



SECONDARY EDUCATION

UKIP will push for a range of different types of school, including grammar, vocational, technical and specialist secondary schools within a geographical area. This will make our secondary school system more responsive to the differing aptitudes, capabilities and speed of development of our children.

GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

In stark contrast to the other main parties, who have persistently campaigned against them, UKIP supports grammar schools. Demand for places far outstrips supply and UKIP will give existing secondary schools the opportunity to become grammar schools.

Many pupils learn best in a rigorous academic environment and the system can improve social mobility for able children from poorer backgrounds. We want to foster academic education among bright poorer students still further, and ultimately, UKIP wants to see a grammar school in every town.

We recognise that the old 11+ selective system was not perfect, so we will ensure attendance is not based on a one-time fixed test and introduce transfer examinations taken later at ages 12, 13 and 16, to pick up pupils who develop in an academic direction, but at a slightly slower pace.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

As well as allowing existing schools to become grammar schools, we will allow other establishments to become vocational schools or colleges similar to those promoted in Germany and The Netherlands, so pupils develop practical skills.

Further, by linking vocational schools and colleges with industry, we will introduce an option for students to take an apprenticeship qualification instead of four non-core GCSEs. Students can then continue their apprenticeships past the age of 16, working with certified professionals qualified to grade their progress.

With regard to secondary education, we will also:

- Reintroduce the Intermediate tier at GCSE Mathematics, to ensure Foundation and Intermediate tiers are skills-based and that the Higher tier is a rigorous preparation for A Level
- Abolish the AS level exam as a stepping stone to a full 'A' level, while retaining it as a standalone qualification in its own right for those who choose to approach it as such. If young students want to take a full 'A' level, they may as well start the essential in-depth learning immediately and escape the stressful treadmill of continuous examinations from 16 onwards. This move has the additional advantage of releasing an extra six weeks of lessons during the summer term between GCSEs and A levels
- Make First Aid training a statutory part of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) in the national curriculum. We will learn from the French system where pupils can obtain a 'Basic Life-Saving Diploma' at the end of secondary school. This will include instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation for all secondary school pupils
- Fund all secondary schools according to a single formula, taking into account Special Educational Needs, to ensure underfunding such as that for secondary moderns in the 1950s can never be repeated.