

Educational terms

Academies

Academies are independent, publicly-funded schools. Academies receive their funding directly from the Department for Education, rather than the local council or educational authority. Academies must follow the same rules on admissions, special educational needs and exclusions as other state schools, but they do not have to follow the national curriculum. They must teach religious education but from an agreed syllabus not necessarily the locally Agreed Syllabus. Each academy or academy chain is run by a trust which employs the staff.

A Level

Short for General Certificate of Education Advanced Level, A Levels are studied between the ages of 16-18 years. Exams are often sat at the end of both years. The first year of A Level is called AS Level (Advanced Subsidiary) and the second year is called A2. Together they make up an A Level. The curriculum is set by the government but the exams and specifications (syllabuses) are set by individual exam boards.

AQA

AQA (the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance) is a UK exam board offering a range of qualifications including GCSE and A Level.

Attainment 8

Used in secondary schools, Attainment 8 records a pupil's achievement across eight qualifications, including Maths and English.

Collective Worship/Assembly

An assembly is a gathering together for the purpose of giving information, notices, reiterating school rules etc. Collective worship is the part of that gathering together where an act of worship takes place. *'The challenge consists in creating an experience which neither compromises belief but rather recognises the integrity and dignity of all members of the school community; which is essentially educational and stimulates the possibility of reflecting inwardly, sharing outwardly and living upwardly'.*

Angela Wood

Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge Assessment International Education is an international exam board offering a range of qualifications including Cambridge Primary, Cambridge Lower Secondary and Cambridge IGCSE.

Comprehensive school

Comprehensive schools are secondary level state-funded schools, that do not select their students on the basis of achievement or their academic aptitude. They should accept any applicable students from within a geographical area. They differ from grammar schools, which selects pupils on the basis of their grade at the 11+ exam. Today, most comprehensives are also academies.

DfE department of Education

Edexcel is a UK exam board offering a range of qualifications including GCSE.

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Emerging, Expected, Exceeding; common terms used in assessment

Framework

A guide developed for Key Stage 2 and 3 outlining how and when subjects should be taught.

Free schools

A free school is a variety of academy; a state-funded, free-to-attend, independent school which is not controlled by a local educational authority. A free school is understood to be "free" from local authority control, rather than describing free for students to attend. Like other academies, free schools may have sponsors, but the sponsor may not control more than 1/5 of a free school's board of trustees. Free schools are allowed to employ teachers who have not gained Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).

GCSE

Short for General Certificate of Secondary Education, GCSEs are studied between the ages of 14-16 years and are assessed by formal exams. GCSEs cover a wide range of subjects and each student chooses several subjects to study. Most are expected to take English, Mathematics, and Science. The curriculum is set by the government but exams and specifications (syllabuses) are set by individual exam boards.

Gifted and Talented

Gifted and Talented is a phrase used to describe high ability children. The gifted are those with high ability in one or more academic subject, and the talented are those with high ability in sport, music, visual arts and/or performing arts.

Grammar schools

Grammar schools are schools that select their students on the basis of their academic aptitude. Historically, grammar schools were the selective level of the Tripartite System of secondary education in the UK from the 1940s to the 1960s. With the introduction of comprehensive schools in the 1970s, many grammar schools converted to comprehensives or became independent, fee-paying schools. Some areas of England, such as Kent and Lincolnshire, retain most elements of the Tripartite System, and select students for grammar schools on the basis of their results at the 11+ exam.

Guided Reading

Guided Reading bridges the gap between Shared and Independent Reading. Children are grouped by ability, with up to six children in a group. A book is chosen at 'instructional level' so that children will only have difficulty with one word in ten. The teacher leads the session, reinforcing various reading strategies and focusing on individual children as they read

IB

The IB (International Baccalaureate) offers three programmes used in many schools all over the world: PYP (Primary Years Programme), MYP (Middle Years Programme), IB Diploma Programme.

IB Diploma Programme

The IB Diploma Programme is offered by the International Baccalaureate (IB) for students aged 16-19 years. It is a demanding two-year curriculum that leads to a qualification recognized by universities around the world.

IGCSE

IGCSE is an international qualification for 14-16 year olds offered by Cambridge Assessment International Education and Edexcel International.

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International Primary Curriculum (IPC)

offers four different programmes to International schools.

Key Stage

The national curriculum in the UK defines the minimum educational requirements for students of compulsory school age (5-16 years). It is organised on the basis of five Key Stages. At the end of each Key Stage, students take assessments to determine the levels they have reached.

