5 as to his further attendance at the centre; or

(*b*) be informed (both orally and in writing) that he is not required to attend at the centre again and that it is intended in respect of the said breach to take steps to bring him before a court under sub-section (4) of section 136 of the Act.

12. Without prejudice to the generality of the last foregoing Rule, the officer in charge or any member of the staff may deal with a person committing a breach of these Rules in either or both of the following ways, that is to say:—

(*a*) by separating him from other persons attending at the centre;

(*b*) by giving him a less attractive form of occupation;

during the whole or any part of the period of attendance specified in the order then remaining uncompleted.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs this 5th day of May 1970.

(L.S.)

J. H. Parkes,
Assistant Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Rules but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Rules define the duties of officers in charge and staff of attendance centres and the conduct of persons required to attend at such centres in pursuance of court orders made under section 134 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968.