

# **Education in USA and UK**

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# Education in the USA

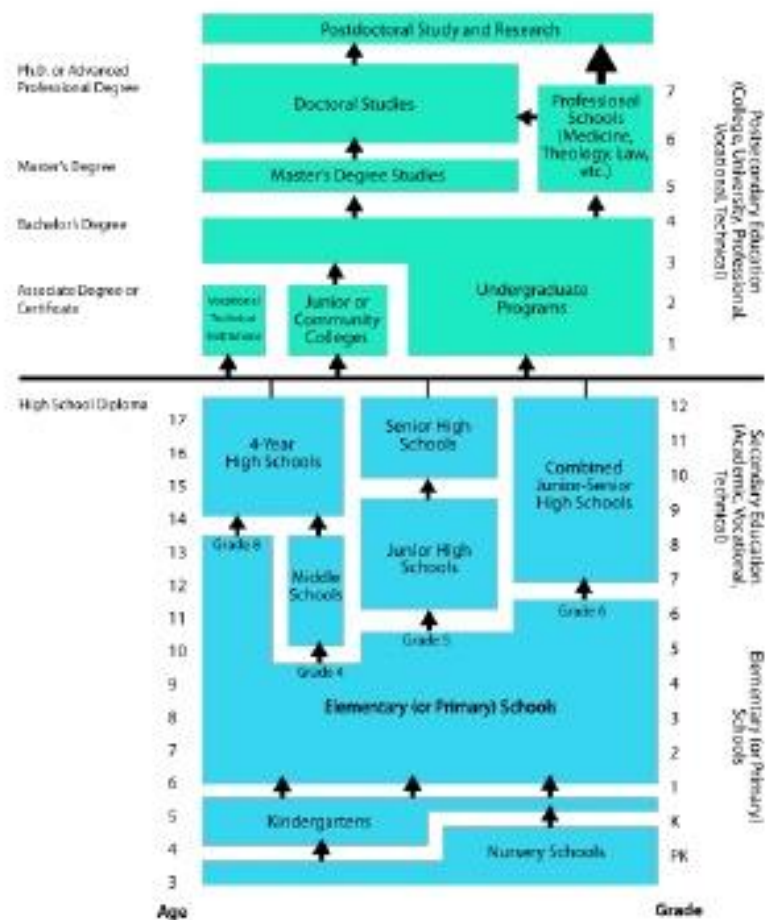
- **Education in the United States** is mainly provided by the public sector, with control and funding coming from three levels: federal, state, and local. Child education is compulsory.
- Public education is universally available. School curricula, funding, teaching, and other policies are set through locally elected school boards with jurisdiction over school districts with many directives from state legislatures. School districts are usually separate from other local jurisdictions, with independent officials and budgets. Educational standards and standardized testing decisions are usually made by state governments.
- The ages for compulsory education vary by state. It begins from ages five to eight and ends from ages fourteen to eighteen.[3]



# School grades

- Children are assigned into year groups known as grades, beginning with **preschool**, following by **kindergarten** and culminating in **twelfth grade**. Children customarily advance together from one grade to the next as a single cohort or "class" upon reaching the end of each school year in May or June, although developmentally disabled children may be held back a grade and gifted children may skip ahead early to the next grade.

# School grades in a diagram



# School grades and ages

- Elementary school: 5-11
- Middle school: 11-14
- High school: 15-18

9th grade-freshman

10th grade-sophomore

11th grade-junior

12th grade-senior

# Graduate education

- Those who complete high school and would like to attend college or university attend an undergraduate school. This may be a **community college** (one that offers two-year degrees, usually to prepare students to transfer to state universities), **liberal arts college** (one that concentrates on undergraduate education), or part of a larger research university. The course of study is called the "major", which comprises the main or special subjects. However, students are not locked into a major upon admission—usually, a major is chosen by the second year of college, and changing majors is frequently possible depending on how the credits work out, unlike British tertiary education. Universities are either **public** (state-sponsored, such as the University of Michigan) or private.
- Many students choose to continue onto graduate school for a master's or Ph.D, or to a **first professional degree** program. A master's degree requires an additional two years of specialized study; a doctoral degree (Ph.D.) usually takes some years, although exactly how long depends on the time required to prepare the doctoral dissertation. First professional degrees have a more structured program than the typical Ph.D. program. The standard time required for a first professional degree is three or four years; for example, law school is a three-year program, while medical, dental, and veterinary schools are four-year programs.

