L.N. 135 of 2000

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Institute for Child and Parent Learning Support Regulations, 2000

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 47 of the Education Act, the Minister of Education has made the following regulations:-

Citation.

1. The title of these regulations is the Institute for Child and Parent Learning Support Regulations, 2000.

Interpretation.

2. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires -

"the Board" means the Board of the Institute for Child and Parent Learning Support established in terms of regulation 5 of these regulations;

"the Institute" means the Institute for Child and Parent Learning Support established in regulation 3.

Establishment of Institute.

3. An Institute for Child and Parent Learning Support is being established as an educational structure to take initiatives in support of preventive and remedial strategies against illiteracy and failure in schools.

Aims of the Institute.

4. The aims of the Institute shall be to -

(a) empower families to aspire for a better quality of life by facilitating the attainment of an educational and cultural level as required in society;

(b) participate in the development and the implementation of strategies and programmes that effectively tackle illiteracy, absenteeism and school failure while ensuring the interest, motivation and involvement of students, parents, teachers and others involved;

(c) establish, develop and implement an early intervention after-school programme for students who face difficulties in their learning;

(d) develop, establish and implement a parent support programme focusing on the skills and attitudes that construct family environments that effectively nurture and support the children's growth and learning;

(e) work closely with bodies and institutions working on adult education, in as much as this furthers the Institute's aim;

(f) effectively liaise with and support schools to identify, assess and refer students at risk of failing in school to the after-school programme;

(g) complement remedial work undertaken by the Division of Education;

(h) collaborate with the Division of Education, the Faculty of Education, state and non-state schools, and other local and foreign institutions in the field, to ensure availability of research-based information;

(i) adapt and develop, in collaboration with the institutions mentioned above where appropriate, resources for literacy assessment, learning and evaluation of the children's educational and cultural development;

(j) collaborate with schools to foster the necessary awareness on the benefits to be derived from the educational and cultural development necessary to fully participate in society.

Establishment of the Board.

5. There shall be a Board to be styled the Board of the Institute for Child and Parent Learning Support whose function shall be to ensure the achievement of the aims of the Institute and to be responsible for the administration and operations of the affairs of the Institute.

Accountability of the Board.

6. In the carrying out of its functions, the Board shall be accountable to the Minister and to the Director General of the Division of Education.

Composition of the Board.

7. The Board shall be appointed by the Minister and shall be composed of:

(a) a Chairperson nominated by the Minister;

(b) the Director of the Department for Student Services of the Division of Education, , or his representative, *ex-officio*, who shall serve as Deputy Chairperson;

(c) a representative from the Department of Curriculum Management of the Division of Education;

(d) two representatives from the Faculty of Education of the University of Malta;

(e) a parent nominated by the Association of School Councils;

(f) up to three other members nominated by the Minister from amongst persons who, in his opinion, can adequately contribute to the aims of the Institute.

8. The Board shall have a secretary appointed by the Minister. Secretary to the Board.

9. The functions of the Board shall be to - Functions of the Board.

(a) determine the policy of the Institute in accordance with the aims of the Institute;

(b) recommend policy changes and advise on the development of a comprehensive national strategy and plan to combat illiteracy, absenteeism and school failure;

(c) ensure the development, implementation and monitoring of the effective management of educational support programmes for both children at risk of failing in school and their parents;

(d) ensure the adoption of effective approaches to empower, support and motivate parents to become partners in the development and implementation of educational support programmes;

(e) ensure collaboration with other bodies, local and foreign, including non-governmental organisations, groups and individuals working in the same field, as necessary to achieve the aims of the Institute;

(f) ensure that the staff team undertakes training and operational research to establish the effectiveness of strategies and methodologies adopted to combat failure in school;

(g) ensure the proper financial and resource management of the Institute;

(h) seek funding and other resources from any appropriate source to carry out its plans;

(i) submit annual estimates of income and expenditure to the Minister for his approval, and to administer its financial affairs in accordance with estimates as approved by the Minister;

(j) commission an annual financial and outcome audit;

(k) submit an annual report of its activities, which shall include its audited accounts, to the Minister and to the Director General.

Staffing.

10. In order to fulfil the aims of the Institute, the Board shall ensure that the Institute has its own qualified personnel, and for this purpose it may enter into the necessary agreements with the Division of Education and other agencies.