

# Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill

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## SEVENTH MARSHALLED

### LIST OF AMENDMENTS

#### TO BE MOVED

#### IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

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*The amendments have been marshalled in accordance with the Instruction of 1st May 2025, as follows –*

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Clauses 1 to 21  | Schedule 3       |
| Schedule 1       | Clauses 52 to 60 |
| Clauses 22 to 35 | Schedule 4       |
| Schedule 2       | Clauses 61 to 67 |
| Clauses 36 to 51 | Title            |

*[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]*

**Amendment  
No.**

**After Clause 26**

BARONESS LISTER OF BURTERSETT  
THE LORD BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD

**166** After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Independent Guardians**

- (1) The Modern Slavery Act 2015 is amended as follows.
- (2) For section 48 substitute –

**“Independent guardians**

- (1) The Secretary of State must make arrangements to enable persons (“independent guardians”) to be available to represent and support children to whom this section applies.
- (2) This section applies to a child if –
  - (a) a reference relating to that child has been, or is about to be, made to a competent authority for a determination for the purposes of Article 10 of the Trafficking Convention as to whether there are reasonable grounds to believe that the child is a victim of modern slavery or human trafficking, and

- (b) there has not been a conclusive determination that the child is not such a victim; and for the purposes of this subsection a determination which has been challenged by way of proceedings for judicial review shall not be treated as conclusive until those proceedings are finally determined.
- (3) This section also applies to a child who appears to the Secretary of State to be a separated child.”
- (3) After section 48 insert –
  - “48A Independent Guardians: functions**
  - (1) This section defines the functions and duties of person appointed as an independent guardian under section 48.
  - (2) The functions of an independent guardian are to –
    - (a) ascertain and communicate the views of the child in relation to matters affecting the child;
    - (b) consult regularly with the child and keeping the child informed of legal and other proceedings affecting the child and any other matters affecting the child;
    - (c) contribute to a plan to safeguard and promote the future welfare of the child based on an individual assessment of that child’s best interests in line with leaving care services.
  - (3) In the discharge of their functions, the independent guardian must at all times act in the best interests of the child.
  - (4) The advocate will assist the child to obtain legal or other advice, assistance and representation, including by appointing and instructing legal representatives to act on the child's behalf.
  - (5) For the purposes of this Act –
    - “separated child” means a child who –
      - (a) is not ordinarily resident in England and Wales, and
      - (b) is separated from all persons who –
        - (i) have parental responsibility for the child, or
        - (ii) before the child’s arrival in England and Wales, were responsible for the child whether by law or custom.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to incorporate the entitlement to independent guardians for separated and trafficked children and set out their functions.*

BARONESS TYLER OF ENFIELD  
BARONESS WALMSLEY

167 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Reporting on early intervention services**

- (1) Local authorities in England exercising social services functions under the Children Act 1989 must report annually to the Secretary of State on early intervention services for children and families in their area funded by statutory safeguarding partners as defined in Section 16E of the Children Act 2004.
- (2) Reports under subsection (1) must include –
  - (a) the number of children and families receiving early intervention support;
  - (b) demographic data relating to the children and families receiving support, including information on protected characteristics as defined in Section 4 of the Equality Act 2010;
  - (c) the types of early intervention services provided;
  - (d) measures taken to ensure accessibility and effectiveness of these services;
  - (e) sources through which children and families are referred to early intervention services;
  - (f) any other information the Secretary of State may require by regulations made by statutory instrument.
- (3) In order to inform those reports –
  - (a) Integrated Care Boards must provide all necessary information to the reporting local authority;
  - (b) the Chief Officer of Police must provide all necessary information to the reporting local authority.
- (4) The Secretary of State must compile and publish all reports submitted under subsection (1).
- (5) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.”

BARONESS BENJAMIN  
LORD STOREY

168 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Child performers’ earnings**

In regulation 14 (Earnings) of the Children (Performances and Activities)(England) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/3309), at end insert –

“(2) The licensing authority must include a condition in the licence that 15% of the sums earned by the child for taking part in the performance or activity must be paid by the employer into an account to be held in trust until the child reaches the age of 18 within thirty calendar days of the conclusion of the engagement.””

BARONESS BARRAN  
BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE  
LORD FARMER

169 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Post-removal support for parents to prevent further removals**

- (1) Where a baby is removed at birth from the care of a parent further to any order made pursuant to –
  - (a) section 31 of the Children Act 1989 (care and supervision orders),
  - (b) section 22 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (placement orders),
  - (c) section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (adoption orders), or
  - (d) section 14A of the Children Act 1989 (special guardianship orders),
 the local authority must provide support to the parent, where the parent is identified as being at risk of experiencing further child removals.
- (2) In discharging their duty under subsection (1), the local authority must provide a range of services, including specialist therapeutic support, appropriate to the particular needs of the parent to reduce the risk of further child removals.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment introduces a new clause which seeks to ensure that local authorities offer evidence based support to reduce the risk of a baby being removed from a mother who has already had a child or children removed from her care.*

BARONESS CASH

170 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“National capacity plan for children’s homes**

- (1) As soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year, the Secretary of State must publish a national capacity plan for children’s homes.
- (2) A national capacity plan under subsection (1) must include the following –
  - (a) the number of children looked after who are living in homes that are not in line with their care plan, or are living in distance placements due to a lack of local placements that are able to meet their needs;
  - (b) how far from their primary location those children are living and which terms of their care plan are not being met, if any;
  - (c) information about the total number of each type of care settings that are required to ensure that local authorities are meeting the requirements of Section 22G of the Children Act 1989 and the number of each type of setting by area;
  - (d) an assessment of the efficacy of the support that Government provided to local authorities to meet the requirements of Section 22G of the Children Act 1989, and to prevent children looked after being moved to distance placements;

- (e) what support the Government will be providing to local authorities to address any deficiencies identified under subsection (2)(d) above to meet the requirements of Section 22G of the Children Act 1989, and to prevent children looked after being moved to distance placements.
- (3) The Secretary of State may delegate the compilation of the national capacity plan under subsection (1).
- (4) In subsection (2) the term “distance placements” means a placement for a child looked after by the local authority more than 20 miles from their home.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to introduce a national plan to ensure there are sufficient children's homes in the right places for looked after children.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE  
LORD FARMER  
BARONESS FINLAY OF LLANDAFF

**171** After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Bereavement support services for children**

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations establish a protocol for the collection and dissemination of information relating to bereavement support services for children.
- (2) A protocol made under subsection (1) must –
  - (a) define the bereavement support services to which the protocol applies, which must include services provided by –
    - (i) local authorities,
    - (ii) NHS bodies, and
    - (iii) charities and other third sector organisations;
  - (b) place a duty on the Secretary of State to publish information, including online, about services to which the protocol applies;
  - (c) place a duty on specified public bodies and other persons to provide information to children about services to which the protocol applies, including –
    - (i) specialist services for children,
    - (ii) services provided online, and
    - (iii) accessible services for deaf and disabled children;
  - (d) where a duty under paragraph (c) applies, require the identification of children who may require a service to which the protocol applies.
- (3) The Secretary of State must make regulations under this section by statutory instrument.
- (4) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament.

- (5) The Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a draft statutory instrument containing regulations under this section within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause would place a duty on the Secretary of State to establish a protocol for the collection and dissemination of information about bereavement support services to children and young people.*

BARONESS BARRAN  
LORD MESTON  
LORD HAMPTON

**172** After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Post-removal support for parents to prevent further removals (No. 2)**

- (1) Where a child –
- (a) is removed from the care of a parent further to any order made pursuant to –
    - (i) section 31 of the Children Act 1989 (care and supervision orders),
    - (ii) section 22 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (placement orders),
    - (iii) section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (adoption orders),
    - or
    - (iv) section 14A of the Children Act 1989 (special guardianship orders),
    - or
  - (b) becomes a looked after child further to an arrangement or order made pursuant to –
    - (i) section 20 of the Children Act 1989 (provision of accommodation for children: voluntary arrangements), or
    - (ii) section 25 of the Children Act 1989 (secure accommodation orders),
 the local authority shall provide support to the parent, where the parent is identified as being at risk of experiencing further child removals.
- (2) In discharging their duty under subsection (1), the local authority shall provide a range of services, including specialist therapeutic support, appropriate to the particular needs of the parent to reduce the risk of further child removals.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment introduces a new clause which seeks to ensure that local authorities offer evidence based support to reduce the risk of a child being removed from a mother who has already had a child or children removed from her care.*

BARONESS TYLER OF ENFIELD  
BARONESS WALMSLEY

173 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“National neglect strategy**

- (1) The Secretary of State must prepare and publish a national neglect strategy that explores and addresses the causes and impacts of child neglect, for the purposes of ensuring that children do not experience neglect.
- (2) In preparing a national neglect strategy the Secretary of State must consider what measures ought to be taken in each of the following areas –
  - (a) the sharing of local and national best practice in dealing with neglect as soon as it is identified;
  - (b) promoting awareness of child neglect to relevant public agencies;
  - (c) the provision of information, advice and training to professionals working with families on the presentation of neglect;
  - (d) the provision of local authorities in identifying and responding to neglect;
  - (e) the provision of information, advice and assistance to parents and the promotion of neglect awareness training to parents;
  - (f) reviewing the definition of neglect within statutory guidance, to ensure it is fit for purpose.
- (3) When preparing the strategy, the Secretary of State must, in addition –
  - (a) consider which groups of children may be disproportionately affected by neglect;
  - (b) consider the likely impact on neglect of each measure within each of those groups;
  - (c) consider the role that socio-economic disadvantage has on levels of neglect;
  - (d) consult with local authorities and other relevant individuals and agencies, including children and families, to inform the strategy.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires the Secretary of State to prepare a national neglect strategy to better understand and address the causes and impacts of child neglect, providing greater protection and support for children and families.*

## BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

174 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Prohibition of delivery of children’s social care services by for-profit companies**

- (1) Any new organisations created to deliver the provisions related to children’s social care in this Part must not be operated by for-profit companies.
- (2) Within five years of the day on which this Act is passed the Secretary of State must ensure that any such organisations in the control of for-profit companies are transferred to not-for-profit or state entities.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to remove the profit motive from children's social care services covered by this Part.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE  
BARONESS BOYCOTT

175 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause—

**“Holiday meals and activity programmes for pupils in receipt of free school meals**

- (1) A local authority must—
  - (a) provide, or
  - (b) coordinate the provision of programmes which provide free meals and activities to relevant children during school holidays.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, “relevant children” means children in receipt of free school meals.
- (3) The Secretary of State may, by regulations made by statutory instrument—
  - (a) specify minimum standards for meals and activities during school holidays;
  - (b) specify criteria that organisations involved in the delivery of meals and activities during school holidays must meet.
- (4) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause would place a duty on local authorities to provide or coordinate free meals and activities for children eligible for free school meals during school holidays.*

BARONESS STEDMAN-SCOTT  
THE EARL OF EFFINGHAM

176 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause—

**“Impact assessment: weekend jobs**

- (1) The Secretary of State must carry out an assessment of the likely impact of section 26 (Employment of children in England) on the ability of children to get employment during the weekend.
- (2) The Secretary of State must lay a report setting out the findings of the assessment before each House of Parliament.”



LORD NASH  
BARONESS BARRAN

177 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Action to promote the wellbeing of children in relation to social media**

- (1) Within 12 months of the passing of this Act, the Secretary of State must, for the purposes of promoting the wellbeing of children –
  - (a) direct the Chief Medical Officers of the United Kingdom (“the UK CMOs”) to prepare and publish advice for parents and carers on the use of social media by children at different ages and developmental stages, and
  - (b) by regulations made by statutory instrument require all regulated user-to-user services to use highly-effective age assurance measures to prevent children under the age of 16 from becoming or being users.
- (2) Any advice published under subsection (1)(a) must have regard to –
  - (a) the paper published on 7 February 2019 entitled “United Kingdom Chief Medical Officers’ commentary on ‘Screen-based activities and children and young people’s mental health and psychosocial wellbeing: a systematic map of reviews’”, and
  - (b) any scientific or other developments since the publication of that paper which appear to the UK CMOs to be relevant.
- (3) Any regulations under subsection (1)(b) must be treated as an enforceable requirement within the meaning of section 131 (and for the purposes of Part 7) of the Online Safety Act 2023.
- (4) A statutory instrument containing regulations under subsection (1)(b) may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.
- (5) For the purposes of this section –

“the Chief Medical Officers of the United Kingdom” means the Chief Medical Officers for –

  - (a) England,
  - (b) Wales,
  - (c) Scotland, and
  - (d) Northern Ireland;

“regulated user-to-user services” is as defined in the Online Safety Act 2023.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause would require the Secretary of State to take action to promote children’s wellbeing in relation to their use of social media by commissioning advice from the Chief Medical Officers and introducing regulations to prevent under 16s from accessing social media.*

## BARONESS BARRAN

178 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Fosters carers’ delegated authority for children in their care**

- (1) Where a child (“C”) who is looked after by the local authority is placed with a foster parent (“F”) by a local authority, F may make decisions on C’s behalf in relation to the matters set out in subsection (2) where C’s placement plan does not specify an alternative decision maker.
- (2) The matters referred to in subsection (1) are –
  - (a) medical and dental treatment,
  - (b) education,
  - (c) leisure and home life,
  - (d) faith and religious observance,
  - (e) use of social media,
  - (f) personal care, and
  - (g) any other matters which F considers appropriate.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that foster carers have a clear delegated authority to make the day to day decisions in a child’s life.*

## LORD FARMER

179 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“English local authorities: duties relating to Start for Life offer**

- (1) An English local authority must publish a Start for Life offer for its area on its website under the heading “Start for Life”.
- (2) A “Start for Life offer” for an English local authority’s area is information about the following services that the authority is aware are available in its area for infants, parents, or carers of infants –
  - (a) health visiting services provided by or on behalf of a public authority;
  - (b) services promoting positive relationships between infants and their parents or carers provided by or on behalf of a public authority;
  - (c) breastfeeding and other infant feeding services provided by or on behalf of a public authority;
  - (d) mental health services provided by or on behalf of a public authority;
  - (e) such other kinds of services that are –
    - (i) likely to support infants, parents, or carers of infants, and
    - (ii) provided by or on behalf of a public authority, as the Secretary of State may specify by regulations made by statutory instrument;
  - (f) such services that are likely to support infants, parents, or carers of infants being –

- (i) services of a kind mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (e) provided other than by or on behalf of a public authority, or
  - (ii) other services, whether or not provided by or on behalf of a public authority, as the local authority considers it appropriate to include information about in the Start for Life offer for its area.
- (4) An English local authority must also –
- (a) publish a Start for Life offer for its area by any other means it considers appropriate,
  - (b) take such steps as it considers appropriate to bring the Start for Life offer to the attention of parents and carers of infants in its area, and
  - (c) take such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure that the Start for Life offer is kept up to date.
- (5) An English local authority must have regard to guidance published by the Secretary of State under section (*Guidance*) when complying with its duties under this section.
- (6) A statutory instrument containing regulations under subsection (2)(e) may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This and the following four clauses require local authorities to make information available about support for infants, parents and carers of infants and include reporting requirements relating to such support, to help ensure children's safety and well-being in the critical first two years of life.*

LORD FARMER

180

After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Guidance**

- (1) The Secretary of State must publish guidance to English local authorities relating to their duties under section (*English local authorities: duties relating to Start for Life offer*).
- (2) Before publishing guidance under subsection (1), and any revisions to the guidance that the Secretary of State considers substantive, the Secretary of State must consult –
  - (a) English local authorities, and
  - (b) such other persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.
- (3) If –
  - (a) consultation was undertaken during a period before the day (“The commencement day”) on which this section comes into force (including during a period that occurred before the day on which this Act is passed), and
  - (b) the consultation would to any extent have satisfied subsection (2) had it occurred on or after the commencement day,

then, on the commencement day, the consultation is taken to satisfy subsection (2) to that extent.”

LORD FARMER

181 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Secretary of State’s duty to report**

- (1) The Secretary of State must publish a report each year relating to support available in England for infants, parents and carers of infants.
- (2) The report must include –
  - (a) an overview of support that is available for such persons through services of the kind covered by section (*English local authorities: duties relating to Start for Life offer*)(2)(a) to (f), and
  - (b) such other information as the Secretary of State considers is appropriate to include in the report (for example, information about any impacts of support on outcomes for such persons, or steps that are being taken in relation to the collection of information relating to such impacts).
- (3) A report under subsection (1) must be published on a government website as soon as reasonably practicable after 1 April in the relevant year.”

LORD FARMER

182 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Data protection**

- (1) Sections (*English local authorities: duties relating to Start for Life offer*) and (*Secretary of State’s duty to report*) do not require a publication of information if the publication would contravene the data protection legislation (but in determining whether the publication would do so, take into account the duties imposed by those sections).
- (2) In subsection (1), “the data protection legislation” has the same meaning as in the Data Protection Act 2018 (see section 3(9) of that Act).”

LORD FARMER

183 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Interpretation**

- (1) In sections (*English local authorities: duties relating to Start for Life offer*) and (*Guidance*) –
 

“English local authority” means –

  - (a) a county council in England,
  - (b) a district council for an area in England for which there is no county council,

- (c) a London borough council,
  - (d) the Common Council of the City of London in its capacity as a local authority, or
  - (e) the Council of the Isles of Scilly;
- “infant” means a child under the age of two years.
- (2) In section (*English local authorities: duties relating to Start for Life offer*), a service is “provided by or on behalf of a public authority” if –
- (a) the service is provided by or on behalf of a person who has a function of a public nature, and
  - (b) the service is provided in the performance of that function.”

THE LORD BISHOP OF MANCHESTER

**183A** After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Equalising Universal Credit**

- (1) The Universal Credit Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/376) are amended as follows.
- (2) In regulation 36 (table showing amounts of elements), under “Standard allowance” –
  - “(a) after “single claimant aged under 25” insert “, other than a care leaver”, and
  - (b) after “single claimant aged 25 or over” insert “or a care leaver aged under 25”. ””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would amend the Universal Credit Regulations 2013 to increase the standard allowance entitlement of universal credit for individuals leaving care once they turn 18 to match the amount available to claimants aged 25 or over.*

BARONESS CASH

**183B** After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Strategy for early childhood development and school readiness**

- (1) The Secretary of State must prepare and publish a national strategy to promote the health, development, and school readiness of all children from birth to the age of five.
- (2) The strategy under section (1) must include –
  - (a) delivery of the Healthy Child Programme (0–5 years) whether by placing on a statutory footing or otherwise to provide at least the following five developmental reviews –
    - (i) an antenatal health promoting visit;
    - (ii) a new baby review (10–14 days);
    - (iii) a 6–8 week review;

- (iv) a 1-year review;
  - (v) a 2–2½ year review;
  - (b) the means to ensure children identified as at risk of developmental delay, neglect, or early adversity through the mandated reviews are referred to appropriate early intervention services without delay;
  - (c) the integration and sharing of data between health visiting, maternity, general practice, early years education, and safeguarding services;
  - (d) support for children's development in the early years through access to high-quality early education and care, including in maintained, private, and voluntary sector settings;
  - (e) support for parents and carers through accessible information, advice, and locally commissioned services from the birth of their child to school entry;
  - (f) improved coordination between health, early years, social care and education professionals through multi-agency working at local level;
  - (g) the establishment of a national early years data and monitoring system to enable anonymised tracking of—
    - (i) coverage and completion rates of developmental reviews;
    - (ii) key indicators of child development and school readiness;
    - (iii) patterns of referral and access to early intervention services;
  - (h) reduction of inequalities in early childhood development and improved access to support for children from all socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds.
- (3) The Secretary of State must lay before Parliament an annual report on the implementation of this strategy, including—
- (a) progress made in delivering the Healthy Child Programme or equivalent programme nationally;
  - (b) developmental and school readiness outcomes at age 5, disaggregated by region and demographic group;
  - (c) an assessment of workforce capacity and local delivery arrangements for the reviews and support under this clause;
  - (d) any disparities or deficiencies in service access or outcomes.
- (4) For the purposes of this section, “school readiness” includes a child's ability, by the beginning of the academic year in which they turn five, to—
- (a) manage basic personal needs including toileting, handwashing, and eating with minimal assistance;
  - (b) understand and follow simple instructions in a structured environment;
  - (c) express themselves using age-appropriate spoken language or alternative communication;
  - (d) regulate their emotions and behaviour in a way appropriate for learning with peers;
  - (e) sustain attention and participate in group activities for short periods;
  - (f) engage in cooperative play and early social interaction;
  - (g) demonstrate emerging fine and gross motor skills, including early mark-making, drawing, or movement.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This clause introduces a duty on the Secretary of State to review and improve the national infrastructure for early childhood development monitoring and support to ensure that every child receives regular checks in their first five years and that local systems are better integrated to support school readiness.*

BARONESS BARRAN

**183C** After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Court ordered reports**

Any court ordered report produced for the purposes of either private or public law cases in family court proceedings under the Children Act 1989 must be done by a qualified social worker.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that all court ordered reports are produced by qualified social workers, for example those under Section 7 of the Children Act 1989.*

BARONESS PENN  
LORD RUSSELL OF LIVERPOOL  
BARONESS KIDRON  
BARONESS CASS

**183CA** After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Guidance on the use of screens and technology in early years settings**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, update the early years foundation stage statutory framework for children aged 0-5 in early years settings to include guidance on the appropriate and safe use of screens and technology in early years settings.
- (2) The guidance must include recommendations concerning –
  - (a) limits for screen time for children (specific to their age) in early years settings;
  - (b) safeguarding policies for the use of personal devices and other screens in early years settings;
  - (c) any benefits, harms or risk of harm associated with the exposure of children of differing ages to personal devices and other screens in early years settings;
  - (d) any benefits, harms or risk of harms associated specifically with the exposure of children with special educational needs or disabilities to personal devices and other screens in early years settings;
  - (e) any other positive or negative effects associated with the use or presence of personal devices for early years development and play;
  - (f) the balancing of screen-based and non-digital activities for children in early years settings.”

BARONESS PENN  
 LORD RUSSELL OF LIVERPOOL  
 BARONESS KIDRON  
 BARONESS CASS

**183CB** After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**“Public information campaign on the use of screens and technology for children aged 0-5**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within twelve months of the day on which this Act is passed, establish a public information campaign concerning the impact of screen time on the wellbeing of children aged 0-5.
- (2) The campaign must include, but is not limited to –
  - (a) guidance on the impact of screens on whole child health, both immediate and long term, including –
    - (i) cognitive,
    - (ii) social,
    - (iii) eyesight,
    - (iv) neurodevelopmental,
    - (v) speech, and
    - (vi) language issues.
  - (b) clear recommended boundaries on appropriate screen time limits for children, including times and places that should be screen-free, such as mealtimes and bedtimes;
  - (c) the impact of carers' usage of personal devices and screens on child development;
  - (d) guidance on the importance of screen-free time, outside time and child and parent interaction with examples of alternatives, such as –
    - (i) bedtime stories,
    - (ii) helping with chores, and
    - (iii) interacting with the environment;
  - (e) guidance that digital "educational" apps are not necessary for healthy development, and the risks of screen usage for young children still apply when using these apps.”

BARONESS COFFEY

**183CC** After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

**Review: child maintenance enforcement**

- (1) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish a review considering whether the overall wellbeing of children is being harmed by the non-commencement of section 34 of the Child Maintenance and Other Payments Act 2008 (transfer of arrears) and the uncommenced sections



of both the Child Support Collection (Domestic Abuse) Act 2023 and the Child Support (Enforcement) Act 2023.

- (2) If the review considers that the overall wellbeing of children is being harmed by the non-commencement of those provisions, the Secretary of State must, within two months of the publication of the review, make a statement setting out the Government's position on the commencement of those provisions."

LORD CARLILE OF BERRIEW

**183CD** After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause—

**“Early intervention and screening at first contact with the justice system**

- (1) Within two years of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish a strategy to protect and promote the wellbeing of children in police custody.
- (2) The strategy must set out—
- (a) steps which should be taken to ensure that all children taken into police custody are screened for SEND and neurodivergence using a nationally approved methodology,
  - (b) the accredited training police officers and legal representatives of the children must complete to support the child's wellbeing and to aid recognition of SEND and neurodivergence,
  - (c) mandatory access to sources of wellbeing support during any police interview, and
  - (d) minimum standards for the treatment and conditions of children detained in police custody.”

**Clause 27**

LORD WATSON OF INVERGOWRIE

**183D** Clause 27, page 45, line 29, at end insert “and for all pupils attending special schools”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require the delivery of school breakfast provision to all pupils in special schools, regardless of their age.*

LORD AGNEW OF OULTON

**184** Clause 27, page 45, line 29, at end insert—

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must make arrangements to underwrite the full cost impact of the provision in subsection (1), including—
- (a) recompense for teachers' directed time diverted from teaching,
  - (b) additional non-teaching staff required for catering and supervision, and

- (c) the cost of good quality ingredients to ensure that the meals are nutritious.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that the Secretary of State underwrites the cost of providing free breakfast club provision.*

LORD ADDINGTON

- 185 Clause 27, page 45, line 35, at end insert “and,
- (c) the provision before the start of the first school session on each school day of voluntary activities known to improve wellbeing, including –
    - (i) community sports programmes,
    - (ii) art, music and cultural activities, and
    - (iii) youth clubs and mentoring.
- (2A) When providing voluntary activities in subsection (2)(c), schools must –
- (a) identify and engage with local voluntary and community organisations,
  - (b) ensure pupils and families are informed about available opportunities, and
  - (c) consider access and inclusion for disadvantaged or vulnerable pupils.”

LORD MOYNIHAN

- 185A Clause 27, page 45, line 35, at end insert “and,
- (c) the provision of activities consisting of physical activity which contributes to the UK Chief Medical Officers' Physical Activity Guidelines before the start of the first school session on each school day.”

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND  
BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON

- 186 Clause 27, page 46, line 10, at end insert –
- “(5A) The appropriate authority must take all reasonable measures to ensure that provision under this section is accessible to all qualifying pupils with special educational needs or who are disabled.
  - (5B) In the case of a child who has special educational needs or is disabled, the local authority who is responsible for that child must co-operate with the appropriate authority in discharging its duties under this section in respect of that child.
  - (5C) Co-operation under subsection (5B) must include, but not be limited to –

- (a) ensuring that any provision of home to school transport for that child is scheduled so that the child can attend the breakfast club, and
  - (b) reviewing any Education, Health and Care Plan to ensure that appropriate support is in place to enable the child to attend the breakfast club.
- (5D) Where a child is receiving education otherwise than at school but would have been a qualifying pupil were they attending school, the local authority who is responsible for that child must endeavour to make arrangements for breakfast provision for that child, taking into account any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.”

