

STATES OF JERSEY



FULLY FUNDING EDUCATION OR TRAINING FOR ALL 16-18 YEAR OLDS (P.38/2024): AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 8th July 2024
by Deputy I. Gardiner of St. Helier North
Earliest date for debate: 16th July 2024

STATES GREFFE

FULLY FUNDING EDUCATION OR TRAINING FOR ALL 16-18 YEAR
OLDS (P.38/2024): AMENDMENT

1 PAGE 2, PARAGRAPH (a) –

Delete paragraph (a).

2 PAGE 2, PARAGRAPH (c) –

Re-designate paragraph (c) as paragraph (a).

Substitute the word “participation” with the words “the participation age”, and after the words “age of 18” insert the words “by July 2025”.

DEPUTY I. GARDINER OF ST. HELIER NORTH

Note: After this amendment, the proposition would read as follows –

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –

- (a) to request the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning to undertake a review of education legislation and policy with a view to increasing **the participation age** in education or professional training for all young people up to the age of 18 **by July 2025**; and
- (b) to request the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning to include any necessary long term additional funding within the Government Plan 2026-2029.

REPORT

This amendment is brought following meaningful discussions with the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning and serves to simplify the original proposition. It is important that the Minister and his team have the opportunity to develop detailed policy and the required amendments to Law without a risk of unintended consequences that could be brought by paragraph (a) of the original proposition. However I feel it remains important that he has the support of the Assembly for the principal.

The compulsory schooling age of students in Jersey is currently 16, however at present there is no participation age defined within the [Education \(Jersey\) Law 1999](#). It should be noted that there is a substantial difference between compulsory education and participation. As detailed within the Report accompanying P.38/2024, the participation age in the UK was raised to 18 in 2013. UK law therefore requires young people to continue some form of education or professional training until the age of 18 – a change intended to improve the career and life prospects of young people. The onus is on the young person who will be encouraged to participate by education providers but there is no sanction for non-participation. A further definition of participation is provided in the Appendix to this Report.

Where my original proposition sought to introduce funded education or professional training to those aged 16-18 who wished to access it, the removal of paragraph (a) is intended to simplify the proposition. The same outcome can be achieved through the proposed introduction of a participation age by July 2025. This increase would carry the same funding requirement as my original paragraph (a) and allow all young people to access education or professional training in the manner most appropriate to them.

Financial and staffing implications

There would be no additional costs to those identified in the original proposition.

Children's Rights Impact Assessment

A Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) has been prepared in relation to this proposition and is available to read on the [States Assembly website](#).

Annex 1 - defining participation

1. This annex sets out further information about how the duties on young people apply.
2. The government has raised the participation age so that all young people in England are now required to continue in education or training as set out in paragraphs 5 to 7 of the main guidance document.
3. Where young people have left year 11 of compulsory education in June and have accepted an offer of a place in education or training that does not start until September, there is no requirement for them to participate during the summer holidays. Similarly, where young people are meeting their duty to participate through full-time education, they should still take the usual breaks in learning (for example, school/college holidays).
4. Where young people who would normally be under a duty to continue to participate post-16 have already attained level 3 qualifications of sufficient size, for example two A levels²¹, they are no longer required to participate but may benefit from support to continue their education or training or get a job.
5. RPA does not mean staying in school, young people have a choice about how they continue in education or training post-16. The three primary ways for a young person to participate are:
 - full-time study in a school, college or with a training provider;
 - full-time work or volunteering (20 hours or more) combined with part-time education or training leading to relevant regulated qualifications; oran apprenticeship²²; traineeship²³; or supported internship²⁴.

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¹ [Participation of young people in education, employment or training \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)