

A quick guide to understanding the Education System

How it was

How it is now

					NATIONAL FRAMEWORK - NOT AGE RELATED			
Student Age	Old School Years	Old Test Equivalent	School Year as Currently Known	General Qualification /Test	Vocationally related Qualifications	Occupational Qualifications	Modern Apprenticeships (16-25)	Level of Qualification
4-5			Reception					
5-6			1					
6-7			2	KS1 SATS				
7-8			3					
8-9			4					
9-10			5					
10-11		11 Plus	6	KS2 SATS				
11-12	1st		7					
12-13	2nd		8					
13-14	3rd		9	KS3 SATS				
14-15	4th		10					
15-16	5th	CSE	11	GCSE/Applied GCSE Grades D-G	Foundation GNVQ	Level 1 NVQ		Level 1 Foundation Level
15-16	5th	O Levels	11	GCSE/Applied GCSE Grades A*-C	Intermediate GNVQ	Level 2 NVQ	Foundation Modern Apprenticeship	Level 2 Intermediate Level
16-17	Lower 6th	First Year of A Level	12	AS Level	Advanced GNVQ	Level 3 NVQ	Advanced Modern Apprenticeship	Level 3 Advanced Level
17-18	Upper 6th	Second Year of A Level	13	AS + A2 = A Level/ Vocational A Level				
18 & upwards	18 & upwards	Degree	Higher Education	Pass Degree	HND/HNC Foundation Degree	Level 4 NVQ		Level 4
		Honours Degree Masters/PhD			Level 5 NVQ		Level 5	

Glossary of Terms

SATs: Standard Assessment Tests - allows pupils & parents to know how a learner is performing against national benchmarks.

KS: Key Stage

AS: Advanced supplementary (a full qualification equal to about 50% of 'A' level).

A2: the second part of the AS, converting it into the full 'A' level.

NVQ: National Vocational Qualification - a standard based on assessed occupational competence.

Applied GCSE: a qualification equal to 2 traditional GCSEs giving occupational knowledge and understanding but not occupational competence.

Vocational A level: a qualification equal to 2 traditional 'A' levels giving occupational knowledge and understanding but not occupational competence.

Key Stage: One Two Three Four