

GN 2433 of 19 October 1998: Age requirements for admission to an ordinary public school

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

(Editor's note: Notice 2433 was promulgated in terms of section 3 (4) (i) of the National Education Policy Act No. 27 of 1996 and in terms of section 5 (4) of the South African Schools Act No. 84 of 1996.)

This notice was first published in *Government Gazette* 19377 of 19 October 1998 and amended by:

Notice	Government Gazette	Date
1356	22928	11 December 2001

The Minister of Education, after consultation with each Member of the Council of Education Ministers, hereby give notice in terms of section 3 (4) (i) of the National Education Policy Act, 1996 (No. 27 of 1996) and section 5 (4) of the South African Schools Act, 1996 (No. 84 of 1996), of the age requirements for the admission of learners to an ordinary public school or different grades at a school, as set out in the Schedule.

Minister of Education
October 1998

SCHEDULE

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

- 1-2. Interpretation
- 3-6. Age requirements for admission to an ordinary public school
7. Application
8. Short title and commencement

1. Interpretation.—In this notice any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the South African Schools Act, 1996 (No. 84 of 1996) and the National Education Policy Act, 1996 (No. 27 of 1996) shall have that meaning.

2. In this notice a reference to grade R will have the same meaning as grade O in the South African Schools Act, 1996.

3. Age requirements for admission to an ordinary public school.—The statistical age norm per grade is the grade number plus 6.

Example: Grade	1 + 6	=	age 7
Grade	9 + 6	=	age 15
Grade	12 + 6	=	age 18

4. A learner must be admitted to grade 1 if he or she turns seven in the course of that calendar year. A learner who is younger than this age may not be admitted to grade 1.

4A. Despite paragraph 4, the Head of Department may allow a learner who wants to be admitted to grade 1, but who will not be turning 7 during the year of such admission, to be admitted at a lower age. This deviation by the Head of Department may only occur if, in the opinion of the Head of Department, reasonable grounds exist to show that such learner is, based on educational principles, school ready for Grade 1 and it is in the best interest of such a learner to be admitted as an underage learner to a public school. The parent of the learner must show that the refusal to be admitted to a school will have a detrimental effect on the child's development.

[Para. 4A inserted by GN 1356 of 2001.]

5. A learner may be admitted to grade R only if he or she turns six in the course of that calendar year. Attendance of grade R is not compulsory.

6. The age requirements for learners with special education needs who are able to be admitted to attend ordinary public schools are the same as for other learners in ordinary public schools.

7. Application.—These age requirements, and any deviations from the age norm per grade, must be applied in accordance with the Admission Policy for Ordinary Public Schools, published in the same government notice.

8. Short title and commencement.—This notice is called the Age Requirements for Admission to an Ordinary Public School, and it comes into effect on 1 January 2000.