



Education System in Poland

Study visit

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Pre-primary education


- It concerns children from 3 to 6 years of age
- Both private and public schools can be fee-paying, however in the latter case the conditions specified in the legislation apply


Compulsory full-time education


- Children must attend compulsory education for ten years from the age of six

Compulsory full-time education

- Oddział przedszkolny (pre-school class) – 6 years of age
- Szkoła podstawowa (6-year primary school) – 7-13 years of age
 - Stage 1 – integrated teaching, 7-10 years of age
 - Stage 2 – teaching based on separate subjects, 10-13 years of age
- Gimnazjum (3-year lower secondary school) 13-16 years of age
 - Stage 3 – teaching based on separate subjects


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- Only one teacher is responsible for all subjects at the first stage of instruction, with the exception of foreign language teaching (specialist teachers).
 - From the fourth year on, each subject is taught by a specialist teacher.

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- Core curricula for compulsory teaching, created at the central level by groups of experts appointed by the Ministry of Education, are the same for all pupils.
 - For the first stage of primary school the curricula for integrated teaching apply, for the second stage of primary school and gimnazjum there are curricula for separate subjects and cross-curricular themes.

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- The schools (teachers) can choose the textbooks from a list approved by the Ministry of Education.
 - They are free to decide the teaching and assessment methods, introduce innovative teaching methods and choose curricula which are approved by the school head.
 - They can also develop their own curricula – based on core curricula – and submit them to their school head for approval.

Compulsory educational activities :

- Stage 1 (grades 1-3, primary school):
integrated teaching, additionally -
Religion or Ethics
- Stage 2 (grades 4-6, primary school):
Polish language, History and civics,
modern foreign languages, Mathematics,
Natural science, Music, Art ,Technology,
Computer science, Physical education,
lessons with class tutor, additionally -
Religion or Ethics


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- Stage 3 (grades 1-3 of the gimnazjum):
Polish language, History, Civic education,
Modern foreign language, Mathematics,
Physics and Astronomy, Chemistry, Biology,
Geography, Art, Music, Artistic activities,
Technology, Computer studies, Physical
education, lessons with class tutor,
additionally - Religion or Ethics

Upper secondary education

- Compulsory part-time education in the school or out-of-school forms lasts until 18 years of age


Upper secondary education

- Liceum ogólnokształcące (general upper secondary school) 16-19 years of age
- Liceum profilowane (specialised upper secondary school) 16-19 years of age
- Technikum (technical upper secondary school) 16-20 years of age
- Zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa (basic vocational school) 16-18/19 years of age
- Uzupełniające liceum ogólnokształcące
- (supplementary general upper secondary school)
- 18/19-20/21 years of age
- Technikum uzupełniające
- (supplementary technical upper secondary school)
- 18/19-21/22 years of age

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- The number of points indicated on the gimnazjum leaving certificate (based on the results achieved in specific subjects and other achievements) including the points received at the gimnazjum examination decides about the pupils' admission to an upper secondary school.
 - The detailed admission rules are defined by each post-gimnazjum school which opens admissions to new pupils.

Core subjects (included in outline timetables)

- General upper secondary school: Polish language, 2 foreign languages, History, Civic education, Culture studies, Mathematics, Physics and Astronomy, Chemistry, Biology, Geography, Introduction to entrepreneurship, Information technology, Physical Education, Defence Training, lessons for class tutor, lessons for additional subject teaching envisaged in the curriculum, additionally non-compulsory Religion or Ethics



Technikum: Polish language, 2 modern foreign languages, History, Civic education, Cultural studies, Mathematics, Physics and astronomy, Chemistry, Biology, Geography, Introduction to entrepreneurship, Information technology, Physical education, Defence training, lessons for class tutor, lessons for vocational training according to vocational curriculum for a given profession, additionally non-compulsory Religion or Ethics



Innovation in XI High School in Bialystok

- Choral Education
- Theater Education
- Art Workshops



Choral Education

Choir of Bialystok City

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Pi4DbfEuGg&feature=share>



National Program „Singing Poland” Choir „Undecimo”





Theater Education

- <http://www.xilo.bialystok.pl/pliki/zdjecia/Galeria/album/06.06.2011%20RealistyczneSoc%20-%20teatr/Pierwszym%20okiem%20obiektywu/galeria.html>

More activities

- www.xilo.bialystok.pl
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8YUolgYT-_w
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YuPdJiNznpY>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mFc4Oay8MMA>