## LORD WATSON OF INVERGOWRIE

**186A** Clause 27, page 46, line 30, at end insert –

““special schools” has the meaning set out in section 337 of the Education Act 1996.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment defines special schools and is consequential on another amendment to clause 27 in the name of Lord Watson of Invergowrie.*

BARONESS BARRAN  
THE EARL OF EFFINGHAM

**186B** Clause 27, page 47, line 10, leave out from “may” to “by” in line 11

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This probing amendment would allow the Secretary of State to lift the duty to provide free breakfast clubs on schools by notice without prior application from the appropriate authority of a relevant school.*

BARONESS BARRAN  
THE EARL OF EFFINGHAM

**186C** Clause 27, page 47, line 17, at end insert –

“(c) teachers at the relevant schools.”

## BARONESS LISTER OF BURTERSETT

**187** Clause 27, page 47, line 35, at end insert –

**“551CA Promotion of supplementary models of breakfast club provision**

The Secretary of State must seek to promote and support the development of supplementary models of breakfast club provision where appropriate, including –

- (a) classroom based provision,
- (b) nurture group services, and
- (c) any other model that the Secretary of State reasonably considers to have added benefits beyond the provision of food.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require the Secretary of State to promote supplementary models of school breakfast provision.*

LORD WATSON OF INVERGOWRIE

**187A** Clause 27, page 48, line 10, at end insert –

**“551E Publication of data**

The Secretary of State must acquire and regularly publish data on breakfast club provision in schools, including data on –

- (a) characteristics of those receiving breakfast in schools (including eligibility for free school meals);
- (b) uptake levels;
- (c) satisfaction levels amongst pupils and parents;
- (d) any assessment of the impact of provision on attendance, behaviour, health and wellbeing.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require the Secretary of State to acquire and regularly publish data on breakfast club provision in schools.*

**After Clause 27**

BARONESS BARRAN  
THE EARL OF EFFINGHAM

**187B** After Clause 27, insert the following new Clause –

**“Impact assessment on the provision of longer breakfast clubs**

Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish an impact assessment on the impact of the changes made by section 27 on the provision of paid breakfast clubs of more than 30 minutes in length.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to require an impact assessment to see how the introduction of a 30 minute free breakfast club will impact the existing longer paid breakfast clubs used by working parents.*

**After Clause 28**

BARONESS WALMSLEY  
BARONESS LISTER OF BURTERSETT  
LORD MOHAMMED OF TINSLEY  
BARONESS CASS

188 [Withdrawn]

BARONESS WALMSLEY  
BARONESS LISTER OF BURTERSETT  
LORD MOHAMMED OF TINSLEY  
BARONESS CASS

189 After Clause 28, insert the following new Clause—

**“Review of free school meal eligibility and pupil premium registration**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, conduct a review of—
  - (a) the number of children in England who are eligible for free school meals but are not claiming them,
  - (b) the number of children who are eligible for free school meals but are not registered for the purposes of pupil premium funding,
  - (c) the number of additional children who would be eligible for free school meals if the income thresholds had been uprated in line with inflation since 2018, and
  - (d) the number of additional children who would be eligible for free school meals if the income thresholds were set at £20,000 per annum after tax.
- (2) A review under subsection (1) must include an assessment of—
  - (a) barriers preventing eligible children from claiming free school meals,
  - (b) disparities in take-up rates across different regions and demographics, and
  - (c) the financial and educational impact of under-registration on schools and local authorities.
- (3) The Secretary of State must lay a report before Parliament setting out the findings of the review, including any recommendations for improving registration for and take-up of free school meals and pupil premium funding.
- (4) The review and report required under this section must be repeated annually.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires a review of free school meal eligibility and pupil premium registration.*

BARONESS WALMSLEY  
BARONESS CASS

190 After Clause 28, insert the following new Clause –

**“School food improvement scheme**

- (1) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must review the national school food standards, including breakfasts, and institute a scheme for monitoring compliance with the standards in England, and supporting schools and school caterers in England to meet those standards (‘the national school food improvement scheme’).
- (2) The purpose of the national school food improvement scheme will be to determine whether applicable food standards duties are being met in the provision of all food in schools in England and to assist schools and school caterers in meeting applicable food standards duties in England.
- (3) The national school food improvement scheme may from time to time publish reports highlighting achievements, sharing successful approaches, and offering guidance as it sees fit relating to school food standards in England.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This new clause would improve the national school food standards and establish a national school food improvement scheme, to ensure that the breakfast club provision included within this Bill, along with all other school food, follows school food standards, and to support schools to meet those standards.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE  
BARONESS LISTER OF BURTERSETT

191 After Clause 28, insert the following new Clause –

**“Auto-enrolment for free school meals**

After section 512ZA of the Education Act 1996 (power to charge for meals etc.) insert –

**“512ZAA Identification of children eligible for free school meals**

- (1) The Secretary of State must identify all children eligible for free school meals in England.
- (2) A child’s eligibility for free school meals is not dependent on any application having been made for free school meals on their behalf.
- (3) Where a child has been identified as eligible for free school meals, the Secretary of State must provide for this information to be shared with –
  - (a) the school at which the child is registered, and
  - (b) the relevant local education authority.

- (4) Where a school has been informed that a child on its pupil roll is eligible for free school meals, the school must provide that child with a free school meal.
- (5) A local education authority must provide the means for a parent or guardian of a child who has been identified as eligible for free school meals to opt out of the provision of a free school meal under subsection (4).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause would place a duty on the Secretary of State to proactively identify all children eligible for free school meals in England, making the application process for free school meals opt-out rather than opt-in.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE  
BARONESS LISTER OF BURTERSETT

192

After Clause 28, insert the following new Clause –

**“Free school meals for all primary school pupils**

- (1) Section 512ZB of the Education Act 1996 (provision of free school lunches and milk) is amended as follows.
- (2) In paragraph (4A)(b), after “year 2” insert “, year 3, year 4, year 5, year 6”.
- (3) In subsection (4C), after the definition of “year 2” insert –
  - ““year 3” means a year group in which the majority of children will, in the school year, attain the age of 8;
  - “year 4” means a year group in which the majority of children will, in the school year, attain the age of 9;
  - “year 5” means a year group in which the majority of children will, in the school year, attain the age of 10;
  - “year 6” means a year group in which the majority of children will, in the school year, attain the age of 11.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause would extend free school lunches to all primary school age children in state funded schools.*

BARONESS WALMSLEY  
 BARONESS LISTER OF BURTERSETT  
 LORD MOHAMMED OF TINSLEY  
 BARONESS CASS

193 After Clause 28, insert the following new Clause –

**“Registration of children eligible for free school meals**

After section 512ZA of the Education Act 1996 (power to charge for meals etc.) insert –

**“512ZAA Registration of children eligible for free school meals**

The Secretary of State must ensure that free school meals are provided to –

- (a) all children in England who are eligible to receive free school meals, and
- (b) all children whose household income is less than £20,000 per year.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment ensures auto-enrolment to free school meals for eligible children.*

BARONESS BOYCOTT  
 LORD BROOKE OF ALVERTHORPE  
 BARONESS SUTTIE  
 BARONESS WALMSLEY

194 After Clause 28, insert the following new Clause –

**“School food standards: breakfasts and lunch**

The Secretary of State must –

- (a) update the school food standards to ensure that –
  - (i) a variety of fruit is made available at both breakfast and lunchtime;
  - (ii) no food, condiment or spread is served at either breakfast or lunch that contains more than 5g of sugar per 100g;
  - (iii) two portions of vegetables are served with every lunch;
  - (iv) only water, dairy milk, or non-sweetened plant-based milk drinks are served at both breakfast and lunch;
- (b) update the school food standards annually to ensure they –
  - (i) conform to the most recent nutritional advice according to the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition;
  - (ii) have regard to the country’s sustainability and food security needs.”



**Clause 29**

LORD MOHAMMED OF TINSLEY

**195** Clause 29, page 49, leave out lines 9 to 16 and insert—

- “(1) The appropriate authority of a relevant school in England may not require a pupil at the school to have to buy branded items of school uniform for use during a school year which cost more in total to purchase than a specified monetary amount, to be reviewed annually.
- (1A) The Secretary of State may by regulations specify the monetary amount that may apply to—
  - (a) a primary pupil, and
  - (b) a secondary pupil.
- (1B) A statutory instrument containing regulations under subsection (1A) may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment imposes a monetary cap, rather than an item cap, on branded uniform items.*

LORD HAMPTON

**196** Clause 29, page 49, line 14, leave out “three” and insert “five”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment raises the item limit on branded secondary school uniform that a school can mandate from three to five items.*

LORD HAMPTON

**197** Clause 29, page 49, line 15, leave out “four” and insert “six”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment raises the item limit on branded secondary school uniform that a school can mandate from four to six items when including a tie.*

LORD YOUNG OF ACTON

**197A** Clause 29, page 49, line 16, at end insert—

“unless the branded item of school uniform has been provided or lent to the primary pupil or the secondary pupil free of charge by the appropriate authority or by anyone else.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*The amendment would exclude from the restriction on branded clothing items of school uniform which have been provided or lent to a pupil free of charge.*

BARONESS BARRAN

198 Clause 29, page 49, line 18, at end insert –

- “(2A) Where the appropriate authority of a relevant school provides second-hand branded items which –
- (a) comply with the school’s uniform requirements,
  - (b) are in an acceptable condition, and
  - (c) can be purchased for significantly less than the cost of buying the item new,
- the appropriate authority may require a pupil to have more than three branded items of uniform.
- (2B) Where the appropriate authority provides branded items which –
- (a) comply with the school’s uniform requirements,
  - (b) are new, and
  - (c) can be purchased for significantly less than the cost of buying the item non-branded,
- the appropriate authority may require a pupil to have more than three branded items of uniform.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow schools to require more than three branded items of uniform if they are making them available, whether new or second-hand, at a lower cost than buying non-branded items.*

BARONESS BARRAN

199 Clause 29, page 49, line 27, at end insert “except items of kit required when representing the school in sporting activities”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to exclude items of PE kit required when representing the school in sporting activities from the limit on branded items of school uniform.*

LORD MOYNIHAN

199ZA Clause 29, page 49, line 27, at end insert “except items of kit required for sporting activities”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to exclude items of PE kit from the limit on branded items of school uniform.*

BARONESS PARMINTER  
BARONESS BOYCOTT

199A [Withdrawn]

## LORD AGNEW OF OULTON

200 Leave out Clause 29, and insert the following new Clause—

**“School uniforms**

- (1) Members of academy trusts must oversee the cost of school uniforms and all other apparel that is needed by pupils in their school in the course of an academic year.
- (2) Members of academy trusts must require that the board of the academy trust that they oversee produces an annual report on—
  - (a) the cost of this uniform and apparel,
  - (b) what actions are being taken to minimise the cost of this uniform and apparel, and
  - (c) how effective the academy board has been in administering its duties in relation to uniform and apparel.
- (3) The report in subsection (2) must be published on the Academy Trust website within 14 days of its submission to the members by the board.
- (4) The Director of Children’s Services must oversee the cost of school uniforms and all other apparel that is needed by pupils in the local authority schools for which they have responsibility in the course of an academic year.
- (5) Academy trusts or local authority schools must maintain and publish information on the cost of specific apparel needed by pupils in its schools.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to increase scrutiny and transparency in relation to the cost of bespoke uniform and apparel required by schools.*

**After Clause 29**LORD MOHAMMED OF TINSLEY  
THE LORD BISHOP OF MANCHESTER

201 After Clause 29, insert the following new Clause—

**“VAT zero-rating for certain items of school uniform**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, make provision by regulations for certain items of school uniform to be zero-rated for the purposes of VAT.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, “certain items of school uniform” means items of school uniform for pupils up to the age of 16.

- (3) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment makes provision for certain items of school uniform to be zero-rated for the purposes of VAT.*

BARONESS PARMINTER

**202** After Clause 29, insert the following new Clause –

**“School uniforms: second-hand provision**

- (1) The appropriate authority of a relevant school must provide access to second hand items of school uniform.
- (2) In this section, “the appropriate authority” means –
- (a) in relation to an Academy school, an alternative provision Academy, a non-maintained special school, a city technology college or a city college for the technology of the arts, the proprietor;
  - (b) in relation to a maintained school, the governing body;
  - (c) in relation to a pupil referral unit, the local authority.”

BARONESS PARMINTER

BARONESS BOYCOTT

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

*This amendment replaces Amendment 199A, which was marshalled in the wrong place in error, and corrects its location on the Marshalled List*

**202A** After Clause 29, insert the following new Clause –

**“School uniforms: transparency and materials**

After section 551ZA of the Education Act 1996, insert –

*“Regulations for levels of PFAS chemicals and transparency*

**551ZB School uniforms: transparency and materials**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within three months of the day on which the Children’s Wellbeing and Schools Act 2025 comes into force, issue regulations to –
- (a) ban the use of PFAS in school uniforms;
  - (b) require producers of school uniforms to provide a digital product passport listing the chemicals in the product to enable safe end of life disposal or recycling.
- (2) The ban in section (1)(a) must set the limit for residual PFAS in textiles to no more than 50 mg F/kg (50 ppm).

(3) in this section—

“PFAS” means per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as defined and listed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD);

“School uniforms” has the same meaning as in section 29(3) and (4).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would ensure that branded school uniform items do not contain PFAS chemicals, and would require producers of non-branded school uniform items to state whether any PFAS chemicals have been used, and to provide a digital product passport to improve the recyclability of school uniform products.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**202B** After Clause 29, insert the following new Clause—

**“Uniform safety: regulations and requirements**

After section 551ZA of the Education Act 1996, insert—

**“551ZB Uniform safety: regulations and requirements**

Within one year of the day on which the Children’s Wellbeing and Schools Act 2025 is passed, the Secretary of State must, by regulation, make provision to reduce risks of school uniform items if, when used as intended or under conditions which can reasonably be foreseen, they could—

- (a) endanger the health or safety of persons, or
- (b) cause unreasonable public health or environmental health risk.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow the Secretary of State to regulate school uniforms, given the human and environmental health risks they represent from artificial fibres and chemical constituents.*

**Clause 30**

LORD FROST  
LORD WEI

**202C** Clause 30, page 50, line 32, leave out “withdraw the child from school” and insert “remove the child’s name from the school roll”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This is a probing amendment seeking to establish how these provisions would relate to flexischooling children, that is, children who are not full-time in school with the agreement of their school and therefore remain on the school roll.*

BARONESS BARRAN

**203** Clause 30, page 51, line 2, leave out “condition A or”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment, along with another in the name of Baroness Barran, seeks to remove the requirement for local authorities to consent to the withdrawal of a child with SEND from school.*

LORD WEI

**203A** Clause 30, page 51, leave out lines 2 to 23 and insert –

- “(c) a local authority is –
- (i) conducting enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 (duty to investigate) in respect of the child, or
  - (ii) taking action under section 47(8) of that Act to safeguard or promote the child's welfare, in a case where the enquiries mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) have led the local authority to conclude that the child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm (within the meaning of section 31(9) and (10) of that Act).”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment limits consent requirements to safeguarding cases under section 47 of the Children Act 1989. It removes subsection (3) of 434A, recognising special school placement as supportive, not suspicious, and ensures local authorities must evidence actual harm risk, rather than requiring parents to justify withdrawal.*

LORD LUCAS  
BARONESS BARRAN

**204** Clause 30, page 51, leave out lines 3 to 14

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to allow a general debate on condition A.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD FROST

**205** Clause 30, page 51, leave out lines 16 and 17

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to allow a debate on the effects of this clause and of the reasons for section 47 enquiries, and the intersection with abusive relationships.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD FROST  
BARONESS FOX OF BUCKLEY

- 206 Clause 30, page 51, line 17, after “child” insert “which bear directly upon the suitability of the child’s home as a location for their education, and are not prompted by the allegations of the other parent, or by the decision to home educate”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow a debate of whether section 47 investigations can be excluded from being taken into account.*

BARONESS BARRAN

- 207 Clause 30, page 51, line 23, at end insert –
- “(c) providing services to the child or their family under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 (provision of services for children in need, their families and others), or
  - (d) has ever provided services to the child or their family under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 (local authority’s duty to investigate).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure local authorities had to consent to withdrawing children from school if there is a child protection plan in place or if a child is a “child in need”, or if there has ever been a child protection plan in place, in relation to the relevant child or their family.*

LORD LUCAS

- 208 Clause 30, page 51, leave out lines 30 and 31

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe how school proprietors have knowledge of the information referenced in this paragraph.*

LORD YOUNG OF COOKHAM  
LORD RUSSELL OF LIVERPOOL  
LORD STOREY  
LORD WATSON OF INVERGOWRIE

- 209 Clause 30, page 51, line 31, at end insert –
- “(5A) If a local authority in England receives a notification relating to a child who is a young carer, then it must ensure that a Young Carers’ Needs Assessment is offered under section 17ZA of the Children Act 1989 prior to the child being withdrawn from the school.
  - (5B) If a local authority in Wales receives a notification relating to a child who is a young carer, then it must ensure that a Needs Assessment is offered

under section 24 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 prior to the child being withdrawn from the school.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that withdrawing a young carer from school does not result in increases in their caring responsibilities or the loss of support.*

LORD LUCAS  
BARONESS FOX OF BUCKLEY

**210** Clause 30, page 51, line 36, after “delay” insert “and, in any event, within 28 days”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe the meaning of “without undue delay”.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD FROST  
BARONESS FOX OF BUCKLEY  
LORD CRISP

**211** Clause 30, page 51, leave out lines 39 and 40

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to restore the current relationship between state and parents with regard to education.*

LORD CRISP

**211A** Clause 30, page 51, leave out lines 39 and 40 and insert –

“(i) that the enquiries mentioned in subsection (4)(a) have led the authority to conclude that the child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm (within the meaning of sections 9 and 10 of the Children Act 1989), or”

LORD WEI  
*Revised version of Amendment 212*

**212★** Clause 30, page 51, leave out lines 39 to 43 and insert “that there exists clear, documented evidence, of a standard sufficient to satisfy a court, that withdrawal from school would result in harm to the child but otherwise must grant consent,

(c) must not refuse consent where the parent is reasonably concerned that the child is experiencing harm as a result of attending their current school, unless there is compelling evidence, of a standard sufficient to satisfy a court, that withdrawal would result in greater harm.”



**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to ensure that a parent's reasonable concern about the harm their child is experiencing in school is given due weight in decisions about elective home education. Local authorities may only refuse consent to withdraw where they can provide clear, documented evidence – of a standard sufficient to satisfy a court – that withdrawal would result in greater harm to the child. This aims to protect the child's welfare while upholding the parent's primary responsibility for their child's education and well-being.*

LORD CRISP

213 [Withdrawn]

LORD WEI

214 [Withdrawn]

LORD LUCAS

215 Clause 30, page 51, line 43, at end insert –

“(6A) In making a decision under subsection (6)(b)(i), a local authority must make a realistic assessment of similar children in the school where the child is to be placed.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to ensure that any refusal is taken against the background of the actual characteristics of the school that the child might attend.*

LORD WEI

*Revised version of amendment 214*

215A Clause 30, page 51, line 43, at end insert –

“(6A) Before they deregister a child from a maintained school for the purpose of elective home education, the relevant local authority must offer the parent a voluntary information session, which must include –

- (a) an explanation of the parent's legal rights and responsibilities involved in home education,
- (b) information on available support services, and
- (c) information on the process and implications of withdrawal.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment ensures parents receive clear, factual information about their legal rights and duties before deciding to deregister their child from school.*

## LORD LUCAS

**216** Clause 30, page 52, leave out lines 8 and 9

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow discussion of "exceptional circumstances" and safeguards.*

## LORD LUCAS

**217** Clause 30, page 52, line 11, at end insert –

“(8A) In subsection (8)(b), exceptional circumstances will always apply where domestic abuse is alleged or established, with or without the existence of a court order, unless the local authority has reasonable cause to think that the allegations are not true.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe the intersection of domestic abuse and subsection (8)(b).*

## LORD WEI

**218** Clause 30, page 52, line 11, at end insert –

“(8A) A local authority representative must not make any decision under this section in relation to elective home education unless that representative has at least two years of personal experience of home educating their own children.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires officials overseeing home education to have at least two years of personal experience, to ensure that decisions are informed by genuine understanding, reducing conflict, and improving trust, fairness, and oversight quality.*

## BARONESS BARRAN

**219** Clause 30, page 52, line 11, at end insert –

“(8A) Where a local authority refuses consent in respect of a child who meets the criteria for Condition A, the local authority must provide the parents or carers of the relevant child with a statement of reasons for the decision.

(8B) A statement of reasons provided under subsection (8A) must include an assessment of the costs and benefits to the child.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require a local authority to submit a statement of reasons when they do not agree for a child who meets Condition A to be home educated.*

## LORD LUCAS

- 220 Clause 30, page 52, line 18, after “child” insert “unless such other circumstances apply which make it unreasonable not to do so”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to cover such events as children relocating including out of the UK.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD FROST  
BARONESS FOX OF BUCKLEY  
LORD CRISP

- 221 Clause 30, page 52, leave out lines 24 to 35 and insert—

- “(10) A parent may appeal to the Tribunal against a decision of the local authority to refuse consent to withdraw the child from school, or the local authority’s failure to grant such consent within 28 days of the parent’s application for consent.
- (10A) An appeal under subsection (10) must be brought within a period of 28 days beginning with the date on which the local authority’s decision was notified to the parent.
- (10B) On an appeal, the Tribunal may—
- (a) confirm the decision of the local authority, or
  - (b) direct that consent for withdrawal is given.
- (10C) The Tribunal may, if the parent submits evidence from a suitably qualified medical practitioner as to the likely harm to the child if they remain in school, and evidence as to the parent’s suitability to care for the child at home, direct that the child be allowed to remain at home pending determination of the appeal.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would afford a parent a right of appeal against a local authority decision to refuse home schooling.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD FROST  
BARONESS FOX OF BUCKLEY

- 222 Clause 30, page 53, line 10, at end insert “, unless—

- (a) substantial new evidence is available which could change that decision, or
- (b) the child is being disadvantaged by the decision.”

## LORD WEI

**223** Clause 30, page 53, line 10, at end insert –

“(12A) If a parent is not satisfied with the determination of the Secretary of State or Welsh Ministers under subsections (10) or (11), they can refer that determination to an independent ombudsman who must investigate whether there have been any instances of local authority overreach in carrying out their duties in relation to subsection (6).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment establishes an independent ombudsman to review complaints about any local authority overreach in the parents' requests to educate otherwise, strengthening accountability and ensuring parents have recourse when treated unfairly.*

## BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

**224** Clause 30, page 53, line 10, at end insert –

“(12A) Where a local authority is in the process of making a decision about the removal of a child from the roll, all absences must be recorded as authorised by the proprietor of the school.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*Deregistration from school is often triggered by crises – mental health, safeguarding issues in school, flat refusal by the child to attend, etc. Unauthorised absence can lead to fines. This amendment would avoid a parent being fined or otherwise penalised in the scenario where the parent clearly no longer consents to the educational arrangement with the school (which is a voluntary arrangement at the point of enrollment) and the decision is still in the process of being taken.*

## LORD LUCAS

**225** Clause 30, page 53, leave out lines 11 to 24

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to discuss whether the definition of “relevant local authority” is right.*

## LORD HACKING

*Lord Hacking gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 30 stand part of the Bill.*

**After Clause 30**

LORD MESTON

226 After Clause 30, insert the following new Clause –

**“Local authority duties in respect of children missing school**

After Section 436A of the Education Act 1996 (Duty to make arrangements to identify children not receiving education), insert –

**“436AB Local authority duties in respect of children missing school**

Local authorities must –

- (a) implement and, where necessary, enforce consistent arrangements with all schools for the local authority to be promptly informed of any child missing education by reason of persistent non-attendance or irregular attendance at school for which no satisfactory or verifiable explanation is provided by those with parental responsibility for that child;
- (b) take urgent steps to trace any child known or believed by that local authority to be missing school without authorisation of the school or without satisfactory explanation;
- (c) provide appropriate support for that child as soon as the child has been traced;
- (d) inform any court dealing with proceedings relating to the welfare of the child of the measures taken under this section, either directly or through Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to require local authorities to trace and support children identified as missing school, and to inform the courts of this if proceedings relating to the welfare of the child are underway.*

**Clause 31**LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

227 Clause 31, page 54, leave out lines 6 to 12

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow discussion of how these provisions will work in practice, and the meanings of “some of the time” and “part-time”, and to avoid duplication and confusion.*

LORD FROST  
LORD WEI

**227A** Clause 31, page 54, line 8, after “school,” insert –

“but does not include where an alternative arrangement has been agreed between the proprietor of the school and a parent of the child, where the child will receive a full-time education, partly in school, and partly under the supervision of the parent,”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This is a probing amendment seeking to establish what the arrangements would be for flexischooling children, that is, children who are not full-time in school with the agreement of their school, and whether they would be exempt from the children not in school register.*

BARONESS BENJAMIN  
LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY  
LORD STOREY

**228** Clause 31, page 54, line 12, at end insert –

“(5A) Subsection (5)(b) does not apply where a child has been granted a licence or an authorisation to perform under a Body of Persons Approval by a licensing authority under the Children (Performances and Activities) (England) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/3309).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would mean a local authority does not need to register a child where their absence is due to licensed performance granted under the 2014 Regulations, as licence conditions if applicable stipulate a child must receive an education during the licensing period.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**229** Clause 31, page 54, line 18, at end insert –

“(c) for the maintenance by central government of a register of Gypsy, traveller, boat dwellers and show people and others who do not have a fixed local authority and move frequently.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seek to adjust how itinerant populations, who often home educate for cultural reasons, and whose children need targeted support, are kept in view.*

LORD WEI

**230** Clause 31, page 54, line 18, at end insert –

“(6A) A child is not required to be registered under this section if the parent provides evidence that any one of the following conditions is met –

