



REPUBLIC OF NAURU

Compulsory Education Ordinance 1921

As in force from 29 December 1967

This compilation comprises Ordinance No. 10 of 1921 as amended and in force from 29 December 1967 (being, at the time the compilation was prepared on 16 May 2011, the date of commencement of the most recent amendment).

The notes section at the end of the compilation includes a reference to the law by which each amendment was made. The Table of Amendments in the notes section sets out the legislative history of individual provisions.

The *Education Act 2011*, when it commences on 14 July 2011, will effect the **repeal** of the *Compulsory Education Ordinance 1921*.

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Compulsory Education Ordinance 1921

1 Short title

This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as the *Compulsory Education Ordinance 1921*.

2 Attendance of children at school

All children between the ages of six (6) and sixteen (16) (six and fifteen in the case of children of European parents) must attend on every half day on which school is held, with the following exceptions:

- (a) those who have been excluded on account of infectious diseases;
- (b) those who have been granted exemption or Merit Certificate;
- (c) those who have been granted exemption from attendance by order of the Administrator in Council.¹

In the case of absence for any other cause, the reason for such absence must be reported by the parent or guardian of the child to the teacher in charge of the school at which the child is enrolled; and such report shall state the reason for absence – in the case of children attending European school, this report to be in writing. In the case of non-attendance on account of sickness, involving absence from school for a longer period than three days, a certificate from the medical officer will be necessary.

¹ In relation to the expression '**Administrator in Council**', clause 86(3) of the *Constitution of Nauru* provides:

'Subject to this Constitution, a reference in a law continued in force by clause (1) or (2) of Article 85 to the Administrator of the Territory of Nauru acting in accordance with the advice of the Executive Council of the Territory of Nauru shall, unless the context otherwise requires, be read as a reference to the Cabinet.'

3 Nauruan and other native children

Attendance in the case of Nauruan and other native children shall mean: Attendance at a school from the date of commencement of the first school term of the year in which the child reaches the age of six years, until the last day of the last school term in the year in which the child reaches the age of sixteen years.

4 Technical instruction for native children

Nauruan and other native children, on termination of school attendance, as prescribed in sections 2 and 3 of this Ordinance, will be required to attend for a further period of twelve months, a prescribed number of days each week, at such times and places as may be directed, for instruction in technical training, and in the case of girls, domestic arts.

5 Age at which children permitted to attend school

Children will be permitted to attend the morning session of school as from the date of commencement of the first school term of the year in which they reach the age of five years. Children over the age of sixteen (fifteen in the case of children of European parents) will be permitted to attend all school sessions.

6 Days on which schools open

Days on which schools will be open, and hours of attendance, will be subject to the approval of the Administrator,² and the teacher in charge of each school will submit not later than the 15th day of the month a statement showing the days on which his school will be open during the following month, and the hours of attendance on each day.

7 Attendance book

The teacher in charge of each school shall keep an attendance book, in which the attendance of each child enrolled shall be

² In relation to the expression '**Administrator**', clause 86(2) of the *Constitution of Nauru* provides:

'Subject to this Constitution, a reference in a law continued in force by clause (1) or (2) of Article 85 to the Administrator of the Territory of Nauru shall, unless the context otherwise requires, be read as a reference to the President or where responsibility for the administration of that law is assigned to a Minister under Article 23, to that Minister.'

recorded, both a.m. and p.m., and, in the case of absence, the reason for such absence.

This book is to be produced for inspection at any time when so requested by the Administrator or officer deputed by him.

8 Inspection of schools

The Administrator may authorise any person to inspect and report on the work of any school, and all school records and books shall be made available for inspection by such officer.

9 Rules, &c.

The Administrator in Council may make rules, regulations and orders to govern the conduct and maintenance of schools and attendance thereat; and such rules, regulations, and orders shall have the same force as if they formed part of this Ordinance.

10 Penalty

Penalty for failing to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance, and rules, regulations and orders made thereunder: Fine not exceeding Four dollars for every such offence.

Notes for Compulsory Education Ordinance 1921

Table of Constituent Legislation

Citation	Number	Made	Gazettal*	Commencement
<i>Compulsory Education Ordinance 1921</i>	1921/10	23.09.1921	–	01.10.1921
<i>Compulsory Education Amendment Ordinance 1925</i>	1925/06	07.04.1925	–	07.04.1925
<i>Compulsory Education Ordinance 1951</i>	1951/07	12.11.1951	–	12.11.1951
<i>Executive Council Ordinance 1966</i>	1966/03	14.02.1966	17.02.1966	17.02.1966
<i>Ordinances Revision Ordinance 1967</i>	1967/25	29.12.1967	29.12.1967	29.12.1967 (GN 316/1967)

* Gazettal date is of no legal significance for Ordinances made before 30.08.1956 (commencement of the *Interpretation Ordinance 1956*).

Table of Amendments

ad. = added or inserted am. = amended rep. = repealed rs. = repealed and substituted
om. = omitted os. = omitted and substituted

Provision affected	How affected
Section 1 (formerly section 2)	Citation am. by Ord. 1966/03, Ord. 1967/25. Renumbered by Ord. 1967/25.
Section 2 (formerly section 3)	Am. by Ord. 1966/03. Renumbered by Ord. 1967/25.
Section 3 (formerly section 3A)	Ad. by Ord. 1925/06. Renumbered by Ord. 1967/25.
Section 4 (formerly section 3B)	Ad. by Ord. 1925/06. Am. by Ord. 1967/25. Renumbered by Ord. 1967/25.
Section 5 (formerly section 4)	Rs. by Ord. 1951/07. Renumbered by Ord. 1967/25.
Section 6 (formerly section 5)	Renumbered by Ord. 1967/25.
Section 7 (formerly section 6)	Renumbered by Ord. 1967/25.
Section 8 (formerly section 7)	Renumbered by Ord. 1967/25.
Section 9 (formerly section 8)	Am. by Ord. 1966/03. Renumbered by Ord. 1967/25.
Section 10 (formerly section 9)	Am. by Ord. 1967/25. Renumbered by Ord. 1967/25.