

(4) Where a school committee pursues the formation of a Parent-Teacher Association, the school committee ceases to exist at the time of the formation of the Parent-Teacher Association.

Wishes of parents to be considered in education of students

116. The Minister shall, in the exercise of his or her functions and responsibilities under this Act, have regard to the general principle that, so far as is compatible with the provision of efficient instruction and training and the avoidance of unreasonable public expenditure, the wishes of parents formally conveyed to the Minister are to be considered in the education of students.

Division 3

Admission and Attendance of Students

Compulsory school attendance

117. (1) Every child—

- (a) begins to be of compulsory school age on the first day of the academic year if that child has attained the age of 5 years or will attain the age of 5 years on or before 31 December of that academic year; and
- (b) shall continue to be of compulsory school age until the first of the following occurs—
 - (i) the last day of the academic year in which he or she attains the age of 17 years, or
 - (ii) the end of the academic year in which he or she obtains a certificate or diploma awarded by the Minister in accordance with regulations .

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), where the Minister is satisfied that it has become necessary or expedient to raise or lower the upper limit of the compulsory school age, the Minister may, by regulation subject to subsection (3), specify that subsection (1) has effect as if, for any reference in that subsection to the age of 17 years, there were substituted a reference to any age prescribed in that regulation.

(3) No regulation shall be made under subsection (2) unless a draft of it has been laid before and approved by a resolution of the House of Assembly.

Mode of admission for primary schools

118. (1) No child shall be admitted to a public primary school or an assisted private primary school unless at the time of such admission—

- (a) the child is accompanied by a parent or a responsible person over the age of 18 years who has been authorised by a parent to represent that parent;
- (b) the person accompanying the child brings a birth or baptismal certificate giving the information required for the child to be registered as a student;
- (c) the child has attained the age of 5 years or will attain that age by 31 December of the academic year for which admission is sought; and