- (a) a competent home educator with at least five years of personal or professional experience has provided a sworn affidavit affirming that, in their judgment, the parent will be capable of providing a suitable education consistent with their educational philosophy,
- (b) the parent has arranged and paid for the child to sit at least three externally assessed national qualifications, including but not limited to GCSEs, A-Levels, or accredited vocational awards, or
- (c) the child is enrolled with a national online school or flexible provision provider known to support home-educated or otherwise educated children to a suitable standard.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment and another in the name of Lord Wei exempt families from registration and data submission requirements where they can show credible evidence of suitable education through endorsement by an experienced educator, formal qualification entry, or enrolment in a recognised online provider.*

LORD WEI

**231** Clause 31, page 54, line 18, at end insert –

- “(6A) A child is not required to be registered under this section if the parent has submitted a portfolio annually demonstrating suitable education and learning progress.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment allows an educational portfolio as an alternative to registration, offering a less intrusive way for parents to demonstrate their child is receiving suitable education.*

LORD WEI

**232** Clause 31, page 54, line 18, at end insert –

- “(6A) A child is not required to be registered under this section if the parent has previously home-educated a child who progressed to university, employment, or vocational training.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment exempts families from the register where they have successfully home-educated another child into further education, training, or work, recognising proven parental competence.*

LORD WEI

**233** Clause 31, page 54, line 18, at end insert –

- “(6A) A child is not required to be registered under this section if the parent holds Qualified Teacher Status or an education-related degree from a United Kingdom-accredited institution.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment exempts parents with formal teaching qualifications or degrees in education from registration, recognising their professional capacity to provide suitable education without additional oversight*

LORD HACKING

**233A** Clause 31, page 54, line 36, leave out from beginning to end of line 9 on page 57

LORD LUCAS  
LORD FROST  
LORD WEI

**234** Clause 31, page 54, line 37, leave out from beginning to end of line 15 on page 55

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe why this particular set of information is needed, and whether it is collected for non-elective home educated children.*

LORD WEI

**235** Clause 31, page 54, line 38, at end insert “, except where the collection of such information would be incompatible with the rights guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights, including Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life) and Article 2 of Protocol 1 (parental right to education in line with convictions)”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment ensures that data collection under section 436B respects rights under the European Convention on Human Rights, including Article 8 and Article 2 of Protocol 1. It prevents disproportionate interference with family life or educational convictions and upholds privacy and parental choice in home education.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**236** Clause 31, page 54, line 40, at end insert “, subject to such safeguards as the Secretary of State may specify”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe how abused parents and children will be safeguarded.*



LORD LUCAS  
LORD HACKING

- 236A Clause 31, page 54, line 40 at end insert “, except in cases in which—
- (i) one parent has been found guilty in a Criminal Court of an offence of which the child is a victim, including assault, sexual assault including rape, or domestic abuse;
  - (ii) there has been a finding of fact in a Family Court in which the child is a victim, including assault, sexual assault including rape, or domestic abuse by one parent;
  - (iii) there is an open police investigation against one parent for charges in which the child is a victim, including assault, sexual assault including rape, or domestic abuse;
  - (iv) there is a risk of harm to the child or other members of the family if the address of the non-residential parent is required;”

LORD CRISP  
LORD HACKING

- 237 Clause 31, page 54, leave out lines 40 to 44 and insert—
- “(b) the names and home addresses of the parent or parents who are taking responsibility for the education of the child;”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to identify the minimum requirement for providing information for the register and ensures that information is only included on parents who have responsibility for educating the child.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 238 Clause 31, page 54, leave out lines 41 to 44

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe why this data is needed and how it will be used.*

BARONESS BARRAN

- 239 Clause 31, page 54, leave out lines 43 and 44

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to remove a requirement for the register of children not in school to include details of how much time a child spends being educated by parents.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

240 Clause 31, page 54, line 44, after “from” insert “or under the supervision of”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe the exact meaning of paragraph (d).*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI  
LORD HACKING

241 Clause 31, page 55, leave out lines 1 to 15

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to enable a discussion of the justification for and practicality of this provision, and the effect on providers.*

LORD CRISP  
LORD WEI

242 Clause 31, page 55, line 1, after “receives” insert “more than a specified amount of a specified type of”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to enable debate of how the effect of this paragraph might be limited.*

BARONESS BARRAN  
LORD HAMPTON

243 Clause 31, page 55, line 2, at end insert “in respect of each individual or organisation which provides such education for more than six hours a week”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that information relating to short activities such as those operated by museums, libraries, companies and charities, as well as individual private tutoring activities, would only need to be recorded on the register of children not in school if they are provided for more than six hours a week.*

LORD WEI

244 Clause 31, page 55, line 3, leave out “individuals and organisations” and insert “organisations (or, where no organisation is involved, individuals)”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to avoid having to provide details of all the staff at, for example, an online school.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 245 Clause 31, page 55, line 4, at end insert “, unless the address concerned is a private residence and the child never visits it”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*Private tutors will often not provide parents with their home address so this amendment would remove the requirement to provide it in circumstances where the child never visits it.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 246 Clause 31, page 55, line 10, at end insert “, or a general description of the type of place if there is no fixed location”

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 247 Clause 31, page 55, leave out lines 11 to 15

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to enable a general discussion of the practicability of this sub-paragraph.*

LORD WEI

- 248 Clause 31, page 55, line 11, at beginning insert “a rough estimate of”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe the record-keeping required of parents under this sub-paragraph.*

BARONESS BARRAN  
LORD HAMPTON

- 249 Clause 31, page 55, line 15, at end insert –

“unless the provision is provided on weekends or during school holidays.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that the requirements of paragraph (e) do not apply to education provided on weekends or during holidays.*

BARONESS WHITAKER  
LORD BOURNE OF ABERYSTWYTH

250 Clause 31, page 55, line 15, at end insert –

- “(f) the reasons why a parent of a child has chosen to opt for elective home education.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require the recording of the reasons parents opt for elective home education.*

LORD YOUNG OF COOKHAM  
BARONESS TYLER OF ENFIELD  
LORD RUSSELL OF LIVERPOOL  
LORD STOREY

251 Clause 31, page 55, line 15, at end insert –

- “(f) in the case of a child who is in the area of a local authority in England, whether the child is a young carer, including whether a young carers needs assessment has been carried out;
- (g) in the case of a child who is in the area of a local authority in Wales, whether the child is a young carer, including whether a needs assessment has been carried out.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that local authorities are aware of which children in their area being educated other than in a school who have caring responsibilities.*

LORD CRISP  
LORD WEI

252 Clause 31, page 55, line 15, at end insert –

- “(1A) In subsection (1) a child receives education from a person other than their parent if and only if that person is specifically employed (whether for remuneration or not) to provide education to that specific child.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is intended to probe the definition of a child receiving education from a person other than their parent.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

253 Clause 31, page 55, line 15, at end insert –

- “(1A) In subsection (1), “education” includes every experience which may result in a child learning.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to allow discussion of where, in the context of home education, the boundary is between education and other aspects of life.*

LORD WEI

**254** Clause 31, page 55, line 15, at end insert –

“(1A) A child who is not regarded as eligible for registration under section 436B(6A) shall not be subject to the information requirements under this section.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment and another in the name of Lord Wei exempt families from registration and data submission requirements where they can show credible evidence of suitable education through endorsement by an experienced educator, formal qualification entry, or enrolment in a recognised online provider.*

LORD STOREY

**254A** Clause 31, page 55, line 15, at end insert –

“(1A) The requirement to provide information under subsection (1)(b) does not apply where a safeguarding concern in respect of either parent has been identified.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment removes the necessity of having the details of both parents where there is a safeguarding concern.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**255** Clause 31, page 55, leave out lines 20 and 21

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to probe whether the wording of this paragraph is compatible with ECHR rulings regarding requirements to disclose religion.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**256** Clause 31, page 55, leave out lines 30 to 35

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to probe whether the wording of this paragraph could result in an enquiry which found no safeguarding concern being held on record without good cause.*

LORD LUCAS

257 Clause 31, page 55, leave out lines 36 to 42

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to object to the inclusion of this paragraph and explore the reasons for it.*

LORD LUCAS

258 Clause 31, page 56, line 8, at end insert “, and the reasons why the child was looked after and the duration of that arrangement”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is intended to address situations such as one where a parent rushed into hospital might result in their children being classified as looked after for a few days until discharge, without that being a reflection on the care they provide the rest of the time.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

259 Clause 31, page 56, leave out lines 9 to 12

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to explore the reasons and need for this paragraph, and whether it is an unreasonable invasion of privacy.*

BARONESS BARRAN  
LORD HAMPTON

260 Clause 31, page 56, leave out lines 26 to 31

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment removes the ability of the Secretary of State to require additional information to be included in the register of children not in school.*

LORD FROST  
LORD WEI

261 Clause 31, page 56, leave out lines 32 and 33

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to enable a discussion about the breadth of this power and the lack of restrictions on it.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

262 Clause 31, page 56, leave out lines 36 to 39

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe what it is anticipated this provision requires.*

LORD CRISP  
LORD WEI

263 Clause 31, page 56, leave out line 41

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe whether the register would be published if it contains sensitive data relating to children.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

264 Clause 31, page 56, leave out lines 43 and 44

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to explore what is envisaged by this paragraph, the proposed purpose of time recording and limitations upon it.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

265 Clause 31, page 57, leave out lines 1 to 9

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe data protection measures generally in relation to the register.*

LORD WEI

266 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert "or information likely to be held by an abusive parent or partner"

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe how safeguarding obligations may be fully protected.*

BARONESS WHITAKER  
LORD BOURNE OF ABERYSTWYTH

267 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert –

- “(6) All information on the register must be destroyed by the local authority when a child reaches the age of 18.
- (7) The local authority must ensure that all information shared from the register with other bodies is also destroyed.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require local authorities to destroy information held on the register once a child reaches the age of 18.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

268 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert –

- “(6) A local authority is liable for the consequences of data breaches from the register.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to incentivise due care by local authorities.*

LORD CRISP  
LORD WEI

269 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert –

- “(6) A parent –
  - (a) must be provided with full access to the register;
  - (b) may request the local authority to add to or to amend the register, and the local authority must do so if they are satisfied that the register requires amendment, or note the parent's request in the appropriate place in the register if they are not so satisfied;
 insofar as it concerns the children in their care.
- (7) A parent may appeal to the Tribunal against a decision of the local authority to refuse access to the register, or to amend or annotate the register, or to the manner in which the register has been amended or annotated.
- (8) An appeal under subsection (7) must be brought within a period of 28 days beginning with the date on which the local authority's decision was notified to the parent.
- (9) On an appeal, the Tribunal may –
  - (a) confirm the decision of the local authority, or
  - (b) direct that the local authority complies with the Tribunal's decision.”



**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment would enable parents to see what is in the register (subject to anti-abuse measures) and ask for amendments.*

LORD WEI

270 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert –

- “(6) Each local authority must establish a parental advisory board, composed primarily of home-educating parents, to advise on and scrutinise the authority’s home education policies and procedures.
- (7) Where a local authority acts in a way that is contrary to the formal advice of the parental advisory board, it must publish a written statement setting out its reasons for doing so and make that statement available to the public within 28 days.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment introduces a statutory requirement for each local authority to create a home education parental advisory board. It also requires authorities to provide public justification if they act against the advice of the board, ensuring greater accountability and transparency in decisions affecting home-educating families.*

LORD WEI

271 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert –

- “(6) The register of children not in school created under section 436B must be maintained solely by the local authority and must not be compiled into or made accessible through a national database.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment prohibits the creation of a centralised national database of home-educated children. It ensures that all data collected under section 436B remains under local control, in line with principles of data minimisation, family privacy, and proportionality.*

LORD WEI

272 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert –

- “(6) No information provided for the purposes of this section may be disclosed to any third party without the explicit written consent of the parent or guardian, unless the disclosure is necessary to comply with a statutory duty under the Children Act 1989.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment ensures that personal information collected under this section cannot be shared without parental consent, except where disclosure is required to fulfil statutory safeguarding duties*

*under the Children Act 1989. It seeks to balance privacy protections with the need to act in a child's best interests.*

LORD WEI

273 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert –

“(6) All information collected under section 436B must be automatically deleted when the child reaches the age of 18, or re-enrols in a registered school.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment sets clear data retention limits, ensuring that children's personal information is deleted once they are no longer of compulsory education age or return to formal schooling.*

LORD WEI

274 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert –

“(6) The register established under section 436B shall expire two years after its creation unless the Secretary of State publishes evidence that it has demonstrably improved safeguarding outcomes.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment introduces a sunset clause to ensure the register remains under review and is retained only if shown to be effective in improving safeguarding outcomes.*

LORD WEI

275 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert –

“(6) If any data collected under this section is subject to a breach, the responsible local authority must notify affected parents within 14 days and offer compensation.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment provides accountability for data breaches by requiring prompt notification and compensation for families affected by unauthorised disclosure of personal information.*

LORD WEI

276 Clause 31, page 57, line 9, at end insert –

“(6) The registration system established under section 436B expires two years after the day on which the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2025 is passed, unless it is shown to improve safeguarding outcomes.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment introduces an automatic sunset clause requiring the registration system to demonstrate measurable safeguarding benefits to remain in effect.*

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB  
LORD HACKING

277 Clause 31, page 57, line 10, leave out from beginning to end of line 16 on page 58

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This would remove the obligation on parents to register or update information about their educational provision separate from the existing duties they have to respond to enquiries from local authorities.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

278 Clause 31, page 57, line 16, at end insert “, in their own words”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment would make it clear that a parent may provide information on, for example, the type of provider, in their own words.*

LORD NASH  
LORD AGNEW OF OULTON

279 Clause 31, page 57, line 16, at end insert –

“(c) allow the local authority to inspect the materials being used in the child’s education and to see the child’s work.”

LORD WEI

280 Clause 31, page 57, line 20, at end insert “but such a request may not be made more than once in any twelve-month period unless the local authority has reasonable cause to suspect that the child will suffer harm, as defined in section 31(9) of the Children Act 1989, if the information is not provided,”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment ensures that local authorities may request information from parents no more than once per year, unless there is reasonable cause to suspect the child will otherwise suffer harm as defined in the Children Act 1989. It is intended to limit intrusion while preserving safeguarding powers.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

281 Clause 31, page 57, line 21, after “a” insert “substantial”

LORD WEI

282 Clause 31, page 57, line 25, at end insert –

“(2A) Nothing in subsection (2) requires a parent to provide information to a local authority more than once in any period of 12 months.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to enable debate on the record-keeping and reporting required of parents.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

283 Clause 31, page 57, line 30, leave out “15” and insert “30”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would allow more time for parents to register their children as the events which lead to this necessity are often traumatic and chaotic.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

284 Clause 31, page 57, leave out lines 32 to 36 and insert –

“(b) in the case of duties under subsections (2)(a) and (2)(b), a period of 30 days following the request or event, or following the expiry of 12 months following the person’s previous response, whichever period ends later;”

LORD WEI

285 Clause 31, page 57, line 40, at end insert –

“(4A) A local authority may make no more than one request in any 12-month period for a meeting with the parent, to collect data submissions, or a visit to the child’s home, unless it has reasonable cause to suspect the child is at risk of harm.

(4B) A failure by a parent to meet or to provide information annually under subsection (2)(a) shall not, by itself, be treated as evidence that the child is not receiving suitable education.

(4C) Any unauthorised visit, investigation, or data request by a local authority in breach of this Part shall be subject to a civil penalty not exceeding £5,000.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to limit local authority requests to once per year unless there are safeguarding concerns, prevent assumptions of neglect based on non-cooperation alone, and introduce penalties for unauthorised actions. It reinforces proportionality, safeguards family privacy, and ensures statutory limits are respected.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

286 Clause 31, page 57, leave out from line 41 to line 14 on page 58

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to probe checks and balances on SEND provision.*

LORD WEI

287 Clause 31, page 58, line 16, at end insert –

- “(7) Where a parent does not provide information following a request under this Part, the local authority may not initiate further investigatory steps unless authorised by a magistrate or independent tribunal.
- (8) A magistrate or tribunal may grant authorisation under subsection (7) only if the authority demonstrates –
- (a) reasonable grounds to believe the child is not receiving suitable education, and
  - (b) that less intrusive alternatives have been attempted and exhausted.
- (9) The authorisation under subsection (7) must specify –
- (a) the purpose and limits of the investigation,
  - (b) the period of time for which it is valid, and
  - (c) how it complies with the child and family’s rights under the European Convention on Human Rights.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment introduces a judicial oversight mechanism, requiring local authorities to seek authorisation from a magistrate or independent tribunal before undertaking intrusive investigations where a parent has not voluntarily provided information. It seeks to protect families from disproportionate interference and mirrors safeguards in criminal and child protection law.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

288 Clause 31, page 58, leave out from beginning of line 17 to end of line 30 on page 59

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment would enable discussion about new inserted section 436E.*

LORD CRISP  
LORD WEI

289 Clause 31, page 58, line 20, after “time” insert “(which must not be less than 10 hours per week)”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe the intention of paragraph (1)(a) and enable debate on any consequences of this provision.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

290 Clause 31, page 58, line 27, leave out “structured”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe what is meant by “structured”.*

BARONESS BARRAN  
LORD HAMPTON

291 Clause 31, page 58, line 29, at end insert “but does not include any person or provider that is providing out-of-school education to home-educated children on weekends or during school holidays”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to remove the requirement that providers of out-of-school education must provide information to local authorities in respect of education they provide on weekends or during school holidays to home-schooled children.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

292 Clause 31, page 58, leave out line 36

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment probes why the provision in sub-paragraph (iii) is required.*

BARONESS BARRAN  
LORD HAMPTON

293 Clause 31, page 58, line 36, at end insert –

“but may not refer to an amount of time that is less than or equal to six hours a week.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to remove the requirement that providers of out-of-school education must provide information to local authorities where they provide education for fewer than six hours a week.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**294** Clause 31, page 58, line 39, leave out “as mentioned in subsection (1)(a)”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to clarify how the provider might know this information.*

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

**295** Clause 31, page 58, line 42, leave out “the following information” and insert “any of the following information they possess”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to ensure that providers will not risk fines for not having information.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**296** Clause 31, page 58, line 42, after “information” insert “(if they have it)”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to probe this provision in relation to the case of websites, AI-assisted or otherwise, that the parents have signed up to.*

LORD LUCAS

**297** Clause 31, page 59, leave out line 3

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to ensure that ministers and Ofsted do not have access to individual-level personal data.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**298** Clause 31, page 59, line 5, after “child,” insert, “measured by the time elapsed between the child clocking in and clocking out,”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to explore how time will be measured, and the requirements imposed by this provision.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**299** Clause 31, page 59, line 7, leave out from the first “child” to end of line 9

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to explore the meaning of the omitted words, and how the provider can know this information.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**300** Clause 31, page 59, leave out lines 10 to 12

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to enable debate on virtual and overseas providers.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**301** Clause 31, page 59, line 17, leave out “15” and insert “30”

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**302** Clause 31, page 59, line 18, at end insert “, or on the date on which the provider next opens for business”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment addresses the fact that some providers close for substantial periods, for example, over the summer.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**303** Clause 31, page 59, line 22, at beginning insert “intentionally”



LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

304 Clause 31, page 59, line 22, after “(5)” insert –

“(ab) is a substantial provider of out-of-school education,”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to discuss the effects of making small providers liable for fines.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

305 Clause 31, page 59, leave out from beginning of line 31 to end of line 43 on page 60

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to enable debate on safeguarding.*

BARONESS BARRAN

306 Clause 31, page 60, line 43, at end insert –

- “(9) The Secretary of State must publish annually the GCSE results of children listed on the register.
- (10) The Secretary of State must ensure that the GCSE results of children on the register are included for each set of outcome data published by the Government.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require the Secretary of State to record outcome data for children on the register as a subsection of each set of performance data published by the Department for Education.*

LORD LUCAS

307 Clause 31, page 60, line 43, at end insert –

**“436FA Duty to maintain a transparency register of information processing**

- (1) The relevant person must maintain a record of processing of the use of information under section 463F, in a publicly available register.
- (2) The record of processing under subsection (1) must contain the following information –
  - (a) the date on which the data was processed;
  - (b) the name of the organisation given access;
  - (c) the purpose for which the data was processed;
  - (d) a list of any of the types of data items accessed (as specified in sections 436C, 436D and 436E);

- (e) whether the processing included automated-decision making;
  - (f) the date after which it is expected that the data must not be preserved in a form which permits identification of the data subjects.
- (3) The relevant person must make the transparency register public.
  - (4) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision about—
    - (a) the form in which the record of processing under subsection (2) is to be kept and made public;
    - (b) the period for which information in the record is to be retained;
    - (c) the circumstances in which information in the record may be disclosed, including any restrictions or safeguards that apply to such disclosures;
    - (d) the circumstances in which information in the record must be disclosed to the data subject or their legal guardian.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment should provide the same level of transparency to home educators and others in the new registers, as the Department for Education provides in an online transparency register of its national distribution of identifying state pupil data. This creates an oversight tool to mitigate risks of uncontrolled disclosure. This should promote public trust in use of the new data powers.*

LORD LUCAS

308

Clause 31, page 60, line 43, at end insert—

**“436FA Use of information in the register at national level**

- (1) A local authority must, if the Secretary of State so directs in relation to a local authority in England, or the Welsh Ministers so direct in relation to a local authority in Wales, provide the Secretary of State or the Welsh Ministers (as the case may be) with information of a prescribed description from their register under section 436B (whether that is information relating to an individual child or aggregated information as specified in subsection (2)).
- (2) The Secretary of State may collect and process—
  - (a) information relating to an individual child only on a case-by-case basis for the purposes of giving a direction on a school attendance order following a parental request under section 442 and in accordance with UK data protection law;
  - (b) statistics regarding children in receipt of Elective Home Education (EHE), or Children Missing Education (CME) for the purposes of monitoring educational trends and informing policy.
- (3) The data collected under subsection (2)(b) must be limited to prior aggregated statistical information and may not include any personal data that would enable the identification of individual children or linkage with other data that would do so.
- (4) The statistical information may include, but is not limited to—

- (a) the collective number of children on any requested date;
- (b) the collective number of children throughout a year;
- (c) the percentage of children in each category relative to the overall child population.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment separates the Ministerial powers for use of individual level data and aggregated data that are conflated in 436F as drafted. This new clause explicitly enables the Secretary of State and Welsh Ministers to collect case-specific individual data for adjudication of school attendance orders which is the case today but for no other purpose. It prevents bulk national-level collection of identifiable home education data about individual children and their family members, as listed in clauses 436C, 436D, and 436E.*

BARONESS WHITAKER  
LORD BOURNE OF ABERYSTWYTH  
BARONESS BAKEWELL OF HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE

- 309** Clause 31, page 61, line 2, leave out from beginning to “provide” on line 3 and insert “A local authority must offer to”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require local authorities to offer appropriate support to the parent of a child on the register.*

BARONESS GARDEN OF FROGNAL

- 309A** Clause 31, page 61, line 5, at end insert "in a language which the parent understands."

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seek to ensure that families parents who speak English as a second or other language are informed about the requirements in a language they understand.*

BARONESS WHITAKER  
LORD BOURNE OF ABERYSTWYTH  
BARONESS BAKEWELL OF HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE

- 310** Clause 31, page 61, line 6, leave out from “provided” to end of line 7 and insert “must”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require local authorities to offer appropriate support to the parent of a child on the register.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 311** Clause 31, page 61, line 7, after “request” insert “and the needs of the child and the educational preferences of its parents”

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

312 Clause 31, page 61, line 11, at end insert –

“(2A) A local authority must, on request, secure the provision of an examination centre within a reasonable distance where a child registered under section 436B may take any examination that the Secretary of State has authorised for administration by a relevant school.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would ensure that elective home educated children are able to access an examination centre within a reasonable distance.*

LORD CRISP  
LORD WEI

313 Clause 31, page 61, line 11, at end insert –

“(2A) A local authority must facilitate, or make, arrangements for children registered under section 436B –

- (a) to be offered facilities and training on the same terms as the local authority offers them to pupils at relevant schools,
- (b) to be offered advantages (e.g. student discounts) on the same terms as organisations other than the local authority offer them to pupils at relevant schools,
- (c) to have access to colleges for courses for 14–16 year-olds, and for level 3 courses at colleges for which a home educated child has the aptitude but not standard qualifications,
- (d) to be offered signposting and support to access SEN referrals and assessments, support for older SEN students transitioning into adulthood, and access SEN provision such as speech therapists if not in school,
- (e) to be offered access to school nursing services,
- (f) to be offered, on request, the provision of vouchers equivalent to the value of free school meals for qualifying children,
- (g) to be offered, on request, the provision of alternative provision such as equine therapy which ordinarily requires a school referral,
- (h) to be offered, on request, the provision of speciality equipment for children with SEND (such as braille readers),
- (i) where they have an ECHP, to have personal budgets and independent payments in line with provision to children in schools, and
- (j) to have access to work experience.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to extend to elective home educated children the support available to children in schools.*

## LORD LUCAS

**313A** Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

“if (taken together with the local authority’s other actions) to do so is in the best interests of the child concerned”

LORD CRISP

LORD WEI

*Revised version of Amendment 314*

**314** Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

“(4) It is the duty of a local authority –

- (a) to respect the right of parents to determine how their children are educated,
- (b) as far as possible, to maintain good relationships with, consult with, and support local elective home education groups,
- (c) as far as possible, to build positive and mutually respectful relationships with home education families and support them with the intellectual, emotional and physical development and wellbeing of their children,
- (d) to employ staff to manage their elective home education functions who are suitably trained and experienced, with knowledge and understanding of approaches to home education, SEND, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people, human rights & GDPR, and
- (e) to organise supportive and informal events where the local authority officials can meet home educating families and facilitate question and answer sessions between home educators and the officials.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to build positive relationships between local authorities and home educating parents by ensuring that local authorities meet with home educating children in informal settings and establish support structures, with a view to making the local authority’s work constructive and efficient.*

## BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

**315** Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

“(4) Where a parent has made a request for support, no action under section 436H may be taken in relation to educational suitability in the area where support has been requested.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*A request for support could be taken as an indication that the education is currently not suitable. This amendment would avoid penalising any parents coming forward to improve their provision in this way.*

LORD STOREY  
LORD CRISP

316 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Arrangement for national examinations for children not in school**

Where a child is eligible to be registered by the authority under section 436B, the authority must –

- (a) provide for the child to be able to sit any relevant national examination, and
- (b) provide financial assistance to enable the child to sit any relevant national examination,

where requested by the parent or carer of the child.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would mean that where a child is required to be placed on the register, that child qualifies for financial assistance to sit any relevant national exam.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

317 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Performance reporting**

A local authority must report annually, in a form specified by the Secretary of State, on the educational performance of children who attained the age of 19 in the previous year and who did belong to one of the following categories –

- (a) children under section 19 (exceptional provision of education in pupil referral units or elsewhere: England);
- (b) children educated under section 61 of the Children and Families Act 2014 (special education provision otherwise than in schools, post-16 institutions etc);
- (c) children who are “looked after”;
- (d) children who are on the register established by section 436B.”

