

Lord Sandon's Elementary Education Act 1876, placed a duty on parents to ensure that their children received elementary instruction in reading, writing and arithmetic. It created school attendance committees, which could compel attendance, for districts where there were no school boards; and the poor law guardians were given permission to help with the payment of school fees.

1880 Elementary Education Act (Mundella's Act) extended the provisions of the 1876 act regarding compulsory school attendance for children aged five to ten years.

1891 Elementary Education Act made grants available to all schools to enable them to cease charging for basic elementary education.

1893 Elementary Education (School Attendance) Act raised the school leaving age to 11 years. Elementary Education (Blind and Deaf Children) Act enabled the provision of special schools for blind and deaf children.