Nursery Schools

REGULATIONS, DATED 24TH MARCH, 1948, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION UNDER THE EDUCATION ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1947, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

1948. No. 97

The Ministry of Education in pursuance of the powers vested in it by Sections 83, 104 and 112 of the Education Act (Northern Ireland), 1947, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, and with the approval of the Ministry of Finance, hereby makes the following Regulations :—

Introductory

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Nursery Schools Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1948.

(2) These Regulations shall come into operation on the first day of April, 1948.

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

" approved " means approved by the Ministry ;

" average daily enrolment " has the meaning assigned to it by the Regulations for the time being in force applicable to primary schools ;

" nursery school " means a primary school used mainly for the purpose of providing education for children who have attained the age of two years but have not attained the age of five years ;

" school day " does not include a Saturday or a Sunday ;

" school year " means a period of twelve months ending on the 31st July ;

" teacher " does not include a nursery assistant ;

" voluntary nursery school " means a nursery school under the control and management of a person or body of persons other than a local education authority.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1921, (12 Geo. 5. c. 4) applies for the purpose of the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the purpose of the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

3. These Regulations prescribe the conditions, whether general or special, which shall be satisfied by any nursery school in order that grant may be payable in respect thereof under Section 104 of the Act.

Special conditions applicable to Voluntary Nursery Schools

4.—(1) Each voluntary nursery school shall be under the control and management of a person approved by the Ministry, or of a body of persons (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee"), appointed in accordance with an approved scheme.

(2) Any such scheme shall set forth the constitution and define the functions of the Committee, and the Committee shall act in accordance with the scheme.

(3) A copy of the scheme shall be deposited with the Ministry and no variation of, or departure from, its provisions shall be made without the approval of the Ministry.

5.—(1) A voluntary nursery school shall not be conducted for private profit nor shall it be farmed out to any person.

(2) The income of the school from all sources shall be devoted to the use of the school.

(3) A statement of the accounts of the school for each school year shall be furnished to the Ministry at such date and in such form as the Ministry may direct, and such statement shall be supported by such vouchers and other evidence as the Ministry may require.

General conditions

6.—(1) In order to be recognised a nursery school shall comply with the requirements imposed on it by or under the Act.

(2) Recognition of a new nursery school will be dependent upon the Ministry being satisfied that not less than twenty children between the ages of two years and five years will be enrolled in the school. The continued recognition of a nursery school will be dependent upon the maintenance of such average daily enrolment of pupils as the Ministry may determine.

7. Each nursery school shall be conducted on approved lines and kept on a satisfactory level of efficiency, and shall be open to inspection by officers of the Ministry.

8.—(1) Without prejudice to the general requirements of Regulation 6 the premises of a nursery school shall be safe in case of fire, kept in a proper state of repair and cleanliness, suitably arranged, furnished and equipped, and provided with indoor and outdoor facilities for the recreation of the pupils.

(2) Proposals to provide new premises for a nursery school or to alter its existing premises, and estimates of the cost thereof, shall be subject to the approval of the Ministry.

9.—(1) A pupil shall not be refused admission to, or excluded from, a nursery school on other than reasonable grounds.

(2) Except with the approval of the Ministry, a pupil shall not be admitted to a nursery school under the age of two years or retained after he has attained the age of five years.

(3) The arrangements made for the admission of pupils shall provide that not more than five pupils under the age of three years shall be included in a class of twenty-five unless the Ministry is satisfied that the circumstances are such as would justify the inclusion of a larger number.

10.—(1) In each nursery school training and activities suitable to the ages of the pupils shall be provided, and a time-table shall be exhibited showing how the day will be spent.

(2) The school shall be open for at least four hours each school day and not less than three hours shall be spent in suitable training and activities.

11.—(1) A nursery school shall be open for not less than two hundred school days in each school year :

Provided that, in exceptional circumstances, the Ministry may approve a lesser number of days of opening.

(2) If in any school year a nursery school is not in operation for at least the number of days required by paragraph (1) of this Regulation the Ministry may withhold, or make a deduction from, any grant payable in respect of the school under these Regulations.

12. The attendance of the pupils shall be recorded in registers approved for the purpose in accordance with instructions issued from time to time by the Ministry.

13.—(1) A nursery school shall not, without the approval of the Ministry, be conducted other than as a single unit school for twenty-five pupils or as a two-unit school for fifty pupils divided into two classes of twenty-five pupils each.

(2) The maximum number of pupils who may be enrolled in a single unit school shall not exceed twenty-eight, and in a two-unit school shall not exceed fifty-six.

14.—(1) For each single unit nursery school there shall be a superintendent teacher and a nursery assistant and for each two-unit nursery school there shall be a superintendent teacher, an assistant teacher and two nursery assistants.

(2) Where a nursery school —

(*a*) makes provision mainly for the children of women engaged in industry and the normal hours of opening are exceeded ; or

(*b*) with the approval of the Ministry, makes provision for more than twenty-five, but less than fifty pupils ;

such additional staff as may be necessary to carry out the routine of the school efficiently may be appointed subject to the approval of the Ministry and to such conditions as the Ministry may determine.

