

Comparison of School Systems and Years

The age of entry of the children varies a lot, check individual countries below. The "cutoff" date means that all children who have reached a certain age (e.g. 4 years) by that date are admitted, and those who have their birthday later are refused.

| Age | EBSR / BSSR | Vaud – Suisse | France | UK | USA |
|-----|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| 2 | | | Très Petite Section | | |
| 3 | Pre-K | Garderie | Petite Section | Nursery | |
| 4 | 1 ^{re} Enfantine | 1P | Moyenne Section | Reception | Pre-K |
| 5 | 2 ^e Enfantine | 2P | Grande Section | Year 1 | Kindergarten |
| 6 | 1P | 3P | CP | Year 2 | 1 st grade |
| 7 | 2P | 4P | CE1 | Year 3 | 2 nd grade |
| 8 | 3P | 5P | CE2 | Year 4 | 3 rd grade |
| 9 | 4P | 6P | CM1 | Year 5 | 4 th grade |
| 10 | 5S | 7P | CM2 | Year 6 | 5 th grade |
| 11 | 6S | 8P | 6 ^e | Year 7 | 6 th grade |
| 12 | 7S | 9S | 5 ^e | Year 8 | 7 th grade |
| 13 | 8S | 10S | 4 ^e | Year 9 | 8 th grade |
| 14 | 9S | 11S | 3 ^e | Year 10 | 9 th grade |
| 15 | 1 ^{re} | 1 ^{re} | 2 ^{de} | Year 11 | 10 th grade |
| 16 | 2 ^e | 2 ^e | 1 ^{re} | Year 12 | 11 th grade |
| 17 | 3 ^e | 3 ^e | Terminale | Year 13 | 12 th grade |

- **Suisse – Vaud**

L'école est obligatoire dès 4 ans au 31 juillet. Les anciennes terminologies sont entre parenthèses.
 School is compulsory for all children turning 4 the 31st of July. Older terminology is indicated in brackets.

| Age au 31 juillet | Cycle | Classe | | Contrôle continu, examens |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 0–3 | | Garderie | | |
| 4 | 1 ^{er} cycle primaire | 1P (Maternelle Petite Section) | | |
| 5 | | 2P (Maternelle Grande Section) | | |
| 6 | | 3P (1 ^{re} Primaire) | | |
| 7 | | 4P (2 ^e Primaire) | | ECR |
| 8 | 2 ^e cycle primaire | 5P (3 ^e Primaire) | | |
| 9 | | 6P (4 ^e Primaire) | | ECR |
| 10 | | 7P (5 ^e Collège) | | |
| 11 | | 8P (6 ^e Collège) | | Sélection : notes et ECR |
| 12 | 3 ^e cycle | 9S VG (7 VSG) | 9S VP (7 VSB) | |
| 13 | | 10S VG (8 VSG) | 10S VP (8 VSB) | |
| 14 | | 11S VG (9 VSG) | 11S VP (9 VSB) | Certificat de fin d'études |
| 15 | Gymnase | Ecole professionnelle et apprentissage | 1 ^{re} | |
| 16 | | | 2 ^e | |
| 17 | | | 3 ^e | Maturité cantonale = fédérale |

VG = voie générale, VP = voie pré-gymnasiale

- **France**

L'école est obligatoire dès 6 ans au 31 décembre (l'année des 6 ans).

| Age au 31 décembre | Cycle | Classe | Examens |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 2 | Ecole Maternelle | Très Petite Section | |
| 3 | | Petite Section | |
| 4 | | Moyenne Section | |
| 5 | | Grande Section | |
| 6 | Ecole Primaire | CP | |
| 7 | | CE1 | |
| 8 | | CE2 | |
| 9 | | CM1 | |
| 10 | Collège | CM2 | |
| 11 | | 6 ^e | |
| 12 | | 5 ^e | |
| 13 | | 4 ^e | |
| 14 | Lycée | 3 ^e | Brevet |
| 15 | | 2 ^{de} | |
| 16 | | 1 ^{re} | |
| 17 | | Terminale | Baccalauréat |

- **United Kingdom**

School is compulsory at age 5.

| Age turned by August 30 th | Key Stage (KS) | School Year (Y) | Form | Final exams |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 3 | – | Nursery | Nursery, Infant | |
| 4 | – | Reception | Reception Class | |
| 5 | KS1 | Year 1 | 1 st Infant Form | |
| 6 | KS1 | Year 2 | 2 nd Infant Form | KS1 SATs |
| 7 | KS2 | Year 3 | 1 st Junior Form | |
| 8 | KS2 | Year 4 | 2 nd Junior Form | |
| 9 | KS2 | Year 5 | 3 rd Junior Form | |
| 10 | KS2 | Year 6 | 4 th Junior Form | KS2 SATs |
| 11 | KS3 | Year 7 | 1 st Secondary Form | |
| 12 | KS3 | Year 8 | 2 nd Secondary Form | |
| 13 | KS3 | Year 9 | 3 rd Secondary Form | |
| 14 | KS4 | Year 10 | 4 th Secondary Form | |
| 15 | KS4 | Year 11 | 5 th Secondary Form | GCSEs |
| 16 | KS4 | Year 12 | 6 th Form (lower) | |
| 17 | KS5 | Year 13 | 6 th Form (upper) | A-levels |

- **USA**

Cutoff date varies between July 1st (Indiana) and December 2nd (California). Every State and sometimes every school chooses freely. September 1st is only an average. School is generally compulsory only after age 6, but some states have compulsory schooling earlier.

| Age turned by September 1 st | Form | Class | Exams |
|---|---|------------------------|--|
| 4 | (Daycare) | Pre-K | |
| 5 | Kindergarten | Kindergarten | |
| 6 | Elementary | 1 st grade | |
| 7 | Elementary | 2 nd grade | |
| 8 | Elementary | 3 rd grade | |
| 9 | Elementary | 4 th grade | |
| 10 | Elementary | 5 th grade | |
| 11 | Elementary or Junior High/Middle school | 6 th grade | |
| 12 | Junior High /Middle school | 7 th grade | |
| 13 | Junior High /Middle school | 8 th grade | |
| 14 | Junior ou Senior High School | 9 th grade | |
| 15 | Senior High School | 10 th grade | |
| 16 | Senior High School | 11 th grade | |
| 17 | Senior High School | 12 th grade | High School Diploma SATs (optional) |