

Part – time work for Children: Young People’s Information in summary

for full details please see Somerset County Council website:

<https://beta.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/children/employing-children/>

No child may undertake any paid or unpaid employment before their 13th birthday.

If a child between the ages of 13 and statutory school leaving age (usually the last Friday in June) undertakes any employment (whether payment is received or not) they must be licensed to do so.

For how to apply for a licence:

<https://beta.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/children/employing-children/>

Hours of Work

On any School Day a child may only be employed:-

- For up to two hours in any day within the period between 7.00am and the beginning of school, and between the end of school and 7.00pm, but for no more than one hour before school begins.

On a Saturday:-

- 13/14 year olds can work up to 5 hours per day
- 15/16 year olds can work up to 8 hours per day (maximum of 12 hours a week during term time).

During School Holidays:-

- 13/14 year olds can work up to 5 hours per day (maximum 25 hours in any week)
- 15/16 year olds can work up to 8 hours per day (maximum 35 hours in any week);

A child shall not be employed for more than four hours in any day without a rest break of at least one hour; children must have a consecutive two week period free from work during their school holidays each year.

On a Sunday a child may only be employed:-

- for up to two hours between the hours of 7.00am and 7.00pm.

Children can only be employed between the hours of 7.00am and 7.00pm on any day

There are some occupations where a child under 15 is prohibited from being employed, please see below section on ‘Somerset byelaws for the employment of children’

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Prohibited Employment

No child of any age may be employed:

- (a) in a cinema, theatre, discotheque, dance hall or night club, except in connection with a performance given entirely by children;
- (b) to sell or deliver alcohol, except in sealed containers;
- (c) to deliver milk;
- (d) to deliver fuel oils;
- (e) in a commercial kitchen;
- (f) to collect or sort refuse;
- (g) in any work which is more than three metres above ground level or, in the case of internal work, more than three metres above floor level;
- (h) in employment involving harmful exposure to physical, biological or chemical agents;
- (i) to collect money or to sell or canvass door to door, except under the supervision of an adult;
- (j) in work involving exposure to adult material or in situations which are for this reason otherwise unsuitable for children;
- (k) in telephone sales;
- (l) in any slaughterhouse or in that part of any butcher's shop or other premises connected with the killing of livestock, butchery, or the preparation of carcasses or meat for sale;
- (m) as an attendant or assistant in a fairground or amusement arcade or in any other premises used for the purpose of public amusement by means of automatic machines, games of chance or skill or similar devices;
- (n) in the personal care of residents of any residential care home or nursing home.

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Permitted employment

Children aged 14 and over

- A child aged 14 or over may be employed only in light work.

Permitted Employment

Children aged 13

- A child aged 13 may not be employed except in light work in one or more of the following specified categories:

- (a) agricultural or horticultural work;
- (b) delivery of newspapers, journals and other printed material, subject to the provisions of Byelaw (see Council website);
- (c) shop work, including shelf stacking;
- (d) hairdressing salons;
- (e) office work;
- (f) car washing by hand in a private residential setting;
- (g) in a café or restaurant;
- (h) in riding stables; and
- (i) domestic work in hotels and other establishments offering

