

An Introduction to the Education system in England





Key Facts

- 8.3 million pupils
- 25,300 schools

	Primary	Secondary
% pupils eligible for free meals	16.9%	14%
% ethnic minorities	19.3%	15.9%
% first language other than English	11.6%	9%
average class size	26.2	21.7



Phases

Establishments	Age Range
Pre-School Nurseries	Under 5
Primary Schools	5-11
Secondary Schools	11-16 or 11-18 (19)
Sixth Form Colleges	16-18 (19)
Further Education Colleges	Over 16
Special Schools	3-18



Phases and Testing

Establishments	Key Stage(s)	Main Assessments
Primary Schools	Foundation Stage 1 2	National Tests (11)
Secondary Schools	3 4	GCSE (16)
Sixth Form Colleges	5	AS A2

GCSE – General Certificate of Secondary Education

AS – first year of Advanced Level course

A2 – second/final year of Advanced Level

The Foundation Stage Curriculum



For children from birth to five years there are six areas of learning which all providers must address:

- Communication, language & Literacy
- Knowledge & Understanding of the World
- Physical Development
- Creative Development
- Personal, Social & Emotional Development
- Problem Solving, Reasoning & Numeracy

The Curriculum



The curriculum in England is under constant review and is changing year on year.

The government has made a commitment to give schools more control over the curriculum but continues to interfere and dictate.

Too many changes to explain in any detail.

The Curriculum

CORE SUBJECTS

- English
- Mathematics
- Science



The Curriculum

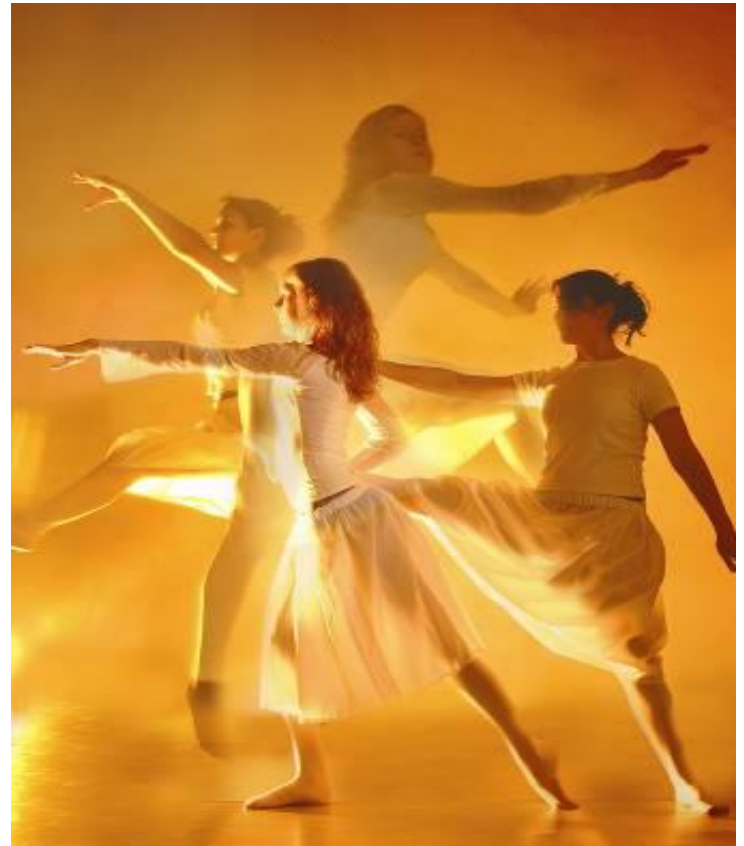
- Art
- Geography
- History
- Music
- Design and Technology
- Information and Communications Technology
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Sex and Relationship Education
- Careers Education
- Citizenship



Curriculum 3: Key Stage 4

Students aged 14-16

- Compulsory subjects, e.g. Mathematics
- Entitlement subjects, e.g. Modern Foreign Language
- 'Options' – examples:
 - Business Studies
 - Media Studies
 - Dance
 - Drama



The English school landscape

- One of the most devolved systems in the world
- Focuses on standards and well being
- Rigorous strands of accountability
- Workforce remodelling
- Collaboration and competition
- Importance of leadership



Key players

Department
for
Education



Schools and
Governing
Bodies

Local
Authorities

Connecting Classrooms

Different types of school



Community Schools

funded through the Local Authorities

Academies

funded directly by the government

Free Schools

proposed by the government to be set up in response to parental request

Private schools

funded by private individuals organisations, or educational trusts

See: www.dfe.gov.uk



Freedom and control

- A head teacher and senior leaders have *freedom* to determine the ethos and practice of their schools ...

but also

- *full responsibility* for the quality of education experienced by the young people in their care.





Freedom and control

Schools are responsible for:

- learning and teaching
- appointment and management of all their staff
- the buildings and site including playing fields





Freedom and **control**



- A headteacher is accountable to a Governing Body that represents parents, the community and often the Local Authority
- There are national standards for headteachers
- New headteachers must be accredited by the National Professional Qualification for Headship



Every child matters

- be safe
- be healthy
- enjoy and achieve
- make a positive contribution to society (citizenship)
- economic well-being



Every child matters:
next steps



UK Education Agenda in 21st Century

Every Child Matters	bringing together education, health and social services
Inclusion	children with disabilities and challenging behaviour to be educated in mainstream ('ordinary') schools
Personalisation	tailoring education to individual pupil need, aptitude and interest
Community Cohesion	local, national and international
Healthy Eating	fighting the trend towards obesity in young people



UK Education policy in 21st Century

Remodelling the workforce	Fewer 'normal' class teachers – more specialist support staff
Extended schools	Collaborating with other local schools, full 'core offer'

Some useful websites

National College www.nationalcollege.org.uk	National body for developing leadership of schools and children's services
Office for Standards in Education www.ofsted.gov.uk	Regulation and inspection of childcare, schools, colleges, children's services, teacher training and youth work
Department for Education www.dfe.gov.uk	The government department for education and children's services
Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (SSAT) www.ssatrust.org.uk	An independent, not-for-profit membership organisation which aims to raise standards in education.
Creativity, Culture & Education www.creativitycultureeducation.org	An independent not-for-profit organisation which seeks to bring creative learning practices into schools
Teach First www.teachfirst.org.uk	An independent not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving teaching in challenging

Each country of the UK has its own department for education

Scotland

www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/education



Wales

www.wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills



Northern
Ireland

www.deni.gov.uk