EYFS Early Years Foundation (Reception/3-5-year olds)

Key Stage 1 (Years 1-2/5-7-year olds)

Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6/7-11-year olds)

Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9/11-14-year olds) - Lower Secondary

Key Stage 4/GCSE (Years 10-11) - Upper Secondary

After GCSEs students can opt to enter Key Stage 5 and take A Levels (Years 12-13/16-18 years old).

Literacy Hour, The

The Literacy Hour is a way of allocating time to teaching the different strands of literacy each day. It consists of four parts: whole class text level teaching (15 mins), whole class word/sentence level work (15 mins), Guided Reading/Writing for one group with the teacher and independent work for the rest of the class (20 mins), whole class plenary (10 mins).

Learning Obs

Learning objectives for the lesson or the whole unit of work which might cover a half term or a full term of lessons

Multi-academy trust (MAT)

A multi-academy trust (MAT) is a group of academies run jointly by one board of directors, working together as one entity to pool resources and improve standards across the trust. A multi-academy trust is usually headed by a CEO, who differs from a traditional headteacher, and may not be a qualified teacher themselves.

MYP - Middle Years Programme

The Middle Years Programme (MYP) is offered by the International Baccalaureate (IB) for students aged 11-16 years and provides a framework of academic challenge and life skills through embracing and transcending traditional school subjects.

NASACRE National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education. SACRE's are encouraged to subscribe to this national organisation which gives advice and guidance. A member of SACRE can attend the annual AGM.

OCR

OCR (Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations) is a UK exam board offering a range of qualifications including GCSE and A Level.

PYP - Primary Years Programme

The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is offered by the International Baccalaureate (IB) for students aged 6-12 years and focuses on the development of the whole child in the classroom and in the world outside.

Private schools

Private schools (also known as *independent schools* and in some cases *public schools*) are schools that

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charge fees in order to attend. They do not get funding from the government, and do not have to follow the national curriculum. About half of private schools are inspected by Ofsted, while the other half are inspected by either the Independent Schools Inspectorate or the School Inspection Service. Some older and more expensive private schools are known as "public schools" although they are not part of the public sector; these schools were considered historically public because they were open for anyone to attend, provided they could pay the fees.

Progress 8

Progress 8 is a measurement scale used to determine the progress a pupil makes from the end of primary school to the end of Key Stage 4. It was introduced in 2016 as a new measure for determining overall school performance. Under Progress 8, pupils' results are compared to the progress of other pupils nationally with similar levels of attainment (using Attainment 8). Students are then judged relative to their attainment and how much progress they have made since the end of primary school. The average scores of a cohort makes up a school's Progress 8 score.

PSHE

Personal, Social, Health education. Defined by the school's inspectorate Ofsted as a planned programme to help children and young people develop fully as individuals and as members of families and social and economic communities. Now sometimes called **PSCHE** with the addition of citizenship

QTS

Qualified teacher Status

SACRE Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

A government committee supported by every Local Authority to oversee religious education and collective worship and provide a Locally Agreed Syllabus which must be reviewed every five years

SATs

SATs (officially known as National Curriculum assessments) are the national curriculum tests that are taken at the end of Key Stages 1 and 2. They are designed to help teachers measure students' progress, how much of the curriculum they understand and what they might achieve in the future. SATs attainment levels were abolished in 2016 and replaced with a new judgement framework.

SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability)

Children with special educational needs all have learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for them to learn or access education than most children of the same age. These children may need extra or different help from that given to other children of the same age.

Shared Reading

Shared reading is a whole class activity where the teacher demonstrates reading strategies using a shared text. Texts should be large enough for all children to see. Big Books are perfect for this. Shared reading sessions are very interactive.

SMSC

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education. This is inspected and should be a thread that runs through the school's work and should be found in all subject planning. It is the over-arching umbrella that encompasses personal development across the whole curriculum.

SOW scheme of work

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The Simple View of Reading

The simple view of reading is part of the renewed UK framework for primary literacy and places increasing importance on the role of speaking and listening in developing children's early reading skills. It focuses on two core areas: word recognition (phonics and high frequency words) and language comprehension and reinforces the importance of embedding reading within a broad and rich curriculum.

Whiteboard, Interactive

An interactive whiteboard is a teaching tool that enables anything you can do or see on a computer screen to be projected onto a whiteboard for all the class to see. It is made up of a computer, a digital projector, and a whiteboard which acts as a touch-sensitive screen.

WJEC

WJEC (Welsh Joint Education Committee) is a UK exam board offering a range of qualifications including GCSE.

WALT We are learning Today and **WILF** What we are Looking For