1956 No. 1320

The Provision of Milk and Meals Amending Regulations, 1956

Made - - - -	21*st August*, 1956
Laid before Parliament	31*st August*, 1956
Coming into Operation	1*st September*, 1956

The Minister of Education in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by Section 49 of the Education Act, 1944(**a**), hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Provision of Milk and Meals Amending Regulations, 1956, and shall come into operation on the first day of September, 1956.

2. Regulations 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Provision of Milk and Meals Regulations, 1945(**b**) (which prescribe the milk and meals to be provided for pupils in maintained schools and the payments to be made by parents towards the cost thereof) and the Provision of Free Milk Regulations, 1946(**c**), the Milk and Meals (Amending) Regulations, 1949(**d**), the Milk and Meals (Amending) Regulations, 1951(**e**), the Milk and Meals (Amending) Regulations, 1954(**f**), the Milk and Meals (Amending) Regulations No. 2, 1955(**g**), and the Milk and Meals (Amending) Regulations, 1956(**h**) (which amend or vary the first-mentioned Regulations) are hereby revoked, and the following Regulations shall be substituted therefor:—

"**7.**—(1) On every day on which a school maintained by an Authority is open for instruction, except Saturday and Sunday, the Authority shall provide milk to drink in such quantities as may reasonably be expected to be required to enable day pupils attending the school on that day, and wishing to take it regularly, to have one-third of a pint each, except that in special schools two-thirds of a pint may be provided for a delicate pupil (as defined in Regulation 14 of the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1953(**i**)).

(2) The source and quality of the milk (which shall so far as possible be pasteurized, or failing that tuberculin-tested) shall be approved by the medical officer of health for the county or county borough concerned after consultation with the medical officer of health for any county district concerned, and if the school medical officer is a person other than either of the two officers first mentioned, with that officer.

(3) If the Minister is satisfied that milk cannot be provided in accordance with the requirements of the medical officer of health, or cannot be so provided at a reasonable cost, he may approve the substitution of an equivalent quantity of full-cream dried milk suitably prepared for drinking or of milk in the form of milk tablets.

8.—(1) On every day on which a school maintained by an Authority is open for instruction the Authority shall provide mid-day dinners for day pupils attending the school; and they shall be adequate in quantity and quality so as to be suitable for the main meal of the day, well prepared and cooked, and served decently and in good condition.

(**a**) 7 & 8 Geo. 6. c. 31. (**b**) S.R. & O. 1945/698 (Rev. VI, p. 380: 1945 I, p. 336).
(**c**) S.R. & O. 1946/1293 (Rev. VI, p. 384: 1946 I, p. 429).
(**d**) S.I. 1949/2280 (1949 I, p. 1515). (**e**) S.I. 1951/340 (1951 I, p. 553).
(**f**) S.I. 1954/910 (1954 I, p. 726). (**g**) S.I. 1955/320 (1955 I, p. 725).
(**h**) S.I. 1956/575. (**i**) S.I. 1953/1156 (1953 I, p. 613).

(2) The dietary shall be varied and planned so as to be appropriate to the nutritional needs of the pupils; and records shall be kept of the amounts of the ingredients used.

(3) An Authority may in accordance with approved arrangements provide dinners on other days, and other meals and refreshments (including milk other than that provided under the preceding Regulation) on any day.

9. If the Minister is satisfied that at any special school an adequate and balanced diet is otherwise provided, or that at any school the circumstances are such as to make it unnecessary or impracticable for an Authority to provide milk under Regulation 7 or dinners under Regulation 8, he may exempt the Authority from the requirements of either or both of those Regulations in respect of that school.

10.—(1) Milk (including milk tablets) provided under Regulation 7 shall be free.

(2) An Authority may require the parents of pupils at special schools to pay such charges for meals and other refreshments provided under Regulation 8 as it shall fix, not exceeding the cost as estimated by the Authority of the food or drink supplied.

(3) The parents of pupils at other schools shall be charged by an Authority at an approved rate for dinners provided under Regulation 8, and for other meals and refreshments they shall be charged such sum as the Authority estimates will cover the cost (including overhead costs) of providing the meals and refreshments.

(4) If in the opinion of the Authority a parent is unable without financial hardship to pay any sum charged under this Regulation the Authority may in accordance with approved arrangements, which shall take into account his income, remit the whole or part of it."

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Education this 21st day of August, 1956.

(L.S.) *David Eccles,*
Minister of Education.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations consolidate the provisions of Regulations 7 to 10 of the Provision of Milk and Meals Regulations, 1945, and all the amending Regulations, which contain the arrangements for supplying milk and meals in maintained schools. They introduce certain changes into these arrangements, the chief of which are—

(*a*) the normal entitlement to milk is fixed at one-third of a pint for each day pupil on all school days except Saturdays and Sundays;

(*b*) the standard charge for school dinners is applied to all schools except special schools;

(*c*) Local Education Authorities are required to secure the Minister's approval of their arrangements for remitting meals charges, for providing dinners during holidays and at weekends, and for providing other meals and refreshments at all times; and

(*d*) they can be exempted from their duty to provide milk or dinners where it is unnecessary or impracticable for them to do so.