

BACK TO BASICS

EDUCATION



Key Stages of Curriculum

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS): Years -1 and 0.

The EYFS Profile is a statutory assessment of children's development at the end of the academic year in which children turn five, usually reception year. Each child's level of development is assessed against 17 Early Learning Goals (ELGs) across all seven areas of learning in the EYFS. Children are defined as having reached a Good Level of Development (GLD) at the end of the EYFS if they have achieved the expected level for the ELGs in the prime areas of learning (which are: communication and language; personal, social and emotional development; and physical development) and the specific areas of mathematics and literacy. This helps to understand broadly what a child can do in relation to national expectations.

Key Stage One (KS1): Years 1 and 2

Pupils are assessed in reading, writing, mathematics and science.

In Year 2, at the end of Key Stage 1, pupils are required to take tests in reading and mathematics at the end of Key Stage 1, however teacher assessment is the only data used and reported by the DfE.

Key Stage 2 (KS2): Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Pupils take national curriculum assessments in Year 6 at the end of Key Stage 2. Pupils take tests in reading, mathematics, and grammar, punctuation and spelling, and receive a teacher assessment in writing.

Key Stage 3 (KS3): Years 7, 8 and 9

There are no formal assessments at the end of this key stage. It often involves transitioning to a secondary phase of education (unless in a middle school setting). It involves broadening curriculum knowledge, consolidating learning and establishing key areas of interest for choosing later GCSE subject options.

Key Stage 4 (KS4): Years 10 and 11

During Key Stage 4 most pupils work



BACK TO BASICS

EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

towards national qualifications - usually GCSEs.

Post-16

Key Stage 5 is a label used to describe the two years of education for students aged 16-18 and at sixth form or college. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, it is aligned with previous Key Stages in the National Curriculum.

The National Curriculum

The national curriculum is a set of subjects and standards used by primary and secondary schools so children learn the same things. It covers what subjects are taught and the standards children should reach in each subject.

Other types of school, like academies and private schools, do not have to follow the national curriculum. Academies must teach a broad and balanced curriculum including English, maths and science. They must also teach relationships and sex education, and religious education.

To find out more about the National Curriculum, please see the Government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/national-curriculum>