

**Government Gazette**

**Vol.400, No.19377, 19 October 1998**

**GENERAL NOTICES**

**NOTICE 2433 OF 1998**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 84 OF 1996) AND NATIONAL  
EDUCATION**

**AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO AN ORDINARY PUBLIC SCHOOL**

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

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION**

**OCTOBER 1998**

**SCHEDULE**

**AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO AN ORDINARY PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**Interpretation**

1. In this notice any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the South African Schools Act, 1996 (No. 27 of 1996) and the National Education Policy Act, 1996 (No. 84 of 1996) shall have that meaning.
2. In this notice a reference to grade R will have the same meaning as grade O in the South African Schools Act, 1996.

**Age requirements for admission to an ordinary public school**

3. The statistical age norm per grade is the grade number plus 6.

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

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

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

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

### **Application**

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

### **Short title and commencement**

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