LORD WEI

318 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA No oversight in rural areas**

Families living more than ten miles from the nearest maintained school shall not be required to be registered under section 436B unless safeguarding concerns are present.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to provide a practical exemption from registration for families in remote areas, in the light of any difficulty in accessing schools and to reduce any unnecessary administrative burden.*

LORD WEI

**319** Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –**“436GA Privacy-preserving AI reporting tool for home education**

- (1) A home-educating parent may satisfy a local authority request for information under section 436D(2)(a) by submitting progress data to an approved AI-based reporting tool.
- (2) A tool under subsection (1) may generate an anonymised summary report accessible to the local authority.
- (3) The report must not be stored, copied, or reused, and must be automatically destroyed after 30 days.
- (4) The local authority may not request such a report from any given home-educating family more than once in any 12-month period.
- (5) Any AI tool used must be open source or subject to independent peer review to ensure fairness and transparency.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment allows parents to submit education data to a privacy-preserving AI system that generates a temporary, anonymised report for local authorities. The tool must be transparent, and data cannot be retained or reused. The amendment seeks to limit requests to once per year, with the intention of protecting family privacy and preventing misuse.*

LORD WEI

**320** Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –**“436GA Rolling review requirement**

- (1) The Secretary of State shall review the operation and impact of sections 436B to 436G every two years and lay the findings before Parliament.
- (2) Sections 436B to 436G shall cease to have effect 12 months after the review, unless a resolution approving their continuation has been passed by both Houses of Parliament.
- (3) Any such resolution may be subject to conditions, modifications, or time limits as Parliament sees fit.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment mandates a biennial review of the home education register to ensure transparency, accountability, and continuous policy evaluation.*

LORD WEI

321 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Automatic home education registration exemption for chess masters**

A child who has achieved chess grandmaster status shall be considered to be receiving a suitable education and shall be exempt from registration under section 436B.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment recognises that children who attain chess grandmaster status demonstrate exceptional intellectual achievement. It automatically treats them as receiving a sufficient education.*

LORD WEI

322 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Recognition of nomadic learning lifestyles**

Families who live a nomadic lifestyle, including but not limited to travelling performers, van-dwellers, or digital nomads, shall be exempt from registration under section 436B, provided education is demonstrably provided.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to recognise the requirements of nomadic families and seeks to exempt them from fixed-registration rules, while preserving the requirement to provide suitable education.*

LORD WEI

323 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Diplomatic immunity for international educators**

A parent temporarily residing in the United Kingdom whose child is actively engaged in a recognised international education program shall be exempt from registration requirements under section 436B to 436D.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment exempts families temporarily based in the UK while participating in international education programs, allowing them to maintain their existing educational arrangements without regulatory interference.*



LORD WEI

324 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Right of asylum-seeking families to home educate**

- (1) A family awaiting a decision on an asylum application shall have the right to educate their child at home without being subject to registration under section 436B.
- (2) The parent must provide a written statement confirming they are providing suitable home education and, to the best of their knowledge, have done so prior to arrival in the United Kingdom.
- (3) A local authority may not require further information unless it has reasonable grounds to believe the child is at risk of significant harm, as defined in section 31(9) of the Children Act 1989.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure families seeking asylum retain the right to home educate without added procedural burdens while awaiting immigration decisions, with the intention of minimising disruption to children's education.*

LORD WEI

325 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Age-based reduction of oversight**

A child aged 14 or over may, with parental agreement, register as a self-directed learner and shall not be subject to oversight under section 436B unless safeguarding concerns arise.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow children aged 14 and older to register as self-directed learners, free from routine oversight. It seeks to respect the autonomy of older students to take control of their education outside of formal systems.*

LORD WEI

326 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Crisis exemption from educational requirements**

A child shall not be required to be registered under section 436B or comply with formal education duties if their family is displaced or severely affected by war, natural disaster, or economic collapse.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to provide compassionate exemptions from educational regulation during periods of personal or national crisis.*

LORD WEI

327 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Appeal rights for older children**

A child aged 14 to 18 shall have the right to appeal to an independent tribunal against a local authority decision under sections 436B to 436G.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to give older children the right to challenge decisions that affect their education, ensuring their voice is included in home education matters.*

LORD WEI

328 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Prohibition on data sharing with immigration authorities**

Data collected under section 436B must not be shared with immigration enforcement bodies under any circumstances.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to ensure that data collected under section 436B may not be shared with immigration enforcement bodies under any circumstances.*

LORD WEI

329 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Independent review board**

The Secretary of State must establish a board composed of home educators and education law experts to monitor and evaluate the impact of section 436B.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment creates a board to independently assess the register's operation and ensure home educators are represented in the evaluation process.*

LORD WEI

330 Clause 31, page 61, line 23, at end insert –

**“436GA Pilot scheme before national implementation**

Sections 436B to 436G must not come into full effect until a two-year pilot programme of the registration requirements has been completed in at least three local authorities.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment introduces a pilot phase to test the registration scheme before full national rollout, in order to allow for evidence-led refinement of the provisions.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD FROST  
LORD WEI  
BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

*The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 31 stand part of the Bill.*

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This is intended to probe how Clause 31 relates to Clause 4, whether all children will now be included in registers or whether some are still left out, and how children will come to the local authority's attention as needing to be registered.*

**After Clause 31**

LORD STOREY  
LORD CRISP

**331** After Clause 31, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review of impact on home educators and reduction of unnecessary reporting**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, conduct a review and report of the impact of section 31 on home educators in England.
- (2) The review must include an assessment of –
  - (a) the administrative and reporting requirements placed on home educators as a result of section 31,
  - (b) the administrative and reporting requirements placed on local authorities as a result of section 31,
  - (c) the extent to which such requirements are necessary for safeguarding purposes, and
  - (d) any data or reporting obligations that can be reduced or removed for home educators where they are not essential for safeguarding.
- (3) The Secretary of State must lay a report before Parliament setting out the findings of the review, including –
  - (a) an analysis of the impact of section 31 on home educators,
  - (b) a clear outline of any data or reporting obligations that will no longer be required from home educators, and
  - (c) a timeline for the removal of unnecessary reporting obligations, which must not exceed 12 months from the publication of the report.

- (4) In conducting the review, the Secretary of State must consult with representatives of home educators and relevant stakeholders.
- (5) The report must be made publicly available.
- (6) The Secretary of State must ensure that any reporting obligations identified as unnecessary under subsection (3)(b) are removed within the timeframe specified in subsection (3)(c)."

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires the Secretary of State to conduct a review and report of the impact of section 31 on home educators in England.*

LORD WEI

**332** After Clause 31, insert the following new Clause –

**“Self-certification for SEN students**

A child with special educational needs must not be required to be registered under section 436B of the Education Act 1996 if the parent provides a written statement that –

- (a) identifies the child’s special educational needs or the basis on which such needs are reasonably suspected,
- (b) describes the tailored educational provision being made to meet those needs, and
- (c) outlines a reasonable approach for monitoring progress or outcomes.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment allows parents to self-certify SEN provision, provided they identify the child’s needs, describe tailored provision, and outline how they will monitor progress. It seeks to ensure educational adequacy while respecting family flexibility and protecting against misuse.*

LORD WEI

**333** After Clause 31, insert the following new Clause –

**“Multi-year registration certificates**

A home-educating parent may apply for a certificate valid for five years that exempts them from annual oversight under section 436D of the Education Act 1996, provided no safeguarding concerns are present and educational provision has been deemed suitable.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to reduce unnecessary oversight by allowing families with a strong record to receive a five-year exemption certificate, recognising consistent good practice and reducing administrative burden.*

## LORD HAMPTON

**333ZA** After Clause 31, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review of safeguarding protections in private tuition settings**

- (1) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish a review of –
  - (a) the adequacy of safeguards in place to protect children who receive private tuition, either online or in-person,
  - (b) the extent to which providers of private tuition carry out background checks on their tutors, and
  - (c) the impact, if any, of the activities defined as “Regulated activity relating to children” in Schedule 4 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 on safeguarding in private tuition settings.
- (2) Within six months of the completion of the review, the Secretary of State must publish and lay before Parliament a report on the findings of the review and any recommendations to improve safeguarding protections in private tuition.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to require the Government to assess the adequacy of safeguarding protections for children with private tutors, who may not have to undergo an enhanced DBS check under current requirements.*

**Clause 32**

## LORD HACKING

**333A** Clause 32, page 64, line 28, leave out from beginning to end of line 3 on page 66

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**334** Clause 32, page 64, line 29, leave out “must” and insert “may”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that a local authority does not have to serve a preliminary notice, if this would be better for the child's wellbeing.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

**335** Clause 32, page 64, line 32, after “age” insert –

“(ab) all relevant support has been offered to the parent,”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that local authorities have offered support to parents, before they can serve a preliminary notice.*

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

336 Clause 32, page 64, leave out lines 34 to 36

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

337 Clause 32, page 65, line 1, leave out “, C or D”

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

338 Clause 32, page 65, leave out lines 3 and 4

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment probes the circumstances in which the “best interest” test would be applied.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

339 Clause 32, page 65, leave out lines 9 to 11

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment probes the circumstances in which a local authority enquiry would satisfy condition B.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

340 Clause 32, page 65, line 10, at end insert “if those enquiries meet a specified threshold”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to explore the circumstances under which this would satisfy condition B.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

341 Clause 32, page 65, leave out lines 20 and 21

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to prevent local authorities from judging when it would be in a child's best interest for them to receive education by regular attendance at school.*

## BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

342 Clause 32, page 65, leave out lines 22 to 35

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

343 Clause 32, page 65, line 29, at end insert –

“and the information not provided, or the inaccuracy of the information provided, is of sufficient importance to justify a school attendance order.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to require a parent's serious error in relation to the provision of information before a preliminary notice can be justified under Condition C.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

344 Clause 32, page 65, leave out lines 30 to 35

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment probes the circumstances under which Condition D could justify the serving of a preliminary notice.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

345 Clause 32, page 65, line 35, at end insert –

“and the information not provided, or the inaccuracy of the information provided, is of sufficient importance to justify a school attendance order.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to require that a preliminary notice can only be justified under Condition D if there is a serious error in the information provided by the parent.*

## BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

346 Clause 32, page 65, line 37, leave out “to D” and insert “or B”

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

347 Clause 32, page 65, line 39, leave out from “delay” to “and” in line 42

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe the five day deadline for serving a preliminary notice.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI  
LORD HACKING

348 Clause 32, page 66, line 4, leave out from beginning to end of line 36 on page 67

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to facilitate debate of school attendance orders*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

349 Clause 32, page 66, leave out lines 24 to 27

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This probing amendment seeks to remove the "suitable education" test from provision preventing the serving of a school attendance order.*

LORD STOREY

349A Clause 32, page 66, line 34, at end insert –

- “(2A) A local authority must not serve an order under this section on a child’s parents if the child –
- (a) has an education, health and care plan,
  - (b) experiences emotionally-based school avoidance, or
  - (c) is eligible for special educational needs support.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to prevent school attendance orders being applied to children with certain health, emotional and learning needs.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

350 Clause 32, page 66, line 37 leave out “all of the” and insert “the major”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to remove the requirement for local authorities to consider all of a child’s educational settings when determining whether to serve a school attendance order, as this could require them to consider an infeasibly large number of settings. Instead, the amendment proposes that local authorities consider “the major” settings.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

351 Clause 32, page 66, line 38, leave out “and where the child lives”



**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to avoid any discrimination based on the location of a child's residence, when a local authority is considering settings for the purposes of determining whether a school attendance order must be served.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 352 Clause 32, page 66, line 39, leave out "how the child is being educated" and insert "the form the child's education takes"

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to avoid any implied ability to make financial enquiries.*

LORD WEI

- 353 Clause 32, page 66, line 42, leave out from beginning to end of line 2 on page 67

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to remove the local authority's power to request to visit a child at home, for the purpose of determining whether a school attendance order should be served.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 354 Clause 32, page 67, line 2, at end insert " , subject to a court order to that effect."

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to require that a local authority must possess a court order before visiting a child at home, for the purpose of determining whether a school attendance order should be served.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 355 Clause 32, page 67, line 2, at end insert –

“(d) must consider what the local authority knows of the child's reaction to strangers, schools and persons in authority.”

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 356 Clause 32, page 67, line 11, leave out from "delay" to "and" in line 14

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to probe the deadline for informing the governing body and headteacher when a maintained school is named in a school attendance order.*

## BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

357 Clause 32, page 67, line 15, at end insert –

“(c) must describe the reasons for the decision to serve the order.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to give parents the information needed to be able to challenge a school attendance order, or if they wish to make changes and then request revocation.*

LORD LUCAS

LORD WEI

358 Clause 32, page 67, line 21, at end insert –

“(c) the child relocates outside the jurisdiction.”

LORD LUCAS

LORD WEI

359 Clause 32, page 67, line 24, leave out from “delay” to “inform” in line 26

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe the deadline for informing the governing body and headteacher when a maintained school is named in a school attendance order.*

LORD STOREY

359A Clause 32, page 67, leave out from line 37 to line 19 on page 68

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is connected to another in the name of Lord Storey which seeks to prevent school attendance orders being applied to children with an education, health and care plan.*

LORD LUCAS

LORD WEI

360 Clause 32, page 68, line 4, leave out “amend” and insert “review”

LORD LUCAS

LORD WEI

361 Clause 32, page 68, leave out lines 7 to 10

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to probe how this subsection could result in an inappropriate school being named if no review is held.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 362** Clause 32, page 70, leave out line 10 and insert –  
“the parent shall be considered as having fulfilled their duty to provide suitable education to the child.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that if a parent enrolled their child into an independent school and their financial circumstances changed, they would not be forced to pay unaffordable bills.*

LORD STOREY

- 362A** Clause 32, page 72, line 40, leave out from “than” to “a” on line 41

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is connected to another in the name of Lord Storey which seeks to prevent school attendance orders being applied to children with an education, health and care plan.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 363** Clause 32, page 73, line 42, at end insert –  
“(5) If a child subject to a notice leaves the jurisdiction, the local authority must revoke the order.”

LORD WEI

- 364** Clause 32, page 74, line 37, at end insert –  
“(4A) In arriving at an opinion under subsection (4) the local authority must consult a panel, established for that purpose, including established home-educating parents.”

LORD CRISP  
LORD WEI

- 365** Clause 32, page 74, leave out lines 38 to 42 and insert –  
“(5) A parent may appeal to the Tribunal against a decision of the local authority to refuse to comply with a request under subsection (3).  
(5A) An appeal under subsection (5) must be brought within a period of 28 days beginning with the date on which the local authority’s decision was notified to the parent.  
(5B) On an appeal, the Tribunal may –

- (a) confirm the decision of the local authority, or
- (b) direct that the parent's request should be granted."

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would afford a parent a right of appeal against a local authority decision to refuse to end or revise a school attendance order.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 366** Clause 32, page 74, line 43, leave out from beginning to end of line 12 on page 75

LORD STOREY

- 366A** Clause 32, page 75, leave out lines 4 to 12

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is connected to another in the name of Lord Storey which seeks to prevent school attendance orders being applied to children with an education, health and care plan.*

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

- 367** Clause 32, page 76, line 9, at end insert “, unless the child is no longer resident within the jurisdiction.”

LORD HACKING

- 367A** Clause 32, page 76, line 24, leave out “may” and insert “must”

BARONESS WHITAKER  
LORD BOURNE OF ABERYSTWYTH  
BARONESS BAKEWELL OF HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE

- 368** Clause 32, page 76, leave out lines 30 to 33 and insert—

- “(8) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would retain the maximum fine at level 3 (£1000) rather than level 4 (£2500) and would remove the possibility of imprisonment.*

LORD WEI

369 Clause 32, page 76, leave out lines 30 to 37 and insert—

“(8) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding the equivalent of one day’s wages at the National Minimum Wage.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment sets a reasonable upper limit on fines for failure to comply with school attendance orders to ensure they remain proportionate and do not unfairly burden low-income families.*

BARONESS BLACKSTONE  
BARONESS MORRIS OF YARDLEY

370 [Withdrawn]

LORD LUCAS  
LORD WEI

371 Clause 32, page 76, line 33, at end insert “but the child’s best interests shall be taken fully into account when deciding the sentence.”

LORD LUCAS  
LORD FROST  
LORD WEI  
BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

*The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 32 stand part of the Bill.*

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This is intended to allow a general discussion of school attendance orders.*

**After Clause 32**

LORD WEI

372 After Clause 32, insert the following new Clause—

**“Non-criminalisation of home education**

- (1) A parent shall not be subject to criminal conviction, and no criminal record shall result, solely from a failure to comply with the registration requirements under section 436D of the Education Act 1996 (inserted by this Act).
- (2) Any enforcement action for non-registration must be civil in nature and proportionate to the educational context.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment prevents parents from acquiring a criminal record solely due to a failure to register under new section 436D. It would ensure that enforcement is civil, not criminal, to avoid long-term harm to the family and child, while still allowing proportionate oversight where needed.*

LORD WEI

373 After Clause 32, insert the following new Clause—

**“Exemption from penalty for mental health or bullying**

A parent must not be subject to penalty or enforcement under section 436Q of the Education Act 1996 if the withdrawal of their child from school was supported by a medical professional due to bullying or mental health concerns.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment protects families from penalties where withdrawal is supported by clinical advice due to bullying or mental health risks.*

LORD WEI

374 After Clause 32, insert the following new Clause—

**“No fines for off-grid families**

A family that produces its own energy and food and lives more than ten miles from the nearest maintained school shall be exempt from penalties for non-attendance under section 436Q of the Education Act 1996.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to exempt off-grid families from education-related fines where conventional schooling is impractical or unnecessary.*

**Clause 33**

LORD LUCAS

LORD WEI

375 Clause 33, page 78, line 28, at end insert—

“(5) A parent is entitled to claim compensation in respect of any breaches of data protection in relation to actions under this Act.”

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

*Baroness Jones of Moulsecoomb gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 33 stand part of the Bill.*

**Clause 34**

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

*Baroness Jones of Moulsecoomb gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 34 stand part of the Bill.*

**After Clause 34**BARONESS BENJAMIN  
LORD STOREY

**376** After Clause 34, insert the following new Clause—

**“Notification and registration of licence or Body of Persons Approval to local authority**

In the Children (Performances and Activities) (England) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/3309), after regulation 31, insert the following—

**“32 Notification and registration of licence approval to local authorities**

- (1) Where a licensing authority approves a licence or authorises a performance under a Body of Persons Approval, they must notify the local authority in which the child resides, including information about the—
  - (a) type of licence or Body of Persons Approval;
  - (b) duration of performance;
  - (c) duration of absence from school setting;
  - (d) details of any alternative education provision during performance.
- (2) Where a local authority receives notification of an approved licence and must register a child under section 436B of the Education Act 1996, they must update the register to specify the reason of absence as performance-related.
- (3) Where a local authority is also the licensing authority and must register a child under section 436B of the Education Act 1996, they must update the register to specify the reason of absence as performance-related.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires licensing authorities that approve a licence or authorise a performance under a Body of Persons Approval for a child to perform to notify the local authority in which the child resides.*

## BARONESS BENJAMIN

377 After Clause 34, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review of The Children (Performances and Activities) (England) Regulations 2014**

Within 6 months of the passing of this Act, the Secretary of State must conduct a review of the effect of the provisions in this Act on the operation of The Children (Performances and Activities) (England) Regulations 2014.”

**Clause 35**

## BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

*Baroness Jones of Moulsecoomb gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 35 stand part of the Bill.*

**After Clause 35**

## LORD WEI

378 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Protection of home education rights during emergency or authoritarian rule**

- (1) In the event of a national emergency or authoritarian governance, the courts shall have the final authority to safeguard the right to home educate in accordance with this Act.
- (2) Authoritarian governance shall be defined as any period during which emergency regulations or executive actions suspend, limit, or derogate from rights protected under the Human Rights Act 1998 or the European Convention on Human Rights.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to protect the legal right to home educate in exceptional national circumstances by placing judicial oversight above executive restrictions.*

## LORD WEI

379 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Limit on review duration without cause**

- (1) A home-educating family must not remain under continued review or monitoring by a local authority for more than 30 days unless the authority has reasonable cause to suspect that the child is at risk of significant harm, as defined in section 31(9) of the Children Act 1989.
- (2) Where no such risk is found, the case must be closed, and the family notified in writing within 10 working days.”



***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment ensures that home-educating families are not subject to prolonged review without specific concerns. If no safeguarding risk is identified within 30 days, local authorities must close the case and notify the family, protecting against unnecessary surveillance or open-ended monitoring.*

LORD WEI

380 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Protection from reporting bias**

If more than 50% of home education reports from a local authority in any calendar year are negative, an independent review must be triggered to assess objectivity and fairness.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment ensures that if local authority reports about home educators show consistent negativity, an independent review will assess potential bias, promoting fair and balanced oversight.*

LORD WEI

381 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Inclusion of home educators on safeguarding panels**

- (1) Any safeguarding panel considering cases involving home-educated children must include at least one person with direct home education experience.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, a “safeguarding panel” means any joint inter-agency structure, entity, local authority or other authority making decisions about children who are home-educated, or may be home-educated in the future, for safeguarding purposes or to prevent them from harm.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment ensures home education is fairly represented on safeguarding panels, adding practical insight to decision-making processes.*

LORD WEI

382 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Home Education Ombudsman**

- (1) The Secretary of State must appoint an independent Home Education Ombudsman.
- (2) The Ombudsman’s function is to investigate complaints from parents relating to the conduct, decisions, or practices of local authorities in the exercise of their functions under sections 436B to 436U of the Education Act 1996 (inserted by this Act).

- (3) The Ombudsman must be independent of the Government and of local authorities.
- (4) The Ombudsman must publish an annual report of findings and recommendations, designed to support any relevant judicial reviews undertaken by parents or carers who provide home education who are dissatisfied with the response of the Secretary of State to any written complaints made by those parents or carers about their treatment by local authorities and the impact of such treatment upon their activities or their rights to privacy, family life, and ability to home educate.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment creates a statutory office of an independent Home Education Ombudsman, empowered to investigate complaints from families about how local authorities are exercising their duties in relation to elective home education. This would strengthen accountability and protect families from unjustified or inconsistent local practice.*

LORD WEI

383 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause—

**“Exam support for home-educated children**

The Secretary of State must ensure that home-educated children are entitled to the same exam fee support and access to recent past papers as children enrolled in maintained schools.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment ensures exam access parity by providing home-educated children with equivalent support to their peers in schools.*

LORD WEI

384 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause—

**“Parity of treatment for home education**

A local authority, in exercising its functions under sections 436B to 436G of the Education Act 1996, must treat home education provision on a par with that of independent schools, including respecting the right of parents to determine curriculum, teaching methods, and educational philosophy, provided the education is suitable within the meaning of section 7 of the Education Act 1996.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires local authorities to apply the same level of respect and discretion to home education as is afforded to independent schools, provided the education is suitable under section 7 of the Education Act 1996. It affirms parental discretion over curriculum, pedagogy, and educational approach.*

LORD WEI

385 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Presumption of parental competence**

In assessing whether a child is receiving suitable education, a local authority shall presume that the parent is competent to provide such education, unless the authority can demonstrate, with clear and documented evidence, beyond reasonable doubt, that the education being provided is unsuitable.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment creates a legal presumption that parents are competent to educate their children. It requires local authorities to prove, beyond reasonable doubt and with clear evidence, that the education is unsuitable before intervening – ensuring parental rights are protected against speculative or unjustified action.*

LORD WEI

386 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Right to sue for educational failure**

A child compelled into formal schooling by a local authority may bring legal action against that authority for educational harm or failure to provide a suitable education if it can be demonstrated to have been as a result of being taken out of home education.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment gives children the right to seek redress where forced schooling leads to demonstrable harm or failure, holding authorities accountable for poor educational outcomes.*

LORD WEI

387 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“No regulation of educational content**

A local authority must not comment on or assess the content or methodology of home education provided by a parent, provided it meets the standard of suitability under section 7 of the Education Act 1996.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment protects curriculum freedom by preventing local authorities from regulating or judging the materials and pedagogical approaches used in lawful home education.*

LORD WEI

388 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Children’s advisory board for home education policy**

The Secretary of State shall establish an annual review panel comprising at least 12 home-educated children aged 10 to 16, selected by lottery, to advise on education legislation affecting home education.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to empower children who are home educated to contribute directly to policy through an annual children’s jury, ensuring their experiences and views are considered in law-making.*

LORD WEI

389 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Home education workers’ union**

Home-educating parents have the right to form, join, and collectively organise in a registered home education workers’ union, including the right to petition and collectively bargain on education policy, on a par with other unions such as teachers’ unions.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment ensures that home-educating parents have the legal right to form and join a recognised union, giving them formal standing to be consulted on education policy, seek legal redress collectively, and advocate for resources. It mirrors protections available to teachers’ unions and enables fair representation in law and policy making.*

LORD WEI

390 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Tax relief for home education expenses**

The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act comes into force, introduce a scheme allowing parents who home educate to deduct education-related expenses from their taxable income.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to allow home educators to deduct educational costs such as books, tutoring, and exams from their taxable income.*

LORD WEI

391 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Right to jury trial in forced school attendance cases**

No child may be compelled to attend school against the wishes of their parent or guardian unless the decision is upheld by a jury trial in a Magistrates’ Court or Crown Court.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment ensures that families facing forced school attendance orders have the right to a jury trial, providing stronger procedural safeguards and a community-based judgment in contested cases.*

LORD WEI

392 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Protection from truancy penalties in lawful home education**

