

CHILDREN at WORK:

It is generally illegal in this country for anyone to work before they are 13 years old.

We have a National Minimum Wage in the UK (referred to as the NMW). It is set by the Low Pay Commission and it varies.

- Children aged 11 to 13 can do occasional light agricultural work if supervised by a parent.
- Young people aged 13 16 can do 'light' work, but not during school hours.
- There are strict limits on the hours young people can work, and the type of work they can do.
- Anyone employing young people has to get a permit from the local authority that must be signed by the employer and the child's parent or guardian.
- There is not a minimum wage set for people younger than 16.
- £4.92 is the minimum wage for young people aged 18 to 20
- £3.64 is the minimum wage for workers above school leaving age (i.e. 16 or 17) but under 18
- £2.50 is the apprentice rate, for apprentices under 19 or 19 or over and in the first year of their apprenticeship
- The NMW rates are reviewed each year by the Low Pay Commission. Any changes normally take place on 1 October.