

Subject:**ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS IN KEY
STAGE 3****Circular Number:****1997/29****Date of Issue:**

1 October 1997

Target Audience:

- Principals and Boards of Governors of all grant-aided Secondary (including Grammar) schools;
- Special Schools with Secondary Age Pupils;
- Education and Library Boards;
- Council for Catholic Maintained Schools;
- Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment.

Summary of Contents:

This Circular contains advice about the introduction of minor changes to the Key Stage 3 Assessment Arrangements.

Enquiries:

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Governor Awareness:

Essential

Status of Contents:Advice
Information for schools**Related Documents:**SR 1997 No.422 - the Education
(Assessment Arrangements for Key
Stage 3) Order (NI) 1997**Superseded Documents:**SR 1996 No.364, SR 1997 No.24,
SR 1997 No.148, SR1997 No.203**Expiry Date:**

Not applicable

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1. The Department has made an Order, the Education (Assessment Arrangements for Key Stage 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 1997 (SR 1997 No 422) which will come into operation on 20 October. Copies of the Order are available from The Stationery Office, 16 Arthur Street, Belfast BT1 4GD), price £1.95. A copy for inclusion in the Compendium of Information is enclosed.

2. The Order revokes the following:

- the Education (Assessment Arrangements for Key Stage 3) Order (NI) 1996 (SR 1996 No 364);
- the Education (Assessment Arrangements for Key Stage 3) (Amendment) Order (NI) 1997 (SR 1997 No 24);
- the Education (Assessment Arrangements for Key Stage 3) (Amendment No 2) Order (NI) 1997 (SR 1997 No 148);
- the Education (Assessment Arrangements for Key Stage 3) (Amendment No 3) Order (NI) 1997 (SR 1997 No 203).

3. The arrangements for assessment of pupils in Key Stage 3 are largely unchanged from those which applied in the 1996/97 school year; the differences are minor and are confined to changes to the dates by which certain aspects of the arrangements must be completed, and the form in which information has to be submitted to the Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA). A revised document setting out the detailed arrangements has been prepared by CCEA and published by The Stationery Office. The document is entitled “ Assessment Arrangements in Key Stage 3 ” (ISBN 0 337 04326 4) and copies will be distributed to schools shortly.

4. The Education (NI) Order 1996 provides a new legislative basis for making statements of special educational needs: the new Assessment Order takes account of this change. It does not, however, have any practical effect on the assessment arrangements.

L ASHE
Assessment and Examinations Branch

