



Lifelong
Learning
Programme

... about education system in Lithuania



In 1998 Lithuanian pedagogues publicly announced their desire to develop a distinctive national education system. It meant the revision of all elements of the education system: the aims and **objectives** of teaching, the curriculum, teaching materials and teaching methods, structure and management of the education system, teacher development and teacher training.



The main principles of the reform were national awareness, democratisation, humanity and **innovation**.



The current system of education is **comprised** of primary school (1st to 4th forms), basic school (5th to 10th forms), general education secondary school (1st to 12th forms), 4 years of gymnasium, corresponding to the 9th-12th forms of secondary school, youth schools, adult education institutions, **vocational schools**, colleges and universities.







Primary and basic education in the Republic of Lithuania is **compulsory**. Primary school is attended by children aged between 6 or 7 to 10 or 11. The general aim of primary school is to prepare for development of an educated, independent and active personality.



On completion of primary education, pupils move on to basic school. Basic school normally covers the 10-16 age group. As a rule, compulsory education ends with completion of basic schooling at the age of 16. The language of instruction is Lithuanian.



The school year consists of 195 work days, beginning on 1st September and ending in June. Summer holidays take place in June, July and August and last from nine to twelve weeks. Autumn holidays in November last one week, Christmas and Easter holidays last more than a week. Students are free from school also on national holidays.



The school week includes five days, as is the case in most other European countries. So lessons are from Monday to Friday. One lesson usually lasts for 45 minutes, the breaks are short. They usually last for 10-20 minutes. The classes usually start at eight o'clock in the morning and are over at two or three o'clock in the afternoon.



After the lessons have finished, students can attend **extracurricular** lessons. Remedial and additional lessons can also take place after school. After successful completion of basic school, students can **enroll** in upper secondary school.



Upper secondary education is gradually being specialised. The four main specialisations are the humanities, sciences, technology and art. Each school will offer three different levels of courses: general, extended and higher.



Secondary education hold an important position between compulsory and higher education. Its task is to prepare students for further studies or employment.



The compulsory programme for general education students consists of compulsory and **optional** subjects. Optional subjects are intended to be taught at upper secondary school.



Compulsory subjects:

Languages:

Lithuanian -national language

English- first language

Russian- second language

Maths

Science:

Physics

Chemistry

Biology

Nature

Social Studies:

History

Geography

Art

Music

Technology

Sports (PT)

IT











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A man is never too old to learn.

Thomas Middleton

