

UK Comparison Table of School Year Groups across the UK (April 2020)

	England		Northern Ireland		Wales		Scotland		Boarding	
	National Curriculum		Northern Ireland Curriculum		National Curriculum Wales		Curriculum for Excellence			
Born between	1 Sept – 31 Aug		1 Sept – 1 July	2 Jul – 31 Aug	1 Sept – 31 Aug		1 Sept – 29 Feb	1 Mar – 31 Aug	1 Sept – 31 Aug Prep & Public	1 Sept-31 Aug State Boarding
Age										
4-5	EYFS	Reception	P1	Nursery	Foundation Phase	Reception	P1 (Early level)	Nursery/Early level	None	None
5-6	KS1	Yr 1	P2	P1		Yr 1	P2 (First level)	P1 (Early level)	None	None
6-7	KS1	Yr 2	P3	P2		Yr 2	P3 (First level)	P2 (First level)	None	None
7-8	KS2	Yr 3	P4	P3	Key Stage 2	Yr 3	P4 (First level)	P3 (First level)	Prep	Yr 3
8-9	KS2	Yr 4	P5	P4		Yr 4	P5 (Second level)	P4 (First level)	Prep	Yr 4
9-10	KS2	Yr 5	P6	P5		Yr 5	P6 (Second level)	P5 (Second level)	Prep	Yr 5
10-11	KS2	Yr 6	P7	P6		Yr 6	P7 (Second level)	P6 (Second level)	Prep	Yr 6
11-12	KS3	Yr 7	Yr 8	P7	Key Stage 3	Yr 7	S1 (Third/Fourth level)	P7 (Second Level)	Prep	Secondary Yr 7
12-13	KS3	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 8		Yr 8	S2 (Third/Fourth level)	S1 (Third/Fourth level)	Prep CE	Yr 8
13-14	KS3	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 9		Yr 9	S3 (Third/Fourth level)	S2 (Third/Fourth level)	Public	Yr 9
14-15	KS4	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 10	Key Stage 4	Yr 10	S4 (Senior phase)	S3 (Third/Fourth level)	Public	Yr 10
15-16	KS4	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 11		Yr 11	S5 (Senior phase)	S4 (Senior phase)	Public	Yr 11
<i>A Levels and SCE Higher's – non-compulsory</i>										
16-17	AS	Yr 12	Yr13 Sixth form	Yr 12	Post 16	Yr 12	S6 (Senior phase)	S5 (senior phase)	Public	Yr12
17-18	A2	Yr 13	Yr14 Sixth form	Sixth form		Yr 13		S6 (Senior phase)	Public	Yr 13
18				Sixth form						

KEY

Yr	Year
EYFS	Early Years Foundation Stage
FS	Foundation stage
KS	Key Stage
Early	Early Years
First	First level
Second	Second level
P	Primary
S	Secondary
CE	Common Entrance
AS	1 st year A Level exams
A2	A level exams

State Education around the UK comparison table (from starting school to end of statutory education)

NB provision is subject to local variances in practice – always seek further advice when moving.

Topic	England	NI	Wales	Scotland
Admissions - age	September before 5 th birthday	If the child turns 4 before July 1 st , they will start school on September 1 st . If a child turns 4 on or after 2 nd July, they will start school the following September	September before 5 th birthday	Birthday March to Aug – August after turn 5 Birthday Sept to Feb – August before turn 5 (can be deferred)
Language	n/a	n/a	Welsh, dual/bilingual and English medium schools offer varying amounts of teaching in Welsh. Welsh is taught in all schools as part of the curriculum up to age 16 . A good overview is offered at https://www.theschoolrun.com/overview-welsh-education-system and information also available from : www.sscecymru.co.uk	n/a
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities SEN code of practice https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25	Special Educational needs https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/publications/special-educational-needs-guide-parents	Additional learning needs/Special Educational Needs https://gov.wales/additional-learning-needs-special-educational-needs	Additional Support Needs Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 ENQUIRE – enquire.org.uk
School year	September - July	Early Sept – early July Short mid term breaks of 1 or 2 days Shorter Easter and Christmas break Longer summer break	September - July	August – end June/early July
School day	Will vary – check with school/LA	Will vary – check with school/LA. Some (younger years) finish at 2pm.	Will vary – check with school/LA	Will vary – check with school/LA
Curriculum	National curriculum https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum	Northern Ireland Curriculum CCEA - Council for the curriculum, examinations and assessment https://ccea.org.uk/	Curriculum for Wales 2008 New curriculum for Wales 2022 https://gov.wales/curriculum-and-assessment	Curriculum for Excellence https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/

Phases (see also curriculum comparison table)	Primary and Secondary	Primary and Secondary	Primary and Secondary	Broad general (age 3 – S3) and Senior
Statutory Assessments	SATS Yr 2 and Yr 6, GCSE, A levels or equivalent	Non-compulsory INCAS assessments yrs 4 – 7, GCSE, A level or equivalent	Annual literacy and numeracy tests, Year 2 and Year 6 and year 9 end of key stage assessments, GCSE (Welsh baccalaureate) , A levels or equivalent	Standardised literacy and numeracy P1, P4, P7 and S3, Highers or equivalent
funding for Armed Forces Children	Service Pupil Premium (SPP) - £310 per service pupil each year paid to schools who register them on January census.	There is funding available in NI through the standard school funding mechanisms.	There is Welsh Government funding that Schools can bid for to support Armed Forces pupils.	Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) initiative ensures all children receive the resources they need when they need them.
Useful Government links (not Armed forces specific)	https://www.gov.uk/browse/education	www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/education	https://gov.wales/education-skills	https://www.gov.scot/education/ https://education.gov.scot/parentzone
Armed Forces Specific support and advice (please also visit the relevant pages of our website)	https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/directorate-children-and-young-people	local advice can be obtained through the Children’s Education Support Officer located within 38 (Irish) Brigade who can be contacted on: Email: RC-AWS-N-38X-0mailbox@mod.gov.uk	Supporting Service Children in Education, Wales Project www.sscecymru.org.uk	Forces Children’s Education - https://forceschildrenseducation.org.uk/
Across the UK	Directorate Children and Young People offer advice across the UK https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/directorate-children-and-young-people			