After section 447 of the Education Act 1996 insert –

**“447A Protection from truancy penalties in lawful home education**

- (1) No parent shall be subject to prosecution or penalty under sections 444 to 447 of this Act for non-attendance, where –
  - (a) the child has been lawfully withdrawn from school, and
  - (b) the parent is providing, or intends to provide, suitable education in accordance with section 7.
- (2) This section does not prevent a local authority from issuing a School Attendance Order under section 437, but no such order may be issued solely on the basis of non-attendance, without first assessing the suitability of education being provided.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment protects parents from truancy-related penalties when they have lawfully withdrawn their child for home education. It ensures that enforcement action is only taken where there is clear evidence that suitable education is not being provided, not merely on the basis of school non-attendance.*

LORD WEI

393 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Right to delay formal education**

A parent may elect to delay the start of their child’s formal education until the academic year following their seventh birthday without penalty.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment allows parents to delay formal education to age seven, aligning with international practice and supporting readiness-based learning.*

LORD WEI

394 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Study into privacy-preserving technologies**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the passing of this Act, commission an independent study into the use of zero-knowledge proof technology as a method to verify educational provision in elective home educating families without compromising the privacy of those families.
- (2) The findings of the study must be published and laid before Parliament.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires the Secretary of State to commission an independent study into the use of zero-knowledge proof technologies as a means of verifying education provision without compromising family privacy in elective home-educating families. It supports innovation in safeguarding and accountability while upholding principles of data minimisation and proportionality.*

LORD WEI

395 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Local authority transparency reports**

Each local authority must publish an annual report detailing its engagement with home-educating families, including data on support, complaints, and outcomes.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to increase transparency by requiring annual reporting of local authority practice, with the intention of supporting public accountability in the regulation of home education.*

LORD WEI

396 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Independent research into home education**

The Secretary of State must fund independent academic research into effective home education practices and publish findings every three years.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to commit the government to funding research into home education methods, ensuring evidence-based policy and best practice guidance.*

LORD WEI

397 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Parental referendum on regulatory expansion**

No new national regulatory measure concerning home education may be introduced unless approved by a majority of registered home-educating families through a parental referendum.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment intends to create a democratic safeguard requiring parental approval before introducing new national home education regulations.*

LORD WEI

398 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Protections for parents with disabilities**

Parents with disabilities who home educate must not be subjected to more oversight than other parents solely on the basis of disability.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to protect parents with disabilities from unequal treatment in home education oversight, with the intention of ensuring non-discrimination.*

LORD WEI

399 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Children’s right to refuse school attendance**

A child aged eight or over has the right to express a preference for home education or school attendance, and this preference must be taken into account in any local authority or court decision.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to ensure that children aged eight and older have a say in their educational setting, with the intention of recognising their developing autonomy and right to participate in decisions affecting them.*

LORD WEI

400 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Petition system for policy review**

If 10,000 or more home-educating parents sign a verified petition on any home education matter, the Secretary of State must publish a formal response and conduct a policy review within six months.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow the home education community to initiate a government review on key issues, with the intention of promoting responsiveness and democratic engagement in education policy.*

LORD WEI

**401** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause—

**“Home education rebate for school place shortages**

Where no school place is available within a reasonable distance, a parent who home educates shall be entitled to claim a rebate equal to the per-pupil education funding allocation.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment ensures parents who home educate due to lack of available school places are not financially penalised, by enabling them to reclaim equivalent funding.*

LORD WEI

**402** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause—

**“Council tax exemption for home educators**

A local authority must reduce the council tax bill of any household educating a child at home by an amount equivalent to the funding per pupil provided to schools by local authorities.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment ensures that home-educating families are not required to contribute financially to local school services they do not use, through a council tax adjustment.*

LORD WEI

**403** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause—

**“Emergency hearings: home education cases**

Where a child is removed or proposed to be removed from the care of a parent due to concerns arising from home education, the parent shall have the right to an emergency court hearing within 48 hours.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to provide a legal right to parents to a prompt court hearing if a local authority seeks to remove a child due to concerns about home education.*



LORD WEI

404 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Ban on algorithmic school allocation**

A child withdrawn from school for elective home education may not be automatically re-enrolled in another school through an algorithmic or automated placement process without parental consent.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to ensure that families who choose home education are not automatically re-enrolled into a different school by local authorities. It seeks to protect the family's right to decide on home education without interference from algorithmic school allocation systems.*

LORD WEI

405 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Local authorities: requirement for proof of educational superiority**

A local authority may not interfere with a child's home education under section 436B of the Education Act 1996 unless it can demonstrate that its own maintained schools consistently outperform the education provided by the parent.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment requires councils to show that their state schools offer superior outcomes before intervening with a home-educating family, preventing arbitrary enforcement.*

LORD WEI

406 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Qualifications for local authority officers making determinations about home education suitability**

No local authority officer may make determinations about home education suitability unless they have passed an accredited assessment in alternative education methods.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to ensure that officials overseeing home education are qualified in alternative education, with the intention of improving the quality and fairness of their decisions.*

LORD WEI

407 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Home education funding parity**

The Secretary of State must ensure that home-educating families are eligible to receive per-pupil funding equivalent to that provided to maintained schools.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to give home educators access to public education funding, with the intention of supporting fairer distribution of educational resources.*

LORD WEI

408 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Equal access to SEN and mental health services**

A child educated at home must be entitled to the same access to publicly funded special educational needs and mental health support as children attending maintained schools.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to ensure that home-educated children are not excluded from essential services provided to school pupils.*

LORD WEI

409 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Child-led school closure mechanism**

Where at least 80% of pupils in a maintained school, aged 10 or over, express a preference for home education through a verified process, the Secretary of State must consult on transitioning that school into a home education support hub.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment provides a mechanism for students to initiate the transformation of a school into a home education hub if the vast majority prefer home-based learning, with the intention of supporting child-led educational reform.*

LORD WEI

410 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“National home education TV channel**

The Secretary of State must fund and maintain a public broadcast service dedicated to delivering curriculum-aligned educational content for home-educated children.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment establishes a government-funded educational TV channel to support home-educating families.*

LORD WEI

**411** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“National Insurance credits for full-time home educators**

A parent who provides full-time home education must be treated as having limited capability for work for the purpose of receiving National Insurance credits.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to enable parents who home educate full-time to receive pension protection through NI credits, similar to unpaid carers.*

LORD WEI

**412** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Access to school facilities**

A child educated at home shall be entitled to reasonable access to facilities and extracurricular activities offered by local maintained schools, including sports facilities and libraries.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment provides home-educated children with access to public school resources, supporting enrichment and inclusion.*

LORD WEI

**413** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Multi-generational home education tax break**

A grandparent, aunt, uncle, or other extended family member who materially contributes to a child’s home education may claim a pro-rata tax rebate equivalent to 20% of the average per-pupil state funding allocation.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment offers a tax rebate to extended family members who actively support home education, recognising multi-generational educational care and relieving household financial burdens.*

LORD WEI

**414** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Removal of school-based legal custody**

A school may not exercise in loco parentis responsibilities for a child unless the parent has provided explicit written consent, renewed annually.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment ensures that schools may only assume parental responsibility (in loco parentis) with explicit, annually renewed parental consent. It seeks to protect part-time home-educating families by preventing schools from automatically claiming authority over a child's welfare or educational decisions without the parent's ongoing approval.*

LORD WEI

**415** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Mandatory secondment for education officials**

Any Department for Education employee involved in home education policy must undertake a twelve-month secondment in an alternative education setting before drafting or revising guidance.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment ensures that DfE staff have real-world experience with alternative education before shaping policy, improving relevance and reducing bias.*

LORD WEI

**416** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Oath of non-coercion for teachers**

A teacher employed by a maintained school must not attempt to coerce or pressure a child or parent to attend or remain in school if they express a desire to home educate, and must swear or affirm an annual oath in writing to that effect as part of their professional responsibilities.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment prevents teachers from using undue influence to discourage or obstruct home education. It reinforces the right of families to choose education freely without coercion from school personnel.*

LORD WEI

417 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Home education and the school year**

When making a decision under a provision in this Act, a Local Authority cannot consider the educational calendar or timetable used by a family whose child has been withdrawn from school.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment grants home-educating families freedom from the school term calendar, allowing them to provide flexible, continuous education suited to their child's needs. It also protects explicitly against local authorities penalising them for following a non-traditional timetable.*

LORD WEI

418 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Penalties for false allegations against home educators**

Where a report concerning a home-educating family is found to be malicious or knowingly false, the local authority shall refer the reporting individual for review, and a civil penalty may be imposed by a magistrate.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to deter false or malicious claims against home-educating families by introducing consequences for those who make unfounded reports, while maintaining proper safeguards and due process.*

LORD WEI

419 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Funding eligibility for home education cooperatives**

A home education cooperative comprising 50 or more families shall be eligible to apply for per-pupil public education funding equivalent to that received by maintained schools.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to allow large home education cooperatives to access public funding on a similar basis to schools.*

LORD WEI

420 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Disqualification of inspectors by parent report**

If three or more home-educating families submit documented complaints of misconduct by a local authority inspector, that individual shall be suspended from duties relating to home education pending review.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to protect home educators from any bias or inappropriate conduct by officials by requiring their temporary removal from oversight roles following multiple complaints.*

LORD WEI

421 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Home educators may vote on local school budgets**

A home-educating parent who pays local education-related taxes shall have the right to vote on local authority education budgets and school funding allocations.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to grants home educators a say in how local education funds are spent.*

LORD WEI

422 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Minimum wage compensation for mandated oversight**

Where home educators are required to submit reports, attend meetings, or be subject to oversight, they shall be entitled to compensation equal to the prevailing hourly minimum wage for time spent complying.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to ensure that home educators are compensated for time spent complying with oversight requirements, in the light of their role as unpaid educators and protecting against any uncompensated administrative burdens.*

LORD WEI

423 After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**““Education as trade” model**

- (1) A home-educated child is permitted to demonstrate educational attainment through the provision of services, mentoring, or trade in knowledge-based activities as evidence of learning.

- (2) Such activities are to be considered education for the purposes of section 7 of the Education Act 1996 (Duty of parents to secure education of children of compulsory school age).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow children to demonstrate learning through trade, mentorship, or service-based contributions.*

LORD WEI

**424** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Home educator policy initiative**

A local authority must formally consider and respond to any education policy proposal signed by at least 500 home-educating families in its area.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to enable home educators to initiate policy discussions with local authorities, who must respond if 500 home-educating families sign a proposal.*

LORD WEI

**425** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Sunset clauses on home education legislation**

Any legislation or regulation concerning home education shall automatically expire five years after enactment unless reviewed and reapproved by Parliament following public consultation.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment ensures that all laws concerning home education are regularly reviewed and renewed only with public and parliamentary input, promoting accountability and adaptability in policy.*

LORD WEI

**426** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Exam access at independent schools**

- (1) An independent school must not deny access to sit examinations to a home-educated child solely on the basis that the child is not enrolled.
- (2) Reasonable fees may be charged for administration.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to require independent schools to allow home-educated children to sit exams even if they are not enrolled.*

LORD AGNEW OF OULTON  
*This amendment replaces Amendment 139*

**426A** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“CIECSS: attendance enforcement**

After section 448 of the Education Act 1996 (Exemption where child becomes five during term) insert –

**“448A CIECSS: attendance enforcement**

- (1) His Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Education, Children’s Services and Skills (the CIECSS) may impose fines against parents where one or more of their children are attending school for less than 80% of the designated time required.
- (2) The CIECSS must, when determining the amount of fine to be levied, take account the reason for non-attendance.
- (3) The Secretary of State must, by regulations, make provision for the establishment of the enforcement function in this section within six months of the day on which the Children’s Wellbeing and Schools Act 2025 comes into force.
- (4) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow the Chief Inspector of Schools to levy fines for poor attendance in parallel to school attendance orders.*

LORD STOREY

**426B** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review: factory shutdowns and school attendance**

- (1) On the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must order a review of the effect of factory shutdowns on local school attendance.
- (2) The review must consider the merits of varying local school holiday dates to minimise the impact of factory shutdowns on school attendance.
- (3) The review must be published within six months of the day on which this Act is passed and must be laid before both Houses of Parliament.”



## LORD MOYNIHAN

**426C** After Clause 35, insert the following new Clause –

**“Access to extracurricular sport and recreation opportunities**

A child educated at home is entitled to reasonable access to extracurricular sport and recreation opportunities offered and co-ordinated by local maintained schools.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment provides home-educated children with access to sport and recreational activities offered by maintained schools.*

## Clause 36

## LORD LUCAS

**427** Clause 36, page 79, line 16, at end insert –

“(c) institutions in England that cater for children placed with them for alternative provision by local authorities.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to bring unregistered alternative provision within the scope of routine oversight.*

## LORD LUCAS

**427A** Clause 36, page 79, line 16, at end insert –

“but an institution which provides religious instruction as an addition to the education which its students receive elsewhere is not an independent educational institution.”

## LORD LUCAS

**427B** Clause 36, page 79, line 29, at end insert –

“(e) provide that several separate organisations should be considered as one organisation for the purposes of this section.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment would allow the government to counter evasion based on dividing a child's education between several institutions.*

## THE LORD BISHOP OF MANCHESTER

**427C** Clause 36, page 80, line 23, at end insert –

“(h) an institution –

- (i) that is only providing religious instruction or guidance,
- (ii) where parents or guardians of attendees have registered at their Local Authority that they provide suitable out-of-school education separate from or in addition to any attendance at the institution, and
- (iii) where the institution demonstrates to the Local Authority that it provides the required safeguarding measures.”

LORD LUCAS

*Lord Lucas gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 36 stand part of the Bill.*

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This is intended to allow discussion of this clause in general, the intended regulations, and the effect on various classes of entity including after-school religious instruction.*

**Clause 37**

BARONESS BARRAN

428 Clause 37, page 81, line 36, at end insert –

“(1B) Powers under subsection (1) may not be exercised in relation to an academy.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment specifies that the Secretary of State should rely on the provisions in Funding Agreements as regards to academies.*

LORD LEXDEN

LORD BLACK OF BRENTWOOD

429 Clause 37, page 81, line 41, at end insert –

“(3B) Before the Secretary of State may prescribe any standard under subsection (3A), they must lay before Parliament a statement certifying that the proposed standard will not limit independent educational institutions’ independence with respect to admissions, the curriculum, or examinations, except if necessary to secure the safeguarding, wellbeing, or the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of pupils.

(3C) Before the Secretary of State may issue any guidance or publish any document which a proprietor of any independent educational institution must have regard to by virtue of the independent educational institution standards (including any standard prescribed by virtue of subsection (3A)), the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a statement certifying that the proposed guidance or document will not interfere with independent educational institutions’ independence with respect to admissions, the

curriculum, or examinations, except if necessary to secure the safeguarding, wellbeing, or the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of pupils.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to limit the Government's power to require independent educational institutions to have regard to guidance on topics where these institutions are not already subject to Government control.*

BARONESS MORGAN OF COTES  
BARONESS BERRIDGE

430 Clause 37, page 82, line 16, at end insert –

“(3A) Omit sections 106 (Independent inspectorates) and 107 (Quality assurance of independent inspectorates).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would remove sections 106 and 107 of the Education and Skills Act 2008 which give the Secretary of State powers to approve bodies to inspect independent schools (such as the Independent Schools Inspectorate) and requires the Chief Inspector to report on those bodies. The amendment seeks to probe the Government's readiness for the Independent Schools Inspectorate to become part of OFSTED.*

BARONESS SMITH OF MALVERN

431 Clause 37, page 86, line 4, leave out from beginning to “(see” in line 5 and insert “In subsection (1), the reference to providing education or supervised activity does not include providing boarding accommodation or activities necessary to ensure the welfare of boarders”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment clarifies that the offence of providing education or supervised activity while the registration of an independent educational institution is suspended is not committed by providing boarding accommodation (which may be prohibited separately) or activity necessary to ensure the welfare of boarders, such as supervised meals or fire safety instruction.*

**After Clause 38**

LORD LUCAS

432 After Clause 38, insert the following new Clause –

**“Unregistered independent educational institutions: inspection powers**

Section 97 of the Education and Skills Act 2008 (Unregistered independent educational institutions: inspection) is amended as follows –

- (a) at the beginning of subsection (1)(a) insert “without a warrant,”
- (b) at the beginning of subsection (1)(b) insert “compel the production of,”.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow discussion of the efficiency and effectiveness of Ofsted's powers in regard to investigating unregistered independent schools.*

BARONESS BLACKSTONE  
BARONESS MORRIS OF YARDLEY

**432A** After Clause 38, insert the following new Clause—

**“Unregistered independent educational institutions: offences**

After section 96 of the Education and Skills Act 2008 (Unregistered independent educational institutions: offence), insert—

**“96A Premises of unregistered independent educational institutions: offence**

- (1) The proprietor or owner of a property (or their agent) who provides premises for an unregistered independent educational institution under section 96 (Unregistered independent educational institutions: offence) is guilty of an offence.
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 51 weeks or to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale (or to both).

**96B Assisting or encouraging the administration of an unregistered independent educational institution: offence**

- (1) A person who assists or encourages the administration of an unregistered independent educational institution under section 96 (Unregistered independent educational institutions: offence) is guilty of an offence.
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 51 weeks or to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale (or to both).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to create two offences: (1) providing premises for an illegal school (including primary or subleasing landlords, and letting agents) and (2) assisting or encouraging the administration of an illegal school.*

**Clause 39**

LORD LEXDEN  
LORD BLACK OF BRENTWOOD

**433** Clause 39, page 96, line 43, at end insert—

- “(2D) Subsection (2)(i) does not prevent any special institution from making special provision for any child after they have been admitted to the institution if,

in the professional opinion of the institution, that child has a type or types of special needs for which the school does not ordinarily make special provision and which could only be identified after admission.

- (2E) In the case of any school relying on the provisions of subsection (2D), they may make a material change application if they reasonably expect that the special provision will be required for more than two academic terms, or if the exemption will apply to three or more pupils on their roll.
- (2F) In making this material change application, it is not to be considered retrospective, nor will a school relying on the provisions of subsection (2D) suffer any detriment or adverse judgement, even if the application is made after the special provision begins, provided that they make the application within two academic terms of the provision beginning.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment reflects the concerns of some independent special institutions that the requirement to submit a material change application before offering new special needs provision would make it impossible to support pupils who are admitted presenting one need, but are later discovered to have further special needs.*

**Clause 42**

BARONESS BLACKSTONE  
BARONESS MORRIS OF YARDLEY

**434** Clause 42, page 100, line 31, at end insert –

“(f) search the premises.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to allow the HM Inspectors to search premises for evidence it is conducting an offence of operating an illegal school without need for a warrant.*

**After Clause 44**

LORD BLUNKETT  
BARONESS BLOWER  
LORD WATSON OF INVERGOWRIE  
BARONESS MORRIS OF YARDLEY

**435** After Clause 44, insert the following new Clause –

**“School inspections: multi-academy trusts**

In section 5(2)(d) of the Education Act 2005, after “schools”, insert “and trusts””

BARONESS MORGAN OF COTES  
BARONESS BERRIDGE

436 After Clause 44, insert the following new Clause –

**“Transfer of the Independent Schools Inspectorate functions to Ofsted**

- (1) The Education and Inspections Act 2006 is amended as follows.
- (2) After section 156, insert –

**“156A Transfer of the Independent Schools Inspectorate functions to the Office**

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations transfer the functions of the Independent Schools Inspectorate to the Office.
- (2) The Secretary of State must make regulations under this section within one year of the day on which the Children’s Wellbeing and Schools Act 2025 is passed.
- (3) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This probing amendment seeks to clarify the Government’s readiness for the Independent Schools Inspectorate to become part of OFSTED.*

**Clause 45**

LORD KNIGHT OF WEYMOUTH

436ZA Clause 45, page 108, line 13, at end insert “qualified,”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to extend investigations to those qualified teachers currently teaching overseas. The effect being that should they return to the UK, or seek employment with employers who make a prohibition check with the Teaching Regulation Authority, incidents carried out overseas will be covered.*

LORD KNIGHT OF WEYMOUTH

436ZB Clause 45, page 109, line 28, at end insert –

- “(4A) In section 141C (list of persons prohibited from teaching etc) at the end of subsection (5) insert “, including making reasonable efforts to include any changes of name by such persons.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment addresses concerns that person prohibited from teaching are using name changes to evade detection in prohibition order checks.*

**Clause 46**

BARONESS WOLF OF DULWICH

**436A** Clause 46, page 110, line 17, at end insert –

“(1A) In section 133 (requirement to be qualified), in subsection (1), after “work” insert “in relation to National Curriculum subjects only””

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND

**437** Clause 46, page 110, line 18, after “qualified),” insert –

“(za) after subsection (1), insert –

“(1A) The specified requirements in subsection (1)(b) may include that the person is a practitioner, in a particular profession, skill, business or other relevant pursuit who has the necessary expertise to assist a child’s learning experience in a formal learning environment.””

LORD AGNEW OF OULTON

**437A** Clause 46, page 110, line 22, at end insert –

“(2A) In section 133, after subsection (6), insert –

“(7) “qualified teacher” shall include individuals who, though not possessing formal teacher training certification, hold a university-level qualification directly related to the subject they are teaching, and who demonstrate competency through practical teaching experience or relevant professional experience in their subject area.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to include in the definition of “qualified teacher” individuals who have significant subject-specific qualifications and practical teaching or professional experience, recognising the expertise they bring to educational settings without a traditional teaching qualification.*

BARONESS BARRAN

*Baroness Barran gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 46 stand part of the Bill.*

**After Clause 46**

LORD WEI

438 After Clause 46, insert the following new Clause –

**“Fast-track teacher qualification access for home educators**

A parent who has home educated for at least three years may apply for fast-tracked access to a qualified teacher status pathway, without requiring additional in-school experience.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to acknowledge the teaching experience of home educators by enabling direct access to teacher qualification pathways without repeating basic training.*

LORD STOREY

439 After Clause 46, insert the following new Clause –

**“Anti-bullying training for school staff and inspectors**

- (1) The Secretary of State must ensure that anti-bullying training is a core component of –
  - (a) all initial teacher training programmes;
  - (b) induction training for Ofsted inspectors.
- (2) The Secretary of State must ensure all school staff in England and Ofsted inspectors are provided with continuing professional development (CPD) in anti-bullying strategies with refresher training to be provided at appropriate intervals.”

**Clause 47**

LORD AGNEW OF OULTON

440 Clause 47, page 111, line 13, at end insert –

“(5A) Subsection (1)(b)(ii) does not apply in relation to an educational institution that has received an OFSTED rating of Good or equivalent in the last three years.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment and another in the name of Lord Agnew seeks to ensure that academies which are rated as “Good” are not required to follow the National Curriculum.*

LORD ADDINGTON

441 Clause 47, page 111, line 16, at end insert, “, except that an Academy school is not obliged to deliver the National Curriculum to a child with SEND, provided that, if appropriate, assisted technology is used to support the child's learning.”



**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to remove an obligation to deliver the National Curriculum to a child with SEND, provided the child is offered appropriate assistive technology to support their learning.*

LORD AGNEW OF OULTON

- 442** Clause 47, page 111, line 28, at end insert “, unless the Academy school has received an OFSTED rating of Good or equivalent in the last three years.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment and another in the name of Lord Agnew seeks to ensure that academies which are rated as “Good” are not required to follow the National Curriculum.*

LORD CARTER OF HASLEMERE  
BARONESS BARRAN

- 443** In Clause 47, page 112, line 25, leave out subsection (5) and insert –
- “(5) Section 96 of the Education Act 2002 (procedure for making certain orders and regulations) is amended as follows –
    - (a) at the beginning of subsection (7), insert “Subject to subsection (8),”;
    - (b) after subsection (7) insert –
      - “(8) An order made under any provision of this Part which would amend primary legislation, or regulations made under section 91, does not apply to an Academy school.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

*This amendment seeks to prevent orders made under section 96 of the Education Act 2002 which would amend primary legislation, or regulations under section 91 of the Act, from applying to an Academy School.*

BARONESS BARRAN

*Baroness Barran gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 47 stand part of the Bill.*

**After Clause 47**

LORD STOREY

- 444** After Clause 47, insert the following new Clause –
- “Flexibility to take into account local circumstances when following the National Curriculum**
- (1) The Education Act 2002 (establishment of the National Curriculum for England by order) is amended as follows.

- (2) In section 87, after subsection (1) insert –
- “(1A) In any revision to the National Curriculum for England, the Secretary of State must ensure that the National Curriculum shall consist of –
- (a) a core framework, and
  - (b) subjects or areas of learning outside the core framework that allow flexibility for each school to take account of their specific circumstances.”
- (3) In section 210 (orders and regulations), after subsection (3)(e) insert –
- “(ea) section 87, or”.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to increase flexibility to take into account local circumstances when following the National Curriculum and to make any changes to the National Curriculum subject to Parliamentary approval.*

**Clause 49**

BARONESS BARRAN

- 445** Clause 49, page 113, line 26, leave out from “as” to the end of line 28 and insert “are necessary to secure compliance with statutory duties, the requirements of a Funding Agreement, or charity law.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to limit the Secretary of State's power of direction should an Academy breach, or act unreasonably in respect of, the performance of a relevant duty.*

LORD KNIGHT OF WEYMOUTH

- 445A** Clause 49, page 114, line 11, at end insert –
- “(6A) An Academy proprietor may appeal a mandatory order made in this section to a regional advisory body within 28 days of the issuing of the order.
- (6B) A regional advisory body under subsection (6A) must be made up of headteachers of academies, at least half of whom must be elected, and other members must be appointed by the Secretary of State.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*The amendment seeks to ensure the use of directions is made transparently and fairly following proper process.*

BARONESS BARRAN

*Baroness Barran gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 49 stand part of the Bill.*

**Clause 50**

LORD BLUNKETT  
BARONESS MORGAN OF HUYTON

446 Clause 50, page 114, line 20, at end insert –

“(c) after subsection (1) insert –

“(1ZA) When making an order under subsection (1)(b) of this section and within the meaning of section 62 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (school requiring special measures), the Secretary of State must make an order to –

(a) transfer the school to a high performing multi-academy trust, or

(b) merge the school with a high performing maintained school serving a similar cohort of children (by demographic background and prior attainment), provided that school is within the same local authority or geographical area,

unless the Secretary of State believes that there is good reason to undertake another course of action.””

BARONESS BARRAN

*Baroness Barran gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 50 stand part of the Bill.*

**After Clause 50**

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

447 After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review: conversion to maintained schools**

(1) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish a report setting out proposals for converting –

(a) academy chains,

(b) individual academies, and

(c) free schools,

to maintained schools under local authority control.

