This doc is only valid in England & Wales, Scotland have their own system (national coherence yay!)

**School Types:**

Comprehensive = as a school = state-maintained school, as entry policy = non-selective, typically run by local authorities

Independent School = Private (fee-paying) School, educates about 7% of students

Public School = the oldest, grandest and most prestigious private schools, e.g. Eton, Winchester, Harrow, Charterhouse

State school = free, open for everybody, educates the vast majority of students

Grammar School = selective but free state schools, similar to good lycees in France, now they only exist in certain counties of England (because of national coherence!)

Free School = a type of private school

Academy = state schools that are run directly by the DfE, instead of the local authorities

**Institutions:**

DfE: Department for Education

GCSEs: General Certificate of Secondary Education = exams taken at 16

AS-level: Advanced Supplementary levels - exams taken at 17

A-levels: Advanced levels - exams taken at 18

Ofqual: Office for joining Qualifications - oversees all public examinations in the UK

Exam Boards: in the UK different companies offer different exams in subjects e.g schools can choose to take the Mathematics exam of Exam Board A (e.g AQA) or Exam Board B (Edexcel), exam boards award grades, and Ofqual steps in to coordinate to ensure equivalence between the exams of different exam boards

Facilitating Subjects = well-regarded, commonly taken, academic subjects i.e English Literature, Mathematics, History, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geography, Modern and Classical Languages - basically subjects offered in academically better performing schools

Grades: up until now, they were A\*-U, with A\* being the best and U being the worst

The gov’t has now changed GCSE grades from 9 to 1, with 9 being the best and 1 being the worst