# Common European Framework

- The **Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment**, abbreviated as CEFR, is a guideline used to describe achievements of learners of foreign languages across Europe. It was put together by the Council of Europe as the main part of the project "Language Learning for European Citizenship" between 1989 and 1996. Its main aim is to provide a method of assessing and teaching which applies to all languages in Europe. In November 2001 a European Union Council Resolution recommended using the CEFR to set up systems of validation of language ability. The six reference levels are becoming widely accepted as the European standard for grading an individual's language proficiency. Nonetheless, existing examination boards have retained their own naming conventions, e.g. "Intermediate", which are, arguably, easier for them, and their students, to remember

# CEFR Levels

- The Common European Framework divides learners into three broad divisions which can be divided into six levels:
- A Basic Speaker
- **A1** Breakthrough
- **A2** Waystage
- B Independent Speaker
- **B1** Threshold
- **B2** Vantage
- C Proficient Speaker
- **C1** Effective Operational Proficiency
- **C2** Mastery





# Level description - A

- **A1** Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.
- **A2** Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.

# Level description - B

- **B1** Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes & ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.
- **B2** Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

# Level description - C

- **C1** Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.
- **C2** Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in the most complex situations.
- These descriptors can apply to any of the languages spoken in Europe, and there are translations in many languages.

# Southgate College. London



- This is a non-further education College
- They work with students who haven't finished their secondary education and have some kind of disability or impairment.



# Southgate technology

- These are special screens and keyboards for the visually impaired



# More equipment

- More help for the visually impaired
- In this machine students put their copy under the machine and they can read the maximised text on the screen.



# More technology

- A photocopier for each classroom.



