



L'école en France - Schools and grade levels

The French school system is quite different from the North American one. Grades are calculated differently, grade levels have different names, and a 1st grade student in France is very different from one in the US! Let's explore the French school system and find out how it differs.

Take a look at these websites to see what the different levels are. Fill out the chart below.

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b7/EducationFr.svg>

<http://about-france.com/primary-secondary-schools.htm>

<https://www.french-property.com/guides/france/public-services/school-education/over-view/>

Name of school	Grades	Ages
Ecole Maternelle		
Ecole Élémentaire		
Collège		
Lycée		

What grade would you be in if you were a French student?

L'école en France - le Bac



After the final year of high school, French students take a very difficult and lengthy test called le Baccalaureat - or Le Bac for short. There are different types of Bac, so students can choose which subjects they will focus on and be tested on in high school. Of course, this affects which studies they will be qualified to pursue after high school as some college "majors" require more preparation than others. Read about le Bac and fill in the chart with the information about the different tests.

<https://www.completefrance.com/living-in-france/education/the-new-french-baccalaureat-changes-in-2021-1-6333002>

<https://www.education.gouv.fr/le-baccalaureat-general-10457>

	général	tehnologique	professionnel
What is this test called?			
What subjects are tested?			
Who should take this test (what careers or college degrees)?			

What is the pass rate for the most recent Baccalaureat exam?

What happens to students who don't pass?

L'école en France - le Bac Pro

The Bac Pro and Bac Technologique were introduced as an alternative for students who don't necessarily want to study at a university, but still wish to pursue some sort of higher education or training.

Visit the site and fill in the chart with the information about these options.

<https://eduscol.education.fr/cid47640/le-baccalaureat-professionnel.html#lien2>

<p>What is one of the subjects you can study?</p> <p>How long does it take to complete this course of study?</p> <p>What sort of training and education is provided in this program (classes, apprenticeship, lab?)</p>	

Recent Reforms

The French system isn't perfect and recently has come under fire from various people who would like to reform it. Most of the reforms have to do with the elementary school level. For many years, French elementary school students have had a break on Wednesdays - no school at all!

Read the article and answer the questions.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-france-reforms-education-idUKKBN1JV0M6>

<https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20190426-jean-michel-blanquer-france-education-teachers-wage-war-modernisation-french> <https://www.expatica.com/fr/education/children-education/french-education-system-101147/>

How is the school schedule being reformed? What is changing?

What are the benefits of the new system, according to educators?

What are the downsides, according to those who oppose them?

What do you think about the reforms?



La Cantine

Kids in France complain about their school lunches the same way kids in the US do! But a French lunch looks quite different from an American lunch.

http://karenlebillon.files.wordpress.com/2013/09/menu_mensuel_octobre_2013_mat.jpg

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/la-cantine-2074#les-tarifs>

<https://www.cde18.fr/tous-les-menus-cantine/>

<http://lyceearago.net/internat/restauration-scolaire/>

http://www4.ac-nancy-metz.fr/lyc-arthur-varoquaux/?page_id=157

<http://www.mindbodygreen.com/0-14845/what-french-kids-eat-for-school-lunch-it-puts-ameri-cans-to-shame.html>

<http://karenlebillon.com/french-school-lunch-menus/>

How much does a school lunch cost? How much is a reduced lunch?

What are the guidelines for a school lunch?

Choose one day on the menu and list what is being served on that day:

What do you think about French school lunches? How do they compare to the lunches served at your school?

