

	Dutch Educational System	French Educational system	Flemish Educational system	English Educational System	German Educational System
Primary School	From 4-12 (8 years)	From 6 to 11 (5 years)	From to 6-12 Allittle biology	Key Stage 1 (5 - 7) Key stage 2 (7 – 11) Primary schools are good in science	
Secondary Education	-Pre-university education (vwo) 6 years -Senior Secondary Education (havo) 5 years - Preparatory Vocational Education (vmbo) 4 years -Lower Secondary Education The first three years all pupils are offered the same curriculum, so called "basic education" (Basisvorming) After this, students are streamed into either havo, vwo or vmbo	College (11-16 years old) (LSE) Lycée (16-18) at the end the pupils have one big exam. (HSE) The exam Baccaauréat is held at the same time, the end of secondary studies and the first grade of University.	Age 12-18 Stage 1 Core curriculum. As for Science: Biology and technology Stage 2 four different types of education. The pupil can choose between: -general secondary education (ASO) -vocational secondary education (BSO): -secondary education in the arts (KSO) -technical secondary education (TSO) Science: biology, chemistry and physics Stage 3 Science: biology, chemistry and physics	Key stage 3 ages 11 to 14 Key stage 4 ages 14 to 16 Key stage 5 Post-16: AS available for one year or As leads on to A2 which is A level or GNVQ (or other vocational courses; names keep changing) Also referred to as Further Education Science is statutory and should be 20% of the timetabled classes.	There are different frames in each of the 16 Bundeslander, such as time-tables, curricula, guidelines for teaching etc. There is a minimal accord guaranteed by the conference of school ministers: KMK.
Higher Education	-University education (WO) for students who completed vwo succesfully -Higher vocational education (HBO) for students who completed havo or vwo succesfully -Senior secondary vocational education and apprenticeship training (mbo) for students who completed vmbo succesfully	There are three different types of Baccaauréat. Pupils don't really choose their way. Pupils don't choose on interest but there is a choosing on failure (hierarchy). When you can't do the first you do the second, etc. · General - Literature/language/arts -Economic -Scientific. (Exams are very difficult. So difficult that there are less students in Science.)	University education Higher non-university education.	Mainly university. (Some combined with Further Education colleges.) The Prime Minister has set his heart on 50% attending university; there are tertiary colleges that also offer degrees.	There is a very wide range of differences in Higher Education, in the sciences, the political system etc. Because of these big differences the German system can't be summarized in this table.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technological • Vocational 			
Science	<p>Science Teaching starts at secondary school. Subjects are</p> <p>Physics (beyond first Form)</p> <p>Chemistry (beyond first Form)</p> <p>Biology</p>	<p>Lycée's: three different subjects: 'mathematics', 'physics and chemistry' AND 'life and earth science'</p> <p>In college there are the same 3 subjects and Technology.</p> <p>The curricula of these 3 subjects are strictly separated</p> <p>First year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -no physics, no chemistry -Following four years: chemistry and physics. 	<p>In secondary school:</p> <p>Stage 1: biology and technology</p> <p>Stage 2: chemistry, biology and physics (1 or 2 hours a week for each subject)</p> <p>Stage 3: chemistry, biology and physics (1 or 2 hours a week for each subject)</p>	<p>Should be 20% of the timetable; but is less in many schools. Our school has 30% at GCSE for the pupils taking all three sciences as 3 GCSEs.</p> <p>Some schools offer 'triple award science' and use about 30% – 33% of timetable time</p>	
Political System	<p>All students have to pass national (so called 'central') exams according to the particular stream they completed. According to the kind of central exam students passed they have –basically- free entrance to particular types of studies in University and/or Higher Vocational Education.</p> <p>The Ministry for Education (Culture and Science) is basically responsible for (changing) the examination programmes.</p>	<p>Very centralised country.</p> <p>Everything is done under minister's responsibility.</p> <p>Curricula are made by a team of school and University teachers, inspectors and scientists chosen and named by the cabinet and under its responsibility.</p> <p>The country is organised in regions called Academies.</p> <p>Two of the main issues of scientific teaching in France are: to keep and increase the technical staff and aim at small groups of pupils for practical work.</p>	<p>In Belgium there is freedom of education, which means every person has the right to organise education.</p> <p>The Governing bodies have a wide-ranging autonomy. However, schools that want government recognition of financial support must observe a number of conditions.</p> <p>The educational networks, as the representative association of the governing bodies, take over some of the responsibilities. They draw up their own curriculum and timetables. This means that the governing bodies concerned surrender some of their autonomy to the networks.</p>	<p>Big differences between Wales, Scotland, Ireland etc.</p> <p>In 1988 the National Curriculum was introduced since there have been many curriculum changes (1991, 1995/6, 2000) with various other 'tweakings' to the system.</p> <p>Some interesting recent introductions:</p> <p>Literacy and Numeracy hour first in Primary School and then KS3.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the Key stage 3 national strategy 2. Tomlinson 14-19 Interim Report 3. Science Learning Centres 4 New science specifications in 2006 	
Pupils	<p>Schooling is compulsory till the age of 16.</p>	<p>Education is compulsory till 16.</p>	<p>Education is compulsory till 16 years old.</p>	<p>Compulsory education to 16 (end of GCSE) though there is strong coercion for students to stay on till they are 18 or 19.</p>	
Teachers	<p>Science teachers in Higher Secondary Education become</p>	<p>Teachers study for three years at university, then they go to a teacher training</p>	<p>Science teachers at higher secondary education (stage 3) have a university</p>	<p>Secondary science teachers are still expected to have a</p>	

	<p>trained at University.</p> <p>Science teachers in lower secondary education predominantly become trained at teachers training colleges.</p>	<p>institute (IUFM). They are sure to have a job, but it can be anywhere in France.</p> <p>Science teachers have technical staff.</p> <p>Primary Teachers are not trained for science. (when they become primary teachers).</p>	<p>degree and have done a university training course for secondary level</p> <p>Science teachers at lower secondary education (stage 1 and 2) are trained in a lower secondary school teacher training institute. There is a lack of trained subject teachers.</p>	<p>science degree.</p> <p>All Primary and Secondary teachers have to have a PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate of Education) to teach in a state school.</p> <p>Independent schools prefer PGCE or a teaching qualification, some recruited from Industry.</p> <p>FE same as the Independent sector</p> <p>HE Research experience is a must with some link to Industry and Teaching qualification comes lower on the list of required criteria.</p>	
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