# More technology

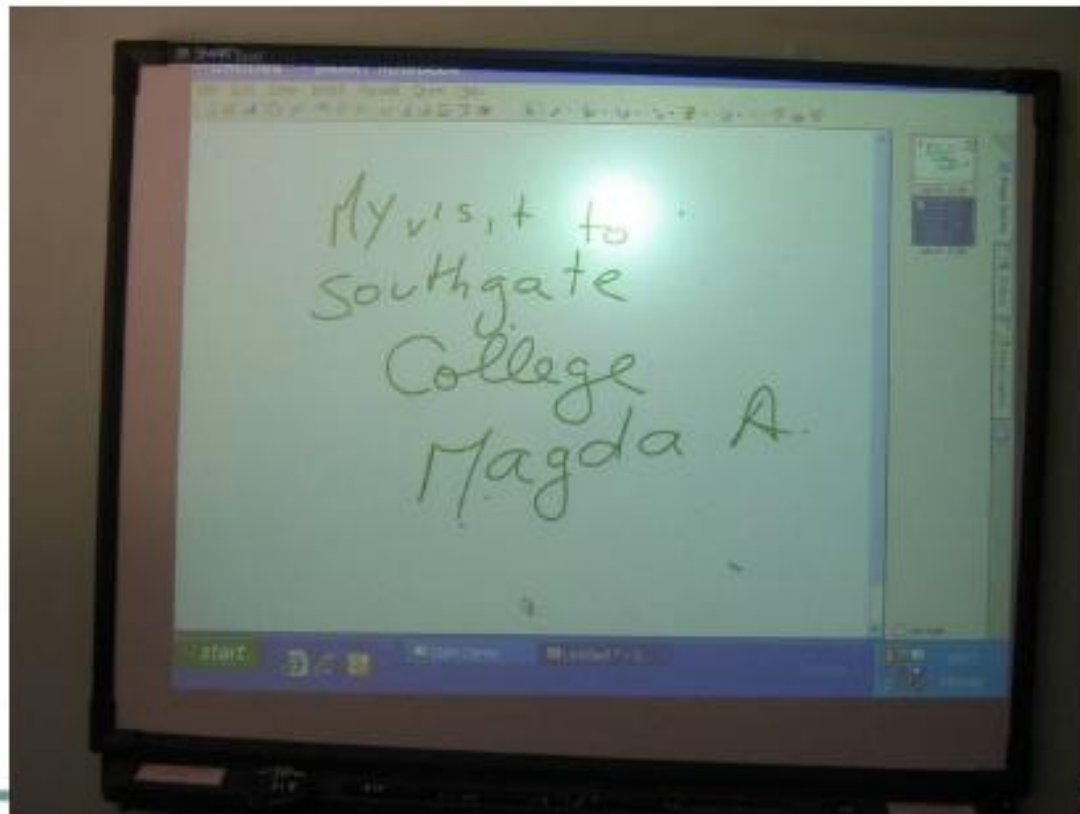
- One computer for each student





# Smartboards

- Smartboards in each classroom



# Staff room

- This is the place for teachers. Enough space for working and having a “cup of tea”



# Students room

- This is for students to have a break, it includes a tv set, among other facilities and a beautiful view to the gardens of the College.



# The end

- May be one day we have something similar in our country, why not?
- “You may say I’m a dreamer, but I’m not the only one”



# The British Council

- The British Council is a cultural institute, a public institution whose mission is to disseminate knowledge of the **English language** and culture through training and other educational activities. In addition, this public body plays a significant role to improve the foreign relations of **the United Kingdom** . Its headquarters is in **Manchester and London** .
- This institute is equivalent to the **Instituto Cervantes** Spanish, the **Goethe-Institut** German, **Dante Alighieri Society** Italian, the **Alliance Française** or the **Confucius Institute** of China . They all work to disseminate their respective cultures worldwide, thus enhancing knowledge of some of the major European languages, a fact for which they have been awarded the **Prince of Asturias Prize for Communications and Humanities** by the year **2005** .



# School Education in England

- Preschool Ages 2-5
- Age 5-11 Primary education
- Age 11-16/18 secondary education
- In some cases there is an intermediate stage (middle school) between the primary and secondary.



# Academic year

- Academic year is divided into three terms (terms) each of which lasts approximately thirteen weeks, beginning - in most cases - in the first week of September and ending in July the following year.



# Different types of schools

- The most important differentiation within schools in the United Kingdom is among the state do not charge fees and private do. You can find a complete listing of state schools.
- There are over 2,400 private schools (independent schools) in the United Kingdom. These schools are not obliged to follow the national curriculum. However, they must register with the Department for Education and Skills and receive official inspections.
- Among private schools, some are profit-making and others not. The [Independent Schools Information Service](#) provides information on these schools, including requirements for admission. There are large variations in costs. For the primary, vary between £ 950 and £ 2,500, per quarter, and for the secondary, between £ 1,300 and £ 3,000.



# Structure of evaluation

- **Age 4-5** Baseline assessment: reading, writing and numeracy.
- **Age 7, 11 and 14** SATs - Standard Assessment Tests: English mathematics
- **Age 15-16** GCSE - General Certificate of Secondary Education



# GCSE

- The GCSE is the certificate that get students to complete the compulsory education cycle. The certificate consists of the results of a number of tests that assess specific areas (between 6 and 11). The tests are given (both in preparation and correction) by independent bodies. The results are classified from A \* (for the highest mark) to the G, using a U - unclassified - for those who did not reach the minimum standard.

# Formal Education after 16

- Upon completion of compulsory education can continue their education by opting for one of two major roads, both of which last about two years.
- Those who choose the academic path will yield a number of advanced tests (A Levels and / or AS Levels) at eighteen, which is the traditional requirement for access to university studies.
- The second way is the vocation.. This option includes subjects more directly geared towards immediate working. However, if you give the highest level of the tests (Advanced GNVQs or BTEC National Diploma), also allow them to apply for admission to the university.

# Admission to state schools

- As access to state schools is circumscribed to the area of residence, in most cases you should contact the Local Education Authority or Local Education Authorities (LEAs). This step is very important because access to state schools is not automatic and vacancies are often limited. There are some schools that manage their own admission procedures. In these cases, you should contact them directly.

# Admission to private schools

- Most private schools have very specific entry requirements. In most cases it is necessary to pay an entrance test called Joint Entrance Examination (Common Entrance Examination - CE). However, in the case of foreign students, they are usually evaluated in math and English. Once you have been accepted at school, most private institutions offer specialized instruction for students who do not have English as mother tongue. For more information on entry requirements and instructions you need to contact directly with schools of interest

