The Department of Education, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 15(b) of the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989(1) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Curriculum (English in Irish Speaking Schools) (Exceptions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996 and shall come into operation on 1st September 1996.

Exceptions to requirements

2. The requirements of Articles 5(2)(a), 6(1) and (2)(a) of the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, in so far as they apply to the compulsory contributory subject English, shall not apply to pupils in Irish speaking schools in the first, second and third years of the first key stage.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Education on 29th July 1996.

C. Jendoubi (Mrs.)
Assistant Secretary
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations, made under Article 15(b) of the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, provide that primary schools which teach through the medium of Irish are excepted from the requirement to teach English to pupils in the first, second and third years of the first key stage. In every grant-aided school, English remains a compulsory contributory subject in relation to pupils in the fourth year of the first key stage, and in the whole of the second key stage.