(2) The review must consider –

(a) legislative changes required to enable the conversion process,

(b) how a conversion process for a school would be triggered,

(c) the potential role of different levels of local government in school oversight,

(d) how conversion would impact the ownership of school land and buildings, and

- (e) the resources made available to local authorities when schools are converted.
- (3) Within six months of the completion of the review, the Secretary of State must publish and lay before Parliament a report on the findings and conclusions of the review.”

LORD KNIGHT OF WEYMOUTH

**447ZA** After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause –

**“Extension of power to innovate to academy proprietors**

- (1) The Education Act 2002 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 1(3) (purpose and interpretation of Chapter 1), in the definition of “qualifying body”, after paragraph (h), insert –
  - “(i) an academy proprietor;”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to extend the power to innovate to Academy trusts.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**447ZB** After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause –

**“Academy order for an academy school to be converted into a school maintained by the local authority**

The Academies Act 2010 is amended as follows –

- (a) in section 4, after subsection (10) insert –
  - “(10A) The Secretary of State may make an Academy reversal order to convert an academy school into a school maintained by the local authority if the Secretary of State receives representations from an academy school governing body, staff, parents or the local authority in support of converting the academy school into a maintained school.”;
- (b) in section 5, after subsection (1) insert –
  - “(1A) Before an academy is converted into a maintained school, the Secretary of State must consult such persons as they think appropriate about whether the conversion should take place.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This new clause allows the Secretary of State to make an Academy reversal order in the event that the Secretary of State receives representations from an academy school governing body, staff, parents or the local authority supporting an academy school returning to be maintained by the local authority.*

### Schedule 3

BARONESS BOUSTED  
LORD KNIGHT OF WEYMOUTH

**447A** Schedule 3, page 128, line 24, at end insert—

“1A In section 120(1)(a), after “teachers”, insert—

“(aa) academy schools Chief Executive Officers’ pay,””

#### After Clause 52

BARONESS BARRAN

**448** After Clause 52, insert the following new Clause—

#### **“Power to prescribe pay and conditions for teachers**

The Secretary of State must, within three months of the passing of this Act—

- (a) make provision for the power of the governing bodies of maintained schools to set the pay and working conditions of school teachers to be made equivalent with the relevant powers of academies;
- (b) provide guidance to all applicable schools that—
  - (i) pay levels given in the School Teachers’ Pay and Conditions Document are to be treated as the minimum pay of relevant teachers;
  - (ii) teachers may be paid above the pay levels given in the School Teachers’ Pay and Conditions Document;
  - (iii) they must have regard to the School Teachers’ Pay and Conditions Document but may vary from it.”

#### *Member's explanatory statement*

*This new clause would make the pay set out in the School Teachers’ Pay and Conditions Document a “floor”, and extend freedoms over pay and conditions to local authority maintained schools.*

LORD STOREY  
BARONESS BARRAN  
LORD HAMPTON

**448A** After Clause 52, insert the following new Clause—

#### **“Teacher’s pay and conditions: right to be accompanied**

- (1) Section 123 of the Education Act 2002 (Order under section 122: scope) is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1), after paragraph (j) insert—
  - “(k) make provision for a teacher’s right to be accompanied at a disciplinary or grievance hearing by a person who has been

certified in writing by a professional body as having relevant experience, or as having received relevant training.”

(3) After subsection (4) insert –

“(5) In this section –

“professional body” means any organisation, which is authorised by a regulation made by the Secretary of State under subsection (6);

“relevant experience” means experience of acting as a worker’s companion at disciplinary or grievance hearings;

“relevant training” means training to act as a worker’s companion at disciplinary or grievance hearings.

(6) The Secretary of State may make a regulation or regulations authorising any organisation as a professional body for the purposes of this section.””

### Clause 53

LORD LUCAS

449 Clause 53, page 115, line 26, at end insert –

#### **“85ZB Co-operation in providing parents with admissions information**

- (1) A local authority in England and the governing body of a maintained school in England must co-operate in the provision of admissions information to parents.
- (2) The governing body of such a school, where it is the admissions authority for the school, must provide the local authority with such admissions information as is specified in regulations in the electronic format set out in those regulations, within the timescale set out in those regulations.
- (3) Within one month of the deadline for schools to provide that information, a local authority must publish the information so provided and the equivalent information for schools for which it is the admissions authority in the same electronic format.”

#### ***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that complete, accurate, and consistent admissions information is available to all parents.*

BARONESS LONGFIELD  
LORD STOREY

450 Clause 53, page 115, line 26, at end insert –

**“85ZB Managed moves and the Fair Access Protocol**

- (1) Before the initiation of any managed move of a registered pupil from one maintained school or Academy to another, the pupil must be considered under the local authority’s Fair Access Protocol.
- (2) The consideration under subsection (1) must include consultation with –
  - (a) the current school,
  - (b) the proposed receiving school, and
  - (c) the parent or carer of the pupil, and where appropriate, the pupil.
- (3) The local authority must keep and maintain a record of all managed moves occurring to, from, or within its area.
- (4) Where a managed move results in the registration of a pupil at a school within the area of a different local authority, the responsibility for monitoring the educational outcomes and welfare of the pupil following the move shall transfer to that receiving local authority upon the pupil's registration at the new school.
- (5) The duty imposed by subsection (1) above does not apply –
  - (a) in circumstances where the child of compulsory school age is removed from the roll of one school and registered at another school solely as a consequence of the child's change of ordinary residence, provided that –
    - (i) the change of residence is documented and verified, and
    - (ii) arrangements for re-registration at a new school are underway or have been made within a reasonable period.
- (6) A record under subsection (3) must include –
  - (a) the reasons for the move,
  - (b) the schools involved,
  - (c) whether the move was voluntary or directed, and
  - (d) the outcome for the pupil.
- (7) Each local authority must submit an annual report to the Secretary of State containing a summary of managed moves conducted under this section.
- (8) The Secretary of State may issue guidance to local authorities and schools on the implementation of this section, to which they must have regard.
- (9) In this section –

“managed moves” means a permanent change of the pupil’s school registration, where a move is not a result of –

  - (a) a permanent exclusion under Section 51A of the Education Act 1996;

- (b) a transfer to a special school pursuant to Section 42 of the Children and Families Act 2014;
- (c) a change of registration due to school closure;
- (d) movement between educational phases;
- (e) change in school type as a consequence of the Academy Act 2010.

“school” has the same meaning as in Part 4 of the Education Act 1996.”

#### After Clause 53

LORD STOREY

451 After Clause 53, insert the following new Clause –

#### **“Placement of permanently excluded children of compulsory school age with unregistered providers**

In the Education Act 1996, in section 19 (exceptional provision of education in pupil referral units or elsewhere), after subsection (4A) insert –

- “(4B) Local authorities may not discharge their duty of providing suitable education under subsection (1) for children of compulsory school age, by reason of permanent exclusion, through full-time placement in an unregistered school or the equivalent of a full-time placement in multiple unregistered schools, unless the provider is, or the providers are, working towards registration.””

#### *Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment aims to prevent the long-term placement of permanently excluded pupils with unregistered providers, which lack regular inspection and formal oversight. It includes an exception for providers actively working towards registration, acknowledging both the shortage of registered alternative provision in some local authority areas and the valuable support offered by many unregistered settings.*

#### Clause 54

LORD AGNEW OF OULTON

452 Leave out Clause 54, and insert the following new Clause –

#### **“Local authority and academy admission intervention threshold**

For section 96 of School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (Direction to admit child to specified school) substitute –

#### **“96 Local authority and academy admission intervention threshold**

- (1) A local authority may only directly intervene to admit pupils to a school where –
  - (a) the admission authority has demonstrably failed to meet admissions obligations, or



- (b) there is clear evidence of disadvantage or unfair treatment of the pupil involved.
- (2) Any local authority direction for admission under subsection (1) must –
  - (a) be justified with clear evidence, or
  - (b) be preceded by formal consultation with the relevant admission authority.
- (3) An admission authority which is an academy trust may independently determine admission criteria for schools under its control, provided such criteria –
  - (a) comply with basic fairness and minimum national standards, and
  - (b) are published and transparent.
- (4) Before making significant changes to admission criteria under subsection (3), the admissions authority must consult –
  - (a) local authorities,
  - (b) parents of pupils attending schools within the Trust, and
  - (c) other relevant stakeholders as determined appropriate by the Trust.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment limits local authority powers to intervene in admissions to situations where the admission authority has failed to meet its admissions obligations or has treated pupils unfairly. It also outlines the procedure for academy admissions.*

**Clause 55**

BARONESS GARDEN OF FROGNAL

**452A** Clause 55, page 117, line 20, at end insert –

- “(c) a child is otherwise vulnerable, including children with refugee or humanitarian protection, or on resettlement schemes, but who do not qualify as an Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment and another in the name of Baroness Garden of Frognal broaden the scope of the LA's new power to include all refugee and asylum-seeking children, not just unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.*

BARONESS GARDEN OF FROGNAL

**452B** Clause 55, page 118, line 2, at end insert "and this may include a child in the asylum process or who has refugee status"

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment and another in the name Baroness Garden of Frognal broaden the scope of the LA's new power to include all refugee and asylum-seeking children, not just unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.*

LORD AGNEW OF OULTON

*Lord Agnew of Oulton gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 55 stand part of the Bill.*

**After Clause 55**

LORD STOREY  
BARONESS LONGFIELD

453 After Clause 55, insert the following new Clause –

**“Governance of managed moves by the local authority**

After section 96 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, insert –

**“96A Governance of managed moves by the local authority**

- (1) Managed moves of a registered pupil from one maintained school or Academy to another must be arranged through the local authority's fair access panel, as governed by the area's Fair Access Protocol.
- (2) The duty imposed by subsection (1) does not apply in circumstances where the child of compulsory school age is removed from the roll of one school and registered at another school solely as a consequence of the child's change of ordinary residence, provided that the change of residence is documented and verified.
- (3) The local authority must keep and maintain a record of all managed moves occurring to, from, or within its area and this record must include –
  - (a) the reasons for the move,
  - (b) the schools involved,
  - (c) whether the move was voluntary or directed, and
  - (d) the outcome for the pupil.
- (4) Where a managed move results in the registration of a pupil at a school within the area of a different local authority, the responsibility for monitoring the educational outcomes and welfare of the pupil following the move transfer to the receiving local authority upon the pupil's registration at the new school.
- (5) Each local authority must submit an annual report to the Secretary of State containing a summary of managed moves conducted under this section.

- (6) The Secretary of State may issue guidance to local authorities and schools on the implementation of this section, to which they must have regard.
- (7) In this section –
- “managed moves” means a permanent change of the pupil’s school registration, where a move is not a result of –
- (a) a permanent exclusion under section 51A of the Education Act 2002,
  - (b) a transfer to a special school pursuant to section 42 of the Children and Families Act 2014,
  - (c) a change of registration due to school closure,
  - (d) movement between educational phases,
  - (e) a change in school type as a consequence of the Academy Act 2010;
- “school” has the same meaning as in Part 4 of the Education Act 1996.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires all schools to route all managed moves through the local area’s existing Fair Access Protocol (FAP) and local authorities to report on their use to the Department for Education. This would subject managed moves to a collaborative peer review and ensure appropriate local authority and the Department of Education knowledge and oversight.*

**Clause 56**

LORD AGNEW OF OULTON

454 Clause 56, page 119, line 7, at end insert –

**“88IB Admission authority appeals**

- (1) An admission authority may appeal decisions made by the schools' adjudicator regarding admissions numbers or arrangements.
- (2) Appeals under subsection (1) must be made to an independent panel appointed by the Secretary of State, whose decision is to be final.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to provide admission authorities with an explicit right to appeal adjudicator decisions in relation to admission numbers.*

BARONESS BARRAN

*Baroness Barran gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 56 stand part of the Bill.*

**After Clause 56**

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

455 After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review: rural school admissions policies**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, lay before Parliament a review of school admission policies in rural areas.
- (2) The review under subsection (1) must include an assessment of whether admissions policies in these areas are affected by the availability of home to school transport.”

LORD WATSON OF INVERGOWRIE  
LORD DUBS

456 After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause –

**“50% cap on all new faith school admissions**

- (1) Any newly established maintained school or academy of a religious character that is selective on the basis of faith must adopt admissions criteria that provide that, if oversubscribed, at least 50% of its places available each year will be allocated without reference to faith-based admission criteria.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to an Academy established by virtue of a maintained school being converted into an Academy under section 4 of the Academies Act 2010, unless it applied to the maintained school prior to conversion.
- (3) In subsection (1), “newly established” means schools established more than two months after the date on which this Act comes into force.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause would require all new schools with faith-based admissions (other than those which were pre-existing maintained schools that have converted to being academies) to apply a 50% cap on faith-based admissions places when oversubscribed, in line with the cap for new academies and free schools.*

BARONESS BURT OF SOLIHULL

457 After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause –

**“Reporting of faith-based selection in school admissions**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, collect and publish data on the individual admission arrangements used by all schools.
- (2) The Secretary of State must, on an annual basis –

- (a) require schools, via the school census, to report their current admission policy, specifying the proportion of places that may be allocated based on faith-related criteria such as proof of religious affiliation;
- (b) include information on school admissions and faith-based selection in all relevant education data publications, including national education statistics, Department for Education published data files, and the 'Get Information About Schools' service."

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new Clause would introduce a requirement for regular and transparent reporting of individual school admission arrangements. It seeks to clarify the extent to which schools with a religious character use faith-based criteria – such as proof of faith – for selecting pupils.*

**Clause 57**

BARONESS BARRAN

*Baroness Barran gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 57 stand part of the Bill.*

**After Clause 62**

BARONESS BARRAN  
LORD HAMPTON  
BARONESS KIDRON

458

After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Prohibition of smartphones during the school day**

- (1) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, all schools in England must have a policy that prohibits the use and possession of smartphones by pupils during the school day.
- (2) Any policy implemented under subsection (1) –
  - (a) may provide for exemptions from the policy, or for an alternative policy, for sixth form students, in so far as such exemptions or alternative policies do not negatively impact upon the wider policy,
  - (b) may provide for exemptions for medical devices,
  - (c) is to be implemented as the relevant school leader considers appropriate, and
  - (d) may, where implemented by a boarding school or residential school, include appropriate guidance for the use of certain devices during other periods in which their pupils are on school premises, subject to such policies safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in accordance with relevant national standards.
- (3) For the purposes of this section –

“smartphones” means a mobile telephone that is able to connect to the internet and whose main purpose is not the support of learning or study;  
 “the school day” includes all time between the start of the first lesson period and the end of the final lesson period.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause requires schools to ban the use of smartphones during the school day.*

LORD KNIGHT OF WEYMOUTH  
 BARONESS KIDRON

*As an amendment to Amendment 458*

**458A** After subsection (2)(d) insert –

“(e) may provide for exemptions for educational purposes.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*The amendment seeks to ensure that schools may return smartphones to students during the school day for educational purposes such as media literacy lessons.*

BARONESS BARRAN  
 LORD HAMPTON

**459** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Duty for schools to report acts of violence against staff to the police**

- (1) Where an act which meets the conditions set out in subsection (2) takes place which involves the use or threat of force against a member of a school’s staff, the school must report the incident to the police.
- (2) An act must be reported to the police where –
  - (a) it is directed towards a member of school staff or their property, and
  - (b) it takes place –
    - (i) on school property, or
    - (ii) because of the victim’s status as a member of a school’s staff.
- (3) The provisions of this section do not require or imply a duty on the police to take specific actions in response to such reports.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause seeks to create a duty for all schools to report acts or threats of violence against their staff to the police. It would not create a requirement for the police to charge the perpetrator.*

## LORD STOREY

460 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“National tutoring guarantee**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the passing of this Act, publish a report outlining the steps necessary to introduce a national tutoring guarantee.
- (2) A “national tutoring guarantee” means a statutory requirement on the Secretary of State to ensure access to small group academic tutoring for all disadvantaged children who require academic support.
- (3) A report published under this section must include an assessment of how best to deliver targeted academic support from qualified tutors to children –
  - (a) from low-income backgrounds,
  - (b) with low prior attainment,
  - (c) with additional needs, or
  - (d) who are young carers.
- (4) In preparing a report under this section, the Secretary of State must consult with –
  - (a) headteachers,
  - (b) teachers,
  - (c) school leaders,
  - (d) parents of children from low-income backgrounds,
  - (e) children from low-income backgrounds, and
  - (f) other individuals or organisations as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.
- (5) A report under this section must be laid before Parliament.
- (6) Within three months of a report under this section being laid before Parliament, the Secretary of State must take steps to begin implementation of the recommendations contained in the report.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires the Secretary of State to publish a report outlining the steps required to introduce a national tutoring guarantee, and to begin implementing its recommendations.*

## LORD ADDINGTON

461 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Establishment of a national body for SEND**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within 12 months of the passing of this Act, establish a national body for special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in relation to children.
- (2) The functions of the national body for SEND will include, but not be limited to –
  - (a) national coordination of SEND provision for children,

- (b) supporting the delivery of SEND support for children with very high needs, and
  - (c) advising on funding needed by local authorities for SEND provision for children.
- (3) Any mechanism used by the national body for SEND in advising on funding under subsection (2)(c) should be based on current need and may disregard historic spend.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires the Secretary of State to establish a national body for special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in relation to children.*

BARONESS TYLER OF ENFIELD  
LORD STOREY  
BARONESS FINLAY OF LLANDAFF

462 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Duty of school governing bodies regarding mental health provision**

- (1) Subject to subsection (3), the governing body of a maintained or academy school in England has a duty to make arrangements for provision in the school of a dedicated education mental health practitioner.
- (2) In subsection (1) “education mental health practitioner” means a person with a graduate-level or postgraduate-level qualification of that name earned through a course commissioned by NHS England.
- (3) Where a school has 100 or fewer pupils, the duty under subsection (1) may be satisfied through collaborative provision between several schools.
- (4) The Secretary of State must provide, or make arrangements for the provision of, appropriate financial and other support to school governing bodies for the purposes of facilitating the fulfilling of the duty in subsection (1).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires the governing body of a maintained or academy school in England to make arrangements for provision in the school of a dedicated education mental health practitioner.*

BARONESS LISTER OF BURTERSETT  
BARONESS MORGAN OF COTES  
LORD HAMPTON  
THE LORD BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER

463 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Duty to provide relationships and sex education and PSHE to persons who have not attained the age of 18 at further education institutions**

- (1) The Children and Social Work Act 2017 is amended as follows.



- (2) In section 34 (education relating to relationships and sex) –
- (a) at the end of subsection (1)(b) insert –
    - “(c) relationships and sex education to be provided to persons who have not attained the age of 18 and who are receiving education at post-16 education institutions in England.”;
  - (b) in subsection (2)(a), after “schools” insert “and further education providers”;
  - (c) in subsection (2)(b), after “schools” insert “and further education providers”;
  - (d) in subsection (2)(c), after “schools” insert “and further education providers”.
- (3) In section 35 (other personal, social, health and economic education) –
- (a) at the end of subsection (1)(b) insert –
    - “(c) to persons who have not attained the age of 18 and who are receiving education at post-16 education institutions in England.”;
  - (b) in subsection (2)(a), after “schools” insert “and further education providers”;
  - (c) in subsection (2)(b), after “schools” insert “and further education providers”;
  - (d) in subsection (2)(c), after “schools” insert “and further education providers”.

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause would extend the existing provision of relationships and sex education and PSHE under the Children and Social Work Act 2017 to people under the age of 18 who are receiving education at post-16 education institutions in England.*

BARONESS WHITAKER  
THE LORD BISHOP OF LINCOLN  
LORD BOURNE OF ABERYSTWYTH  
BARONESS BAKEWELL OF HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE  
*Revised version of Amendment 464*

**464** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Reporting of racist incidents in schools**

Local authorities must require all schools under their authority to record and report any incidents of racism and faith-based bullying, and any subsequent action taken.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require local authorities to require schools to record and report racist incidents and the action taken.*

BARONESS BURT OF SOLIHULL  
LORD WATSON OF INVERGOWRIE  
LORD DUBS  
LORD STOREY

465 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education in assemblies**

- (1) Chapter VI of Part II of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (religious education and worship) is amended as follows.
- (2) For section 70(1) (requirements relating to collective worship) substitute –
  - “(1) Subject to section 71, each pupil in attendance at –
    - (a) a community, foundation or voluntary school in Wales,
    - (b) a foundation or voluntary school in England which is designated with a religious character, or
    - (c) an Academy in England which is designated with a religious character,
 must take part in an act of collective worship at least one time per week.”
- (3) In section 70(2), for “community, foundation or voluntary school”, substitute “school to which subsection (1) applies”.
- (4) After section 70, insert –

**“70A Requirements relating to assemblies**

- (1) This section applies to schools in England that are –
  - (a) maintained schools without a religious character,
  - (b) non-maintained special schools,
  - (c) City Technology Colleges, and
  - (d) academies without a religious character.
- (2) Each pupil in attendance at a school to which this section applies must at least once during the school week take part in an assembly which is principally directed towards furthering the spiritual, moral, social and cultural education of the pupils regardless of religion or belief.
- (3) In relation to any school to which this section applies –
  - (a) the local authority responsible for education (in the case of maintained schools) and the governing body must exercise their functions with a view to securing, and
  - (b) the head teacher must secure,
 that subsection (2) is complied with.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment removes the requirement for daily collective worship in England for maintained schools and academies without a religious character, non-maintained special schools, and city technology colleges, and instead introduces a requirement for a minimum weekly assembly furthering spiritual, moral, social and cultural education.*

LORD SANDHURST  
BARONESS MORRIS OF YARDLEY  
BARONESS FINLAY OF LLANDAFF  
BARONESS CASS

466 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Relationship, sex, and health education curriculum**

All external resources used in schools within the relationship, sex, and health education curriculum and teaching time must be published, citable, and accessible for public and regulatory scrutiny.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that only resources that are accessible in the public domain are used to teach the RSHE curriculum.*

LORD SANDHURST  
BARONESS MORRIS OF YARDLEY  
BARONESS CASS  
BARONESS LUDFORD

467 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Relationship, sex, and health education curriculum (No. 2)**

- (1) The Secretary of State must issue guidance to schools on parental access to RSHE school curriculum materials.
- (2) The guidance issued under subsection (1) must include –
  - (a) a clear instruction to schools that they must not prevent parents from requesting and viewing copies of school curriculum materials on the grounds that this could risk a breach of copyright, but may remind them of copyright law around copying and replication, and
  - (b) a clear instruction that schools must not enter into commercial confidentiality arrangements with third party providers who provide curriculum material for use with children in schools which purport to prevent their disclosure to parents and carers.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure parents are able to view materials in the RSHE curriculum as existing copyright law already allows for limited copying and sharing of published material and seeks to prevent schools from entering into commercial confidentiality arrangements around curriculum material.*

## LORD LUCAS

468 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Alternative systems of education**

- (1) The Secretary of State may, if so requested, make a declaration that an alternative system of education is expected, when carefully followed, to be a suitable education for most children.
- (2) The Secretary of State may take whatever advice they deem appropriate in arriving at such a conclusion.
- (3) If the Secretary of State, having been so requested, refuses to make such a declaration, they shall publish in full their reasons for refusal.
- (4) If the Secretary of State makes such a declaration, they must publish a full account of the alternative system of education concerned.
- (5) In deciding whether to grant such a declaration, the Secretary of State may not require of the alternative system of education standards better than those obtaining, on average, in the worst 10 per cent of English state schools.
- (6) The Secretary of State may at any time reconsider a decision to grant or refuse a declaration.
- (7) A parent may appeal to the Tribunal against a decision of the secretary of state to refuse to make a declaration.
- (8) An appeal under subsection (7) must be brought within a period of 28 days beginning with the date on which the Secretary of State’s decision was notified to the parent.
- (9) On an appeal, the Tribunal may –
  - (a) confirm the decision of the Secretary of State, or
  - (b) direct that the Secretary of State should make a declaration.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to provide a route for the in-principle approval of religious and other systems of education, for example, Charedi schooling. This will allow discussion of how the government intends to approach these systems.*

BARONESS LISTER OF BURTERSETT  
 BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE  
 THE LORD BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER  
 BARONESS WALMSLEY

469 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Child rights impact assessment**

- (1) A Minister of the Crown must prepare and publish a child rights impact assessment in relation to any legislative provision, policy decision, budgetary decision, or

other decision of a strategic or operational nature that has or will have a direct or indirect impact on children's wellbeing, social care or education, which are undertaken by virtue of the provisions in this Act.