15.—(1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this Regulation, a person shall not be appointed as a teacher in a nursery school unless she has satisfactorily completed a course of training approved for the purposes of these Regulations.

(2) The Ministry may, in special circumstances, recognise as a teacher in a nursery school a person who has not completed an approved course of training, if she has such other qualifications and experience as the Ministry may approve.

(3) The appointment of any person as a teacher in a nursery school shall be subject to the approval of the Ministry, and before approving any such appointment the person to be appointed shall satisfy the Ministry as to her physical fitness.

(4) A person shall not be employed as nursery assistant unless she possesses such educational and other qualifications as the Ministry may approve.

16.—(1) The scales of salaries and allowances payable to principal teachers and assistants in primary schools under any Regulations of the Ministry for the time being in force shall apply respectively to superintendent teachers and assistant teachers in nursery schools who are qualified in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1) of Regulation 15 of these Regulations.

(2) The scale of salary payable to a person recognised as a teacher under paragraph (2) of Regulation 15 of these Regulations shall be that for the time being applicable to unqualified teachers in primary schools.

(3) The salary payable to a nursery assistant shall be subject to the approval of the Ministry.

17. A teacher or nursery assistant shall not engage in any activities which, in the opinion of the managers of the school or of the Ministry, would interfere with the efficient and proper discharge of her duties as a teacher or nursery assistant, as the case may be.

18. A teacher shall not be employed before she attains the age of eighteen years or after she attains the age of sixty-five years.

Grants

19.—(1) Subject to the deduction of any sums properly deductible therefrom, the Ministry may pay grants under these Regulations, in respect of a voluntary nursery school, equal in amount to —

(*a*) the salaries and allowances payable by the managers to the teachers ; and

(*b*) sixty-five per cent. of the salaries payable by the managers to the nursery assistants.

(2) If the managers so desire, the salaries of the teachers of a voluntary nursery school (after deducting any sums properly deductible therefrom) shall be paid by the Ministry directly to the teachers.

20. The approved expenditure of a local education authority incurred under these Regulations shall be included in the expenditure in respect of which grants are payable by the Ministry to the authority under the Regulations of the Ministry for the time being in force dealing with the payment of grants to local education authorities.

Supplemental

21. The Regulations set out in the Schedule hereto are hereby revoked.

22. If any question arises as to the interpretation of these Regulations or as to whether any of the requirements thereof are fulfilled, or as to the amount of any grant payable thereunder, the decision of the Ministry shall be final.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Education for Northern Ireland this 24th day of March, 1948, in the presence of

(L.S.) *R. S. Brownell,*
Secretary.

The Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland hereby approves of the foregoing Regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland this 24th day of March, 1948, in the presence of

(L.S.) *John I. Cook,*
Assistant Secretary.

SCHEDULE

REGULATIONS REVOKED

Year and Number of Regulation	*Title of Regulation*
1937, No. 30.	The Nursery Schools Regulations, 1937.
1938, No. 133.	The Nursery Schools Regulations, 1937, Amending Regulations, No. 1, 1938.
1943, No. 23.	The Nursery Schools Regulations, 1937, Amending Regulations, No. 2, 1943.
1945, No. 53.	The Nursery Schools Regulations, 1937, Amending Regulations, No. 3, 1945.
1947, No. 130.	The Nursery Schools Regulations, (Northern Ireland) 1947.

Primary Schools : Salaries and Allowances

REGULATIONS, DATED 19TH MARCH, 1948, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION UNDER THE EDUCATION ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1947, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

1948. No. 55 Amended 1949 SR&O (N.I.) 520 100

The Ministry of Education (hereinafter referred to as "the Ministry") in pursuance of the powers vested in it by Sections 83 and 112 of the Education Act (Northern Ireland), 1947, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, and after consultation with the Ministry of Finance, hereby makes the following Regulations :—

Short title

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Primary Schools (Salaries and Allowances) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1948.

Application of Regulations

2. Subject as hereinafter provided, these Regulations shall apply to all teachers, locum tenens teachers and substitutes in primary schools.

3. The scales of salaries and allowances prescribed by these Regulations and the conditions so prescribed for admission to such scales of salaries and for the granting of such allowances shall have effect as from the 1st day of April, 1948.

4. In these Regulations unless the contrary intention appears —

"allowances" includes premiums, grants and additional increments ;

"existing teacher" means a teacher to whom these Regulations apply and who is in the service on 31st March, 1948, or who, being temporarily out of the service on that date, subsequently re-enters the service as principal teacher, vice-principal, holder of a post of special responsibility or assistant teacher ;

"qualified teacher" means a teacher who, under the Regulations in force on 31st March, 1948, was eligible to receive salary on one of the scales for full-time qualified teachers or who would be so eligible if those Regulations had continued in force ;

"unqualified teacher" means a teacher who is not eligible to receive salary as a qualified teacher.

5.—(1) Subject to the provisions of these Regulations the salary scales for full-time qualified teachers shall be those set out in the following table :—