- (2) The purpose of a child rights impact assessment is to secure better or further effect of the rights set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).
- (3) A child rights impact assessment must include consideration of the views, wishes and feeling of children and young people affected by the decision, insofar as the Minister is able to ascertain those views.
- (4) A child rights impact assessment should be undertaken on all relevant legislation, policy and budget development which are undertaken by virtue of the provisions in this Act at the earliest possible opportunity and prior to making final decisions.
- (5) The UNCRC includes the rights and obligations set out in –
  - (a) the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child Part 1;
  - (b) Articles 1 to 6(1), 6(3) and 7 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;
  - (c) Articles 1 to 10 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
  - (d) any other Optional Protocols to the UNCRC that the United Kingdom may in future ratify.
- (6) The UNCRC rights and obligations for the purposes of this Act are subject to any reservations, objections or interpretative declarations by the United Kingdom as may be in force at the time.
- (7) The UNCRC rights and obligations for the purposes of this Act should be interpreted in the light of General Comments prepared by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child under rule 77 of its procedure and Concluding Observations made by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in response to a United Kingdom report under Article 45 paragraph (d) of the Convention.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment will introduce a statutory requirement for Ministers – and thereby government departments – to routinely prepare and make publicly available a children's rights assessment of the impact and/or expected impact of any proposed legislation, policy, budgetary decision or other strategic or operational decision undertaken by virtue of the provisions in this Act as they relate to children's wellbeing, social care or education.*

BARONESS LISTER OF BURTERSETT  
BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE  
THE LORD BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER  
BARONESS WALMSLEY

470 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Duty on UK Ministers**

- (1) A Minister of the Crown must, when exercising any or all of their functions under this Act, as they relate to children’s wellbeing, social care or education, have due regard to the rights and obligations set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).
- (2) In complying with the duty under subsection (1), Ministers of the Crown must take account of the relevant views, wishes and feelings of children insofar as the Minister is able to ascertain those views.
- (3) When discharging their duties under the provisions in this Act, Ministers of the Crown must promote public awareness and understanding of the UNCRC as it relates to children’s wellbeing, social care or education, including among children, public authorities, and those performing public functions impacting children’s wellbeing, social care or education.
- (4) In complying with this duty, Ministers of the Crown must prepare and publish child rights impact assessments in relation to any legislative provision, policy decision, budgetary decision, or other decision of a strategic or operational nature that has or will have a direct or indirect impact on children’s wellbeing, social care or education, which are undertaken by virtue of the provisions in this Act.
- (5) As soon as is practicable after the end of each three-year period, the Secretary of State must publish (in such a manner as they deem appropriate) a report of the steps taken in that period specifically to secure implementation of the rights and obligations set out in the UNCRC, as they relate to children’s wellbeing, social care or education.
- (6) A report published under subsection (5) must include –
  - (a) an assessment of the extent to which the UNCRC is being implemented for children and young people in relation to wellbeing, social care and education;
  - (b) steps taken to promote understanding and awareness of the rights of children, as they relate to wellbeing, social care or education.
- (7) The UNCRC includes the rights and obligations set out in –
  - (a) the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child Part 1;
  - (b) Articles 1 to 6(1), 6(3) and 7 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;
  - (c) Articles 1 to 10 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;

- (d) any other Optional Protocols to the UNCRC that the UK may in future ratify.
- (8) The UNCRC rights and obligations for the purposes of this Act are subject to any reservations, objections or interpretative declarations by the United Kingdom as may be in force at the time.
- (9) The UNCRC rights and obligations for the purposes of this Act should be interpreted in light of General Comments prepared by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child under rule 77 of its procedure and Concluding Observations made by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in response to a UK report under Article 45 paragraph (d) of the Convention.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*The purpose of this amendment is to require Ministers to have due regard to the rights and obligations set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) when exercising their functions under this Act, as they relate to children's wellbeing, social care or education.*

BARONESS BURT OF SOLIHULL  
LORD WATSON OF INVERGOWRIE  
LORD DUBS

**471** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Inclusion of non-religious beliefs in religious education**

- (1) Section 375 of the Education Act 1996 is amended as follows.
- (2) Omit subsection (3) and insert –
  - “(3) Every agreed syllabus shall –
    - (a) reflect the fact that the religious traditions in Great Britain are in the main Christian, and
    - (b) take account of the teachings of the other principal religions and non-religious beliefs represented in Great Britain.
  - (3A) In subsection (3)(b), the reference to non-religious beliefs is to non-religious philosophical convictions that –
    - (a) are explicitly non-religious, and
    - (b) are philosophical convictions within the meaning of Article 2 of the First Protocol to the European Convention on Human Rights.
  - (3B) In subsection (3A)(b) “the European Convention on Human Rights” means the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, agreed by the Council of Europe at Rome on 4 November 1950, as it has effect for the time being in relation to the United Kingdom; and “the First Protocol”, in relation to that Convention, means the protocol to the Convention agreed at Paris on 20 March 1952.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires non-religious beliefs to be taught in religious education, and defines non-religious beliefs for those purposes.*

LORD O'DONNELL  
LORD LAYARD  
BARONESS TYLER OF ENFIELD  
LORD MOYNIHAN

472 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Establishment of a national children’s wellbeing measurement programme**

- (1) The Secretary of State must establish a national children’s wellbeing measurement programme.
- (2) A programme established under this section must –
  - (a) conduct an annual online national survey of the wellbeing of children in relevant schools in England;
  - (b) provide central analysis of data and support for schools in the administration of the survey;
  - (c) make provision for school, parental and student consent to participation in the survey, ensuring that participation is voluntary and that results are handled confidentially;
  - (d) regularly publish the results of the survey and provide relevant data to participating schools, local authorities and other public bodies for the purposes of improving children’s wellbeing.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, “wellbeing” includes the drivers of wellbeing, including nutrition, physical activity, participation in arts, culture and entertainment and any other factors the Secretary of State deems relevant.
- (4) For the purposes of this section, “relevant schools” includes academy schools, alternative provision, maintained schools, non-maintained special schools, independent schools, and pupil referral units.”

LORD WEI

473 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Right to convert underperforming schools to community learning hubs**

Where Ofsted rates a school as inadequate for three consecutive years, a majority vote of local home-educating families may petition for its conversion into a community learning hub.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment empowers communities to repurpose failing schools into shared learning centres for home-educated children, promoting community-led education and flexible use of public assets.*



## LORD LUCAS

474 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Curriculum materials**

All external resources used in schools must be published, citable, and accessible for public and regulatory scrutiny.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to ensure that only resources that are accessible in the public domain are used, so that parents can at all times know what their children are being taught.*

## LORD ADDINGTON

475 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review of off-rolling in schools**

- (1) Within 12 months of the passing of this Act, the Secretary of State must publish a review into the practice of off-rolling in schools.
- (2) The review must produce proposals outlining the steps necessary to eliminate the practice of off-rolling in schools.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment requires the Secretary of State to review the practice of off-rolling and to produce proposals to eliminate the practice.*

## LORD WEI

476 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Educational cessation**

Where a child has demonstrably completed a course of education equivalent to five GCSEs at grades 4–9, they shall no longer be subject to compulsory education requirements under Part VI of the Education Act 1996.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to allow children who have already completed the equivalent of GCSE-level work to be exempt from further compulsory education. This acknowledges that some children may exceed the educational requirements before the traditional age of 16.*

LORD WEI

477 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Experimental home education zones**

The Secretary of State may designate up to three local authority areas as experimental education zones, exempt from national education regulation for a period of ten years.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to create experimental zones where communities may opt out of national education laws to trial alternative education systems including in relation to home education and gather long-term data.*

LORD WEI

478 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Early graduate certificate for advanced learners**

A child who has demonstrably completed education equivalent to A-levels before the age of 16 is entitled to an official certificate of graduation issued by the Secretary of State.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment enables early academic achievers to receive formal recognition, ensuring they can progress to further education or employment without being held back by age-based constraints.*

LORD WATSON OF INVERGOWRIE  
BARONESS LONGFIELD  
BARONESS FINLAY OF LLANDAFF

479 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Wellbeing support for schools**

- (1) The Secretary of State must provide statutory guidance for all relevant schools on whole school approaches to mental health and wellbeing.
- (2) Such guidance should include, but not be limited to –
  - (a) identifying and measuring children and young people’s mental health and wellbeing;
  - (b) the collation of appropriate wellbeing data to adapt both internal and external support within settings;
  - (c) appropriate training and development for teachers and other school staff;
  - (d) access to mental health support within schools;
  - (e) further specialist provision as required within community services.

- (3) The Secretary of State must report to Parliament each year on progress made in implementing the guidance and how wellbeing data collected is informing appropriate support offered through community services.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment would require the Secretary of State to provide statutory guidance on whole school approaches to mental health and wellbeing and to report to Parliament annually on progress.*

BARONESS BARRAN

480 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Approved free schools in pre-opening**

The Secretary of State must make provision for the opening of all free schools whose applications were approved prior to October 2024.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This new clause would require the Secretary of State to proceed with the opening of free schools whose opening was paused in October 2024.*

LORD AGNEW OF OULTON

481 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Financial governance of local authority schools**

- (1) Local authority maintained schools must –
- (a) ensure that their accounts are externally audited between the end of the academic year and 31st December annually, and
  - (b) publish these accounts on their school website by no later than 31st January of the following year.
- (2) The relevant local authority must monitor the resolution by the school of any material issues raised in these audit reports.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to ensure that the same standard of financial governance exists between academy schools and local authority schools.*

THE LORD BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER

482 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Educational attainment of children with a parent in prison**

- (1) Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must commission a report on the educational attainment of school age children with a parent who is in prison.

- (2) The report must make recommendations for how the educational attainment of those children can be improved.
- (3) The Secretary of State must publish the report and lay it before Parliament.”

LORD LAYARD  
BARONESS TYLER OF ENFIELD  
LORD MACPHERSON OF EARL'S COURT  
LORD CLARKE OF NOTTINGHAM

483 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Apprenticeship provision**

The Secretary of State must promote sufficient provision of apprenticeship places up to level 3 to ensure that every qualified applicant aged 16 to 18 receives an offer of a place.”

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

484 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“School: hair requirements**

Pupils must not be denied opportunities to take part in classes, or any other school activities, by reason of their hair style or cut, unless for reasons of health and safety.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This clause aims to ensure children are not denied education or other school-related opportunities for reasons of hair cut or style.*

LORD JACKSON OF PETERBOROUGH

485 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Parental complaints (maintained schools)**

- (1) After section 29 of the Education Act 2002 insert –

**“29ZA Parental complaints: appeals**

- (1) A complainant may appeal to the First-tier Tribunal (Health, Education and Social Care Chamber) where –
  - (a) the complaint was against a maintained school in England under section 29(1),
  - (b) the complainant was a parent of a registered pupil at the school at the time they first pursued the complaint,
  - (c) the complaint specified one or more legal duties listed in Schedule 1A of which the school was alleged to be in breach,
  - (d) the complaints process under section 29(1) was completed,

- (e) the complaint was not fully upheld in respect of one or more of the matters specified as described in paragraph (c), and
  - (f) the complainant does not have and has not had any other prescribed right of appeal apart from that provided under section 29(1) and this section.
- (2) The Secretary of State must make regulations about appeals to the First-tier Tribunal in respect of subsection (1), including –
- (a) making and determining appeals;
  - (b) the powers of the tribunal on determining an appeal.
- (3) Regulations under subsection (2) may include provision conferring power on the First-tier Tribunal, on determining an appeal against a matter, to make recommendations in respect of other matters (including matters against which no appeal may be brought).
- (4) A person commits an offence if without reasonable excuse that person fails to comply with any requirement –
- (a) in respect of the discovery or inspection of documents, or
  - (b) to attend to give evidence and produce documents,
- where that requirement is imposed by Tribunal Procedure Rules in relation to an appeal under this section or regulations under subsection (2).
- (5) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (4) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.”
- (2) After Schedule 1 to the Education Act 2002 insert –

“SCHEDULE 1A

LEGAL DUTIES FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 29ZA

- 1 (1) The legal duties to which section 29ZA applies are as follows.
- (2) The Education Act 1996 –
- (a) section 9 (Education in accordance with parental wishes),
  - (b) section 402 (Obligation to enter pupils for public examinations),
  - (c) sections 403 to 405 (Sex education),
  - (d) sections 406 to 407 (Politics) and
  - (e) section 542(1) (Prescribed standards for school premises);
- (3) The Education Act 2002 –
- (a) sections 78 to 80B (General duties in respect of the curriculum), and
  - (b) section 175(2) and (3) (Duties ... in relation to welfare of children);
- (4) The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 –
- (a) section 1(6) (Duty in relation to infant class size),
  - (b) sections 69 to 71 (Religious education and worship), and
  - (c) section 114A (Requirements for food and drink provided on school premises etc);

- (5) Childcare Act 2006, section 40 (Duty to implement Early Years Foundation Stage);
- (6) Children Act 1989, sections 87 and 87C (Welfare of children in boarding schools and colleges and national minimum standards) and
- (7) The Education and Inspections Act 2006, sections 88 to 94 (School Discipline).”

LORD RUSSELL OF LIVERPOOL  
LORD YOUNG OF COOKHAM  
BARONESS THORNTON

**486** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause—

**“Draft legislative proposal: early years strategy**

- (1) The Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a draft Bill containing legislative proposals for a comprehensive early years strategy.
- (2) The draft Bill required by subsection (1) must include—
  - (a) provisions to support the rollout of the Start for Life and Family Hubs programme nationally,
  - (b) adequate funding for government departments to improve data collection on the wellbeing of children in social care,
  - (c) a workforce plan for the children’s social care workforce, to complement the NHS Workforce Plan and support multi-disciplinary working in teams for the most vulnerable children, and
  - (d) guidelines for the recording of children’s early health and development as key data points contributing to consistent identifiers required by section 16LB of the Children Act 2004.
- (3) The Secretary of State must lay the draft Bill under subsection (1) before Parliament within six months of the day on which this Act is passed.”

LORD JACKSON OF PETERBOROUGH

**487** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause—

**“Parental complaints (independent educational institutions, including academies)**

After section 137 of the Education and Skills Act 2008 (Service of notice etc) insert—

**“137A Parental Complaints: appeals**

- (1) A complainant may appeal to the First-tier Tribunal (Health, Education and Social Care Chamber) where—
  - (a) the complaint was against an independent educational institution in England under Part 7 of the Schedule of The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014,
  - (b) the complainant was a parent of a registered pupil at the institution at the time they first pursued the complaint, and

- (c) the complaint specified one or more –
    - (i) Independent School Standard Regulations that apply to the institution, or
    - (ii) terms of any funding agreements between the proprietor of the institution and the Secretary of State, or
    - (iii) obligations under the memorandum and articles of the proprietor company, or
    - (iv) the proprietor's charitable objects, or
    - (v) legal requirements that apply to the institution under the Academies Act 2010,
 in relation to the institution's provision for pupils with which the proprietor is alleged to be in breach, and
  - (d) the complaints process under (a) has been completed,
  - (e) the complaint was not fully upheld in respect of one or more of the matters specified as described in (c), and
  - (f) the complainant does not have and has not had any other prescribed right of appeal beyond that provided in Part 7 of the Schedule of The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and this section.
- (2) The Secretary of State must make regulations about appeals to the First-tier Tribunal in respect of subsection (1), including –
    - (a) making and determining appeals,
    - (b) the powers of the tribunal on determining an appeal.
  - (3) Regulations under subsection (2) may include provision conferring power on the First-tier Tribunal, on determining an appeal against a matter, to make recommendations in respect of other matters (including matters against which no appeal may be brought).
  - (4) A person commits an offence if without reasonable excuse that person fails to comply with any requirement –
    - (a) in respect of the discovery or inspection of documents, or
    - (b) to attend to give evidence and produce documents,
 where that requirement is imposed by Tribunal Procedure Rules in relation to an appeal under this section or regulations under subsection (2).
  - (5) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (4) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This clause would afford to parents the ability to appeal complaints about an independent educational institution failing to comply with its legal duties in educational provision to the first-tier tribunal in circumstances where the institution's internal complaints process has been completed and has not upheld their complaint. Independent Educational Institutions include academies.*

## LORD JACKSON OF PETERBOROUGH

488 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Parental complaints (non-maintained special schools)**

After section 342C of the Education Act 1996 insert –

**“342D Parental complaints: appeals**

- (1) A complainant may appeal to the First-tier Tribunal (Health, Education and Social Care Chamber) where –
  - (a) they have pursued a complaint against a non-maintained special school in England under paragraph 31 of the Schedule of the Non-Maintained Special Schools (England) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/728),
  - (b) the complainant was the parent of a registered pupil at the school at the time of first pursuing the complaint,
  - (c) the complaint specified one or more –
    - (i) non-maintained Special School Regulations
    - (ii) obligations under the memorandum and articles of any proprietor company, or
    - (iii) obligations imposed under any trust deed of the school in relation to the institution’s provision for pupils with which the proprietor is alleged to be in breach,
  - (d) the complaints process under (a) has been completed,
  - (e) the complaint was not fully upheld in respect of one or more of the matters specified as described in (c), and
  - (f) the complainant does not have and has not had any other prescribed right of appeal beyond that provided in paragraph 31 of the Schedule of the Non-Maintained Special Schools (England) Regulations 2015 and this section.
- (2) The Secretary of State must make regulations about appeals to the First-tier Tribunal in respect of subsection (1), including –
  - (a) making and determining appeals;
  - (b) the powers of the tribunal on determining an appeal.
- (3) Regulations under subsection (2) may include provision conferring power on the First-tier Tribunal, on determining an appeal against a matter, to make recommendations in respect of other matters (including matters against which no appeal may be brought).
- (4) A person commits an offence if without reasonable excuse that person fails to comply with any requirement –
  - (a) in respect of the discovery or inspection of documents, or
  - (b) to attend to give evidence and produce documents,
 where that requirement is imposed by Tribunal Procedure Rules in relation to an appeal under this section or regulations under subsection (2).



- (5) A person guilty of an offence under subsection (4) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This clause would afford to parents the ability to appeal complaints about a non-maintained special school failing to comply with its legal duties in educational provision to the first-tier tribunal in circumstances where the school's internal complaints process has been completed and has not upheld their complaint.*

LORD JACKSON OF PETERBOROUGH

489 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Amendment of the First-tier Tribunal and Upper Tribunal (Chambers) Order 2010**

The Secretary of State may by regulations make such amendments to the First-tier Tribunal and Upper Tribunal (Chambers) Order 2010, the Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) (Health, Education and Social Care Chamber) Rules 2008, and any other relevant subordinate legislation as are necessary or expedient in consequence of, or in connection with, sections (*Parental Complaints (Maintained Schools)*), (*Parental Complaints (Independent educational institutions, including academies)*), and (*Parental Complaints (Non-maintained Special Schools)*) of this Act.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This clause allows the Secretary of State to make amendments to secondary legislation for tribunals as a consequence of the amendments proposed on parental complaints.*

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND  
BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON

490 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Royal Commission on the education attainment gap**

- (1) On the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must make arrangements to establish a Royal Commission to investigate the education attainment gap for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
- (2) The Commission must investigate and make recommendations relating to –
  - (a) the education attainment gap for individual special educational needs and disabilities;
  - (b) the education attainment gap at each level of examination, including Key Stage 2, GCSE, A-Level and other relevant qualifications;
  - (c) the level of understanding of the social model of disability in teacher training and schools.
- (3) The Commission must publish recommendations and recommend a deadline by which the SEND education attainment gap must be closed.”

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND  
BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON

491 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“School mentorship scheme for children with SEND**

- (1) Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must establish a school mentorship scheme for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
- (2) The mentorship scheme must –
  - (a) involve members of local communities, business and wider society who are disabled people or have other relevant lived experience to offer to support children with SEND,
  - (b) offer appropriate, relevant and contextualised advice from mentors, and
  - (c) include the delivery of mentors’ advice gained from lived experience, work experience opportunities and other experience as appropriate.”

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND  
BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON  
LORD MOYNIHAN

492 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Curriculum review: recommended physical activity**

Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must undertake a curriculum review on how the levels of physical activity recommended by the Chief Medical Officer can form part of physical education provision within schools.”

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND  
BARONESS KIDRON

493 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Education technology: guiding principles**

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations made by statutory instrument make provision for the regulation of education technology deployed in schools in England.
- (2) The regulations made under subsection (1) must ensure that education technology used in schools in England –
  - (a) is inclusive by design,
  - (b) is accessible to all,
  - (c) is transparent with regard to its training data and, where applicable, its algorithmic make-up,
  - (d) is labelled clearly if it uses artificial intelligence,

- (e) does not sell or provide data to third parties, and
  - (f) does not store personal data at a location other than that of the school in which it is being used.
- (3) A statutory instrument that contains regulations under this section is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.”

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND

494 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Procurement standard for education technology**

Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish guidance for schools on procurement standards for education technology.”

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND  
BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON  
LORD MOYNIHAN

495 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Teacher training review**

- (1) Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must establish a review of teacher training in England.
- (2) The review must assess the extent to which teacher training includes physical and mental literacy and the challenges of new technologies.
- (3) The review must –
  - (a) report within 12 months of the day on which it is established, and
  - (b) recommend a new teacher training offer which includes –
    - (i) artificial intelligence,
    - (ii) sport and physical literacy,
    - (iii) data literacy,
    - (iv) media literacy, and
    - (v) financial literacy.”

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND  
BARONESS KIDRON

496 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Character education**

Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must establish a review of the research, evidence and practice in relation to character education in schools in England.”

## LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND

497 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Curriculum review: AI**

- (1) Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must undertake a curriculum review to explore how children can receive teaching, learning and a curriculum which recognises any opportunities and challenges of technologies including, but not limited to, artificial intelligence.
- (2) The curriculum review must investigate how children can be equipped with the learning and skills to flourish through their use of technology in all subjects in the National Curriculum.”

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND  
BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON

498 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“SEND provision review**

- (1) Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must undertake a review of provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND provision) in schools in England.
- (2) The review must report within 12 months of the day on which it is established.
- (3) The review must produce recommendations, including on how the Secretary of State should fund SEND provision required by law.”

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND  
LORD WEI

499 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Attendance code of practice**

- (1) The Secretary of State must issue an attendance code of practice giving guidance to the following bodies on their functions in relation to school attendance –
  - (a) local authorities in England,
  - (b) admission authorities in England,
  - (c) the governing bodies of schools,
  - (d) the proprietors of Academies, and
  - (e) the management committees of pupil referral units.
- (2) The Secretary of State may revise the code from time to time.
- (3) The bodies listed in subsection (1) must have regard to the code in exercising their functions in relation to school attendance.

- (4) Those who exercise functions on behalf of the bodies in subsection (1) in relation to school attendance must also have regard to the code.”

LORD HOLMES OF RICHMOND  
BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON  
LORD MOYNIHAN

500 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review: physical and mental wellbeing standards**

- (1) Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish standards for schools in England on the physical and mental wellbeing –
- (a) teaching,
  - (b) training, and
  - (c) care and support,
- which they provide to children.
- (2) The standards must include delivery targets to which schools must adhere.”

LORD STOREY

501 After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“National survey on bullying**

- (1) The Secretary of State must arrange for the collection and publication of national data on bullying experienced by children and young people in schools in England on an annual basis.
- (2) The survey must include –
- (a) the groups of children most at risk of experiencing bullying;
  - (b) the nature and type of bullying experienced, including, but not limited, to sexual, sexist, racial, and online bullying;
  - (c) the interventions and responses perceived as most effective in reducing bullying;
  - (d) how schools in England are responding to bullying, including in both in-person and online contexts.
- (3) The report must be published annually and the Secretary of State must lay the report before Parliament which outlines the findings and a proposed policy response.”

BARONESS COFFEY  
BARONESS FOX OF BUCKLEY

502 [Withdrawn]

## LORD STOREY

502A After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review: number of teachers unable to stand in local elections**

With six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish a review of the anticipated impact of this Act on the number of teachers in maintained schools who will, because of their employment, be unable to stand for election to local education authorities.”

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

LORD FARMER

BARONESS WILLIS OF SUMMERTOWN

502B After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Right to access to nature**

- (1) The Secretary of State shall have a duty to promote school pupils' access to nature, with the aim of ensuring that each pupil spends an average of one hour per week as a minimum during term time in a natural setting during class time.
- (2) The Secretary of State must, within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, and every 12 months thereafter, lay before Parliament a report on progress on achieving this goal.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, “natural environment” has the same meaning as in section 44 of the Environment Act 2021.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment aims to improve pupils' exposure to and knowledge of natural environments.*

## LORD NORTON OF LOUTH

502C After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review of the Act**

- (1) The Secretary of State must –
  - (a) carry out a review of the operation and effect of this Act,
  - (b) set out the conclusions of the review in a report,
  - (c) publish the report, and
  - (d) lay a copy of the report before Parliament.
- (2) The report must be published before the end of the period of five years beginning with the day on which this Act is passed.
- (3) The report must, in particular –
  - (a) assess the extent to which the objectives intended to be achieved by this Act have been achieved, and

- (b) assess whether those objectives remain appropriate and, if so, the extent to which they could be achieved more effectively in any other way.
- (4) In carrying out the review, the Secretary of State must publish an invitation for interested parties to make submissions on the operation of the Act.”

BARONESS SATER  
LORD FARMER

**502D** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Financial education in primary schools**

- (1) All primary schools must teach financial education from Year 1.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, “financial education” is the teaching of knowledge, skills and behaviours that allow an individual to understand and manage money.”

LORD CARLILE OF BERRIEW

**502E** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Anti-Bullying Lead**

- (1) In pursuance of their duty under section 89 (1)(b) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, the head teacher of a relevant school in England must appoint a member of staff who is the school’s Anti-Bullying Lead.
- (2) The role of the Anti-Bullying Lead will include developing the school’s written anti-bullying strategy.
- (3) The anti-bullying strategy must include details of –
  - (a) the steps taken by the school to prevent all forms of bullying among pupils, including those with protected characteristics.
  - (b) how the school records incidences of bullying.
  - (c) the training that the school makes available for staff related to bullying.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to protect children from bullying by requiring head teachers to appoint an Anti-Bullying Lead to develop an Anti-Bullying Strategy in applicable schools.*

LORD BANNER  
BARONESS HALE OF RICHMOND

**502F** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Duty on public authorities**

- (1) A public authority must, in the exercise of a relevant function, have due regard to the desirability of exercising that function in a way that is consistent with the UNCRC requirements.

- (2) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision about how a public authority is to comply with the duty under subsection (1) (including provision about things that the authority may, must or must not do to comply with the duty).
- (3) A court or tribunal is exempt from subsection (1).
- (4) The Secretary of State may, by regulations, exempt from the duty in subsection (1) –
  - (a) a public authority, or
  - (b) a relevant function.
- (5) The power under subsection (4) may only be exercised if the Secretary of State is satisfied that the duty under subsection (1) should not apply to a public authority or a relevant function because it will not result in any adverse impacts on the wellbeing and safety of children.
- (6) Regulations made under subsections (2) and (4) are to be made by statutory instrument and may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.
- (7) A power to make regulations under this section includes the power to make –
  - (a) consequential, incidental, supplementary, transitional or saving provision;
  - (b) different provision for different purposes.
- (8) The Secretary of State must –
  - (a) on or before 31 January 2026, and
  - (b) at or before the end of each successive period of five years,publish a report on how the Government has complied with the duty under this section.
- (9) The Government must lay before Parliament a copy of each report published under subsection (8).
- (10) For the purposes of this section –
  - “public authority” has, subject to the specific provision made above about courts and tribunals, the same meaning as in section 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998;
  - “relevant function” means a function exercised under this Act.
- (11) In this section –
  - “the Convention” means the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession by General Assembly resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989;
  - “the UNCRC requirements” means the rights and obligations from the Convention, and the articles of the first optional protocol and the second optional protocol as referred to above.
- (12) The UNCRC requirements have effect for the purposes of this Act subject to any reservations, objections or interpretative declarations by the United Kingdom as may be in force from time to time.”



## LORD CARTER OF HASLEMERE

**502G** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Application of Part 2**

Nothing in Part 2 of this Act shall apply if it would have the effect of impeding the right of parents to ensure access to such education and teaching for their children as is in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment disapplies any provision of Part 2 if its effect would be to impede the right of parents to educate their children consistently with their own religious and philosophical beliefs.*

LORD MOYNIHAN  
LORD ADDINGTON  
BARONESS SATER

**502H** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“National strategy for physical education and sport in schools**

- (1) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish a national strategy for physical education and sport in schools.
- (2) The strategy must include recommendations related to –
  - (a) the delivery of a minimum of 60 minutes of school sport and physical activity per day;
  - (b) physical and mental wellbeing;
  - (c) incentivising pupils to continue sport and physical activity throughout their school careers;
  - (d) full and integrated sports provision for disabled students;
  - (e) integrating physical education and sport into the teaching of other school subjects;
  - (f) integrating outdoor recreation, non-traditional sport, physical activity and natural facilities into sports provision in schools;
  - (g) meeting swimming attainment standards through school sport provision;
  - (h) the levels of investment in and effectiveness of primary physical education and sport premium funding;
  - (i) the role of volunteering in the teaching of sport and physical education in schools, including qualifications, standards, and engagement of external coaches and parents with qualifications recognised by the governing bodies of sport in Great Britain;
  - (j) a duty of care for all schoolchildren participating in sport;
  - (k) the development of a list of key performance indicators to measure outcomes of the national strategy.

- (3) The national strategy must be reviewed, updated and laid before both Houses of Parliament annually.”

LORD MOYNIHAN  
LORD ADDINGTON  
BARONESS SATER

**502J** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Curriculum review: physical education programmes of study**

Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must undertake a curriculum review which investigates how sport provision in schools can help ensure that pupils –

- (a) develop competence in a broad range of competitive and physically demanding activities;
- (b) are physically active for a sustained period of time equal to or in excess of the minimum time recommended by the Chief Medical Officer;
- (c) can engage in competitive sports and activities in a way which supports their health and fitness;
- (d) can lead healthy, active lives and help embed values such as fairness and respect.”

BARONESS KIDRON  
BARONESS CASS

**502K** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Code of practice on the efficacy of education technology in schools**

- (1) The Secretary of State must prepare a statutory code of practice on the efficacy of educational technology (“EdTech”) for supporting learning in schools.
- (2) The code of practice must set standards for the use of EdTech in schools, including digital products, software or services used for teaching, learning, assessment, administration, or communication.
- (3) The standards under subsection (2) must –
  - (a) consider all types of schools;
  - (b) require transparency and efficacy of EdTech products and services in line with pedagogical standards currently used for measurement of attainment and the wellbeing of children in the provision of education.
- (4) In preparing a code or amendments under this section, the Secretary of State must –
  - (a) have regard to the fact that children may have different requirements at different ages and stages of development,
  - (b) have regard to the costs of EdTech products and services to school budgets,
  - (c) have regard to the need to support innovation to enhance children’s education and learning opportunities, including testing of novel products and supporting the certification and development of standards, and

- (d) ensure that the benefits from EdTech products and services developed using children's data accrue to the United Kingdom.
- (5) In preparing a code or amendments under this section, the Secretary of State must consult with—
  - (a) educators,
  - (b) children,
  - (c) parents,
  - (d) persons who appear to the Secretary of State to represent the interests of teachers,
  - (e) persons who appear to the Secretary of State to represent the interests of children,
  - (f) persons who appear to the Secretary of State to represent the interests of schools,
  - (g) child development experts,
  - (h) curriculum and subject experts,
  - (i) trade associations,
  - (j) the AI Security Institute, and
  - (k) the relevant education department for each nation of the United Kingdom.
- (6) The Secretary of State must prepare a report, in consultation with persons listed in subsection (5), on the steps required to develop a certification scheme for EdTech products and services to enable the industry to demonstrate the efficacy of its products in line with the standards under subsection (2).
- (7) The certification scheme under subsection (6) must be a minimum requirement for the procurement of EdTech products and services in schools (of any status) in England.
- (8) Where requested, evidence of compliance with the code under subsection (1) or a certification standard prepared under subsection (6) must be provided by relevant providers of EdTech products and services in a manner that satisfies the obligations of education providers under the Code.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This is a probing amendment that considers the rapid introduction of Ed Tech in school and seeks to understand what pedagogical standards Ed Tech in schools is or will be subject to after the passage of the Bill.*

BARONESS KIDRON  
BARONESS CASS

**502L** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause—

**“Minimum standards of safety technology deployed in schools**

- (1) The Secretary of State must set out the minimum standards for technologies used to safeguard children in schools (“SafetyTech”).

- (2) The code of practice must set standards for the use of SafetyTech in schools, used in the management, monitoring, filtering and any other safeguarding that the Secretary of State requires, on any digital products, software or services used for safeguarding, teaching, learning, assessment, administration, or communication.
- (3) The standards under subsection (2) must –
  - (a) ensure schools have a nominated SafetyTech lead, with access to information and training from the Department for Education,
  - (b) reflect the Department for Education's filtering and monitoring standards, and
  - (c) have been audited, accredited or certified to ensure compliance.
- (4) This code of practice must be subject to assessment by Ofsted and be responsive to emerging digital capabilities and review by the Department for Education each school year.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to require guidance for the use of SafetyTech and put it on a statutory bases, introduce the requirement to audit or certify and ensure that SafetyTech being in place and working is part of Ofsted inspections.*

LORD YOUNG OF ACTON  
LORD BRADY OF ALTRINCHAM

**502M** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Duty to keep schools open for in person attendance**

- (1) So far as reasonably possible, public authorities must ensure that, during the period of any civil emergency, schools are kept open for in person attendance by children and young people.
- (2) The Secretary of State must, by regulations, make provision about how public authorities should discharge the duty under subsection (1), including provision specifying –
  - (a) steps that a public authority may or must take to comply with the duty, and
  - (b) actions that a public authority is prohibited from taking.
- (3) Regulations made under subsection (2) must be made by statutory instrument.
- (4) A statutory instrument containing regulations under subsection (2) may not be made unless a draft has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.
- (5) A power to make regulations under this section includes the power to make –
  - (a) consequential, incidental, supplementary, transitional or saving provision;
  - (b) different provision for different purposes.

- (6) A public authority must not, in response to a civil emergency, take or facilitate any action (including making regulations, issuing directions, issuing orders, giving guidance, or making recommendations) that –
  - (a) results in, or encourages, the closure of schools, or
  - (b) otherwise prevents or restricts lawful attendance at such institutions or premises by children and young people,unless the requirements of subsection (7) are met.
- (7) Before taking any action of the kind described in subsection (6), the public authority must first, unless the urgency of the civil emergency precludes this –
  - (a) request the advice of the Children's Commissioner on the likely impact of such action on the children and young people who will be affected by the action,
  - (b) provide the Children's Commissioner with full and complete information about the nature of and reasons for the proposed action, and
  - (c) have due regard to the Children's Commissioner's advice in determining whether to proceed with the action.
- (8) If any action of the kind described in subsection (6) is taken prior to seeking the advice of the Children's Commissioner due to urgency –
  - (a) as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within 7 days of taking the action, the public authority must provide the Children's Commissioner with full and complete information about the nature of and reasons for that action;
  - (b) the Children's Commissioner must then promptly, and in any event within 14 days of the action having been taken, provide the public authority with its advice in relation to the impact of that action on children and young people;
  - (c) the public authority, having due regard to the Commissioner's advice, shall determine whether the action continues to be justified or whether it should be revoked.
- (9) If action of the kind described in subsection (6) continues beyond 14 days, and in relation to each such period of 14 days thereafter, the Secretary of State must –
  - (a) lay before Parliament a copy of the Children's Commissioner's advice, and
  - (b) seek approval from the House of Commons for the continuation of the action.
- (10) If the House of Commons does not approve continuation under subsection (9)(b) within 14 days of the advice of the Children's Commissioner being laid before Parliament under subsection 9(a), the relevant action automatically lapses, and any measures (including regulations, directions, orders, guidance, or recommendations made in support of or continuance of the relevant action) become legally void.
- (11) Where under any of the above provisions the advice of the Children's Commissioner is sought, the Children's Commissioner shall set out in writing his or her advice on the following matters –

- (a) the foreseeable impacts of any closures of schools on the affected children and young people,
  - (b) any reasonable actions that could be taken to mitigate those impacts,
  - (c) whether the anticipated benefits for those children of the closures identified by the public authority appear to him or her to outweigh the foreseeable impacts of closures for those children, and
  - (d) any other matters which appear to him or her to be relevant.
- (12) The Children's Commissioner is entitled to require the public authority or the Secretary of State to provide such further information, assistance, and resources as he or she considers necessary in order to set out his or her advice on a particular action and the public authority or the Secretary of State, as the case may be, shall provide such information, assistance or resources as soon as reasonably practicable.
- (13) For the purposes of this section –
- “children” means persons under the age of 18;
  - “civil emergency” shall include any emergency situation which could constitute an emergency for the purposes of section 1 of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 or which has otherwise been identified as a risk in the UK's National Security Risk Assessment. For the avoidance of doubt an emergency need not be the subject of measures taken under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 to be a civil emergency for the purposes of this Act.
  - “closure” in relation to schools, means any action to discourage, restrict or prevent in person attendance at those institutions or premises by children and young people who would ordinarily be entitled to attend, or any sub-group or class of such children or young people;
  - “open for in person attendance” in relation to schools, means being open for the attendance by all of the children who would ordinarily, and but for the occurrence of a civil emergency, be entitled to attend those institutions or premises, during their normal hours of operation;
  - “open for in person attendance” does not include the provision of online learning or other remote learning services nor the keeping of such institutions or premises open for physical attendance only for a sub-group or class of those children or young people who would ordinarily be entitled to attend;
  - “public authority” has the same meaning as in section 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998” save that a court or tribunal is not included for these purposes.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*The purpose of the amendment is to enact a statutory duty to keep schools open for in person attendance in future public health and other civil emergencies, unless Parliament expressly approves, and continues every two weeks to approve, any closures.*

## BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON

502N After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Use of seclusion (including isolation rooms) in schools**

- (1) For the purposes of this section, "seclusion" means the involuntary confinement and isolation of a child or young person, in a room or space from which they are not free to leave, whether or not a member of staff is physically present.
- (2) The Secretary of State may by regulations, following consultation with relevant stakeholders, make provision for the regulation and oversight of the use of seclusion in schools.
- (3) If regulations are made under this section, they must include provision ensuring that –
  - (a) seclusion is not used as a form of discipline or behaviour management;
  - (b) any use of seclusion is recorded, and reported to the child's parent or carer on the same day;
  - (c) any incident involving seclusion is reviewed by a person with lead responsibility for safeguarding within the setting;
  - (d) data on the use of seclusion is collected, monitored, and made available for external scrutiny.
- (4) For the purposes of subsection (3)(c), “a person with lead responsibility for safeguarding within the setting” means the individual who holds primary designated responsibility for child protection or safeguarding matters in that educational setting.
- (5) Before making regulations under this section, the Secretary of State must consult such persons as they consider appropriate, including representative organisations of education staff, providers, children and young people, and families, and organisations representing those with special educational needs or disabilities.
- (6) When making regulations under this section, the Secretary of State must have regard to relevant duties under the Equality Act 2010 and the Human Rights Act 1998.
- (7) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this Act is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This clause is proposed as a probing amendment to support parliamentary debate on legal safeguards for the use of seclusion in schools. It does not impose direct duties on schools. Instead, it invites the Secretary of State to consider enabling regulation, following sector-wide consultation.*

## BARONESS BOYCOTT

502P After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Safe and Resilient Schools Plan**

- (1) All new school buildings must be net zero in operation, and designed for a 2°C rise in average global temperatures and future-proofed for a 4°C rise.
- (2) All new school buildings must be built to adapt to the risks of climate change, including increased flooding and higher indoor temperatures.
- (3) The Secretary of State must within two years of the day on which this Act is passed –
  - (a) publish a national Safe and Resilient Schools Plan which sets out how existing school buildings can reach net zero and be resilient to climate risks, and
  - (b) set a target date, using the affirmative resolution procedure, and delivery roadmap for implementation of the Safe and Resilient Schools Plan.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment would make the Department for Education's guidance around new school buildings statutory, and require government to publish and implement a plan which ensures that existing school buildings are resilient to climate risks, like overheating and flooding, and reach net zero.*

## LORD CARLILE OF BERRIEW

502Q After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Preventing school exclusion and strengthening support for vulnerable children**

- (1) Where a child is subject to police involvement or is known to youth justice services, a youth justice practitioner must be invited to attend any school exclusion hearing or appeal concerning that child, to assist the child and their family and the school in identifying appropriate support to maintain the child's engagement in education.
- (2) In cases where a child has suspected or recognised special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or neurodivergence, there shall be a presumption against permanent or fixed-term exclusion.
- (3) An alternative educational plan must be developed, including a timely assessment of the child's learning needs.
- (4) Where police are called to a school in relation to a child known to youth justice or other statutory services, the school must notify the relevant agency to ensure coordinated decision-making and safeguarding.”



## LORD CARLILE OF BERRIEW

502R After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Mandatory training in SEND and neurodivergence**

- (1) Within one year of the passing of this Act, all school teaching staff must receive mandatory training in the identification and support of children with SEND and neurodivergence.
- (2) The Secretary of State must issue guidance on the content, frequency and delivery of such training, and ensure it is embedded in initial teacher training and continuing professional development.”

## LORD CARLILE OF BERRIEW

502S After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Duty on schools to work with youth courts to provide assessment of special educational needs and neurodivergence**

Schools must, when requested, provide courts with an assessment of a child’s special educational needs or neurodivergence, including but not limited to –

- (a) whether the child has SEND or neurodivergence;
- (b) whether appropriate adaptations and support were in place during their schooling;
- (c) whether further expert assessment is required.”

## LORD CARLILE OF BERRIEW

502T After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Duty on schools to support reintegration and rehabilitation for children post-custody**

- (1) Schools must collaborate with social services, mental health providers and youth justice services to embed post-custody reintegration planning for children with special education needs.
- (2) The Secretary of State must publish an annual assessment of how effectively schools in England support the reintegration and rehabilitation of children post-custody.”

## BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON

502U After Clause 62, insert the following new clause –

**“Inclusive education standards for teachers**

- (1) All teachers employed in state-funded special schools in England and Wales must possess Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) in addition to the Special Educational Needs Coordinators National Professional Qualification, unless –
  - (a) they are undergoing a recognised programme of initial teacher training leading to QTS, or
  - (b) they are under the direct supervision of a qualified teacher.
- (2) The Secretary of State must ensure that all approved providers of initial teacher training include in their curriculum –
  - (a) mandatory training in inclusive education principles and practice,
  - (b) understanding of the barriers faced by Disabled pupils and those with special educational needs, and
  - (c) practical strategies for supporting diverse learners in mainstream and specialist settings.
- (3) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, issue regulations made by statutory instrument requiring schools to ensure that all teaching staff participate in regular continuing professional development that includes –
  - (a) inclusive pedagogy,
  - (b) Universal Design for Learning, and
  - (c) working in multidisciplinary teams to support Disabled pupils.
- (4) A statutory instrument containing regulations under subsection (3) is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.
- (5) All schools must ensure that Disabled pupils’ access to the curriculum and opportunities is not reliant on a single member of staff, including by –
  - (a) developing inclusive practice as a whole-school approach, and
  - (b) ensuring consistency in teaching quality and support across subjects and key stages.
- (6) The Secretary of State must publish statutory guidance on the implementation of inclusive education training and qualification requirements under this section within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed.
- (7) In preparing the guidance, the Secretary of State must consult –
  - (a) the Children’s Commissioner for England,
  - (b) teaching unions,
  - (c) organisations led by Disabled people, and
  - (d) experts in inclusive and special education.”

## BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON

502V After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

**“Transparency and reporting of special educational needs and disabilities funding in state funded schools**

- (1) All state-funded schools in England, including maintained schools and academies, must submit to the Secretary of State an annual report detailing the allocation and expenditure of funds designated for supporting pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
- (2) Each school’s report must include –
  - (a) the total amount of –
    - (i) the notional SEND budget allocated to the school;
    - (ii) any additional high-needs (top-up) funding received via the local authority;
    - (iii) any funding received through the Early Years SEN Inclusion Fund or similar grants;
  - (b) a detailed breakdown of how SEND funding was allocated, including but not limited to the following categories –
    - (i) staffing costs specifically for SEND provision, including Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinators, teaching assistants, therapists and any other relevant roles;
    - (ii) costs of external specialist services, including speech and language therapy, educational psychology and any other relevant services;
    - (iii) training and professional development related to SEND, inclusion, or disability equality;
    - (iv) assistive technology, specialist equipment, and adaptive learning materials;
    - (v) SEND-specific interventions or curriculum adaptations, including small-group and individual support;
    - (vi) expenses related to preparing and delivering provision under education, health and care plans (EHCPs);
  - (c) identification of funding spent on system-level or whole-school inclusive practice, such as –
    - (i) universal design for learning strategies;
    - (ii) inclusive classroom design or accessibility improvements;
    - (iii) engagement of families of children with SEND;
  - (d) a statement evaluating the outcomes of SEND funding, including –
    - (i) progress made by pupils with SEND, including those with EHCPs;
    - (ii) how funding contributed to meeting pupils’ individual needs and EHCP objectives;
    - (iii) any measurable improvements in attendance, engagement, or inclusion of pupils with SEND;
  - (e) any underspend or unallocated SEND funding and how the school plans to use it in the following academic year.

- (3) The Secretary of State must issue statutory guidance outlining an annual deadline and the standardised format and content requirements for the SEND funding report to ensure consistency and comparability across schools.
- (4) Schools must adhere to this guidance when preparing their annual SEND funding reports.
- (5) School governing bodies are responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements set out in this clause.
- (6) Failure to comply with the publication requirements may result in appropriate remedial actions as determined by the Secretary of State.
- (7) The Secretary of State must publish all schools' reports received under this section within one month of receiving them."

LORD CARLILE OF BERRIEW

**502W** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause—

**“Cross-sector data collection and reporting**

- (1) The Secretary of State must establish a cross-sector data management system to track children through education, health and social care systems using a unique reference number.
- (2) The Secretary of State must publish annual reports using data collected from the cross-sector management system under subsection (1) to assess how many children who are—
  - (a) excluded from school, and
  - (b) in social care settings,
 have been diagnosed with special educational needs.
- (3) Annual reports must include disaggregation by diagnosis and Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) status.”

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**502X** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause—

**“Education about food growing and preparation**

- (1) The Secretary of State shall have a duty to promote school pupils' knowledge of food growing and food preparation, with the aim of ensuring that each pupil spends an average of one hour per week as a minimum during term time in education on such topics.
- (2) The Secretary of State must, within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, and every 12 months thereafter, lay before Parliament a report on progress on achieving this goal.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment aims to improve pupils' exposure to and knowledge of food growing and preparation, with a view towards both improving public health and food security, particularly in times of crisis.*

BARONESS WILLIS OF SUMMERTOWN

**502Y★** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause—

**“Benefits of nature-based learning to children’s wellbeing**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the passing of this Act, conduct a review on the benefits of nature-based learning to children's health and wellbeing, including but not limited to—
  - (a) the desirability of bringing nature into schools through greening physical spaces and encouraging horticulture,
  - (b) the desirability of outdoor learning for developing skills, including those relevant to a nature-positive economy, and
  - (c) the barriers to nature-based learning, and potential policy solutions to overcome those barriers.
- (2) A report on the review must be published within six months of the conclusion of the review.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require government to review and report on the benefits of nature based learning to children’s health and wellbeing*

BARONESS FINLAY OF LLANDAFF

**502YA★** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause—

**“Civil preparedness**

Every school must demonstrate appropriate age-specific training for all children across the school for local individual or mass casualty emergencies.”

**Clause 65**

BARONESS SMITH OF MALVERN

**503** Clause 65, page 123, line 33, at end insert—

“(b) section (*Employment of children in Scotland*) extends to Scotland only.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment provides for the clause inserted after clause 26 (by my amendment) to extend to Scotland.*

**Clause 66**

LORD LUCAS

- 504 Clause 66, page 124, line 4, at end insert, “, but no part of Sections 30 to 35 and Schedule 2 may be commenced earlier than the day on which the National Cyber Security Centre (or an equivalent body designated by the Secretary of State) certifies that the arrangements for the security of the register of children not in school are in line with best practice and that testing of its systems is complete.”

BARONESS BARRAN

- 504A Clause 66, page 124, line 4, at end insert “, subject to subsection (2A)”

BARONESS FINLAY OF LLANDAFF  
LORD HAMPTON  
BARONESS WALMSLEY

- 505 Clause 66, page 124, line 18, at end insert –
- “(2A) Section (*Abolition of common law defence of reasonable punishment*) comes into force at the end of the period of 12 months beginning with the day on which this Act is passed.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is consequential on a new clause amendment by Baroness Finlay of Llandaff.*

BARONESS BARRAN

- 505A Clause 66, page 124, line 18, at end insert –
- “(2A) Section 15 may not come into force until the Secretary of State has published a report that contains –
- (a) details of the number of available placements in relevant establishments or agencies, and
  - (b) an analysis of the expected impact of this section on the number of available placements in relevant establishments or agencies.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to require a report that would clarify the supply and capacity of independent children's homes and independent fostering agencies before the clause is commenced.*

BARONESS BARRAN  
THE EARL OF EFFINGHAM

**505B** Clause 66, page 124, line 18, at end insert –

- “(2A) Section 27 may only come into force after the Secretary of State has laid before Parliament a report containing the following information –
- (a) what form breakfast club provision by schools currently takes;
  - (b) how much breakfast club provision costs schools, and how much is charged by schools for such provision;
  - (c) how much funding is estimated to be required to enable schools to meet the requirements of section 27;
  - (d) what additional staff will be required to deliver the breakfast clubs;
  - (e) the grounds on which the Secretary of State would use the power under section 551C of the Education Act 1996.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would delay the commencement of clause 27 until the Secretary of State has laid before Parliament a report containing information on breakfast club provision, costs and resources.*

BARONESS SMITH OF MALVERN

**506** Clause 66, page 124, line 19, leave out subsection (3) and insert –

- “(3) Subject to subsection (1), the following come into force, in relation to Wales, on such day as the Welsh Ministers may by regulations made by statutory instrument appoint –
- (a) section (*Employment of children in England and Wales*);
  - (b) sections 30 to 35 and Schedule 2.
- (3A) Subject to subsection (1), section (*Employment of children in Scotland*) comes into force on such day as the Scottish Ministers may by regulations appoint.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment provides for certain provision for Wales or Scotland to be brought into force by (respectively) the Welsh Ministers or Scottish Ministers.*

BARONESS FOX OF BUCKLEY

**506A** Clause 66, page 124, line 21, at end insert –

- “(3A) Section 47 comes into force when all the following conditions are met –
- (a) the period of six months, beginning on the day that the Secretary of State publishes the final report of the Curriculum and Assessment Review, has elapsed;
  - (b) the Secretary of State has published a draft Bill making legislative provision for the changes recommended by the Curriculum and Assessment Review;

- (c) the Secretary of State has undertaken a consultation on the findings of the Curriculum and Assessment Review.”

LORD WATSON OF INVERGOWRIE

506B Clause 66, page 124, line 21, at end insert –

- “(3A) Section 11 may not come into force until regulations under section 11 (qualifying for civil legal aid) of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 providing legal aid on a non-means tested basis in relation to proceedings that may result in the deprivation of a child’s liberty have come into force.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would provide that the provisions in the Bill on accommodation for the deprivation of liberty for children cannot come into force until legal aid has been provided on a non-means tested basis for children at risk of this and their families.*

LORD BELLINGHAM

506C Clause 66, page 124, line 21, at end insert –

- “(3A) Section 10 may not come into force until the Secretary of State has published an evaluation of the impact, cost and effectiveness of the Regional Care Cooperatives pathfinder areas.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would delay the implementation of regional cooperation arrangements until the pilots can be fully evaluated.*

BARONESS SMITH OF MALVERN

507 Clause 66, page 124, line 22, leave out “(3)” and insert “(3A)”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is consequential on my amendment to clause 66 inserting new subsection (3A).*

BARONESS BARRAN

508 Clause 66, page 124, line 23, at end insert –

- “(4A) Section 3 may not come into force until the Secretary of State has made a statement confirming that safeguarding partners which are party to an agreement under section 16J(1) of the Children Act 2004 (combining safeguarding partner areas and delegating functions) have equal responsibility for the effective delivery of the multi-agency child protection team.”



***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require the Secretary of State to clarify that safeguarding partners which are party to an agreement under section 16J of the Children Act 2004 have equal responsibility for the effective delivery of the MACPT.*

BARONESS BARRAN

**509** Clause 66, page 124, line 23, at end insert –

“(4A) Section 3 may not come into force until the Secretary of State has published guidance to clarify how the duties in section 3 will be delivered and funded, including for non-statutory agencies.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to clarify what resources and funding will be provided to ensure effective delivery of the additional duties set out in clause 3.*

BARONESS SMITH OF MALVERN

**510** Clause 66, page 124, line 24, after “(3)” insert “, (3A)”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is consequential on my amendment to clause 66 inserting new subsection (3A).*

BARONESS SMITH OF MALVERN

**511** Clause 66, page 124, line 28, leave out from “Act” to end of line 29 and insert “other than –

- (a) the provisions listed in subsection (3) in relation to Wales;
- (b) section (*Employment of children in Scotland*).

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is consequential on my amendments to clause 66 inserting new subsections (3), (3A) and (7A).*

BARONESS SMITH OF MALVERN

**512** Clause 66, page 124, leave out line 32 and insert “any provision listed in subsection (3) in relation to Wales.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is consequential on my amendment to clause 66 inserting new subsection (3).*

## BARONESS SMITH OF MALVERN

**513** Clause 66, page 124, line 32, at end insert –

“(7A) The Scottish Ministers may by regulations make transitional or saving provision in connection with the coming into force of section (*Employment of children in Scotland*).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment provides for the Scottish Ministers to make transitional and saving provision in connection with certain provision relating to Scotland.*

## BARONESS SMITH OF MALVERN

**514** Clause 66, page 124, line 33, leave out “or (7)” and insert “, (7) or (7A)”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is consequential on my amendment to clause 66 inserting new subsection (7A).*



# Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill

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SEVENTH MARSHALLED  
LIST OF AMENDMENTS  
TO BE MOVED  
IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

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*20 June 2025*

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