

MEDIA EDUCATION WITHIN FORMAL EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM	Country profile <b>BULGARIA</b>					Resources; other usable datas																																																																																																																																																											
Context – educational system	Overview	<p>School education is <b>compulsory from the age of 6/7 up to the age of 16</b>. Within the structure of Bulgarian education, primary and lower secondary education are integrated into a single structure. Basic (single structure) education in Bulgaria (1st to 8th grade) includes primary (1st to 4th grade) and lower secondary (5th to 8th grade) schooling. Basic education can be acquired at state, municipal or private schools. All schools are coeducational. With the exception of private schools all education is free of charge. Basic education can be acquired at primary schools (1st to 4th grade), lower secondary schools (5th to 8th grade) or secondary general schools (1st to 12th grade). There are schools offering lower secondary vocational education and training, as well as specialised education (for example, in Mathematics) too. All 1st to 7th graders of all schools have free of charge textbooks. On completing their 7th grade after sitting national standardised tests, students can enroll at vocational or specialised in a particular field of studies schools, where they finish their basic education and move on to upper secondary. General education provides acquisition of the general education minimum and, where possible, specialized training, according to the State Education Requirements (SER). <i>Basic education aims to give students basic knowledge and skills, assisting them in their studies, provoking them to be active, to think independently and critically, and to show creativity.</i></p>				<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/urydice/index.php?title=Countries">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/urydice/index.php?title=Countries</a>																																																																																																																																																											
	<b>Primary and lower secondary education</b>	<p><b>Primary and lower secondary education</b> is organised as a single structure system, beginning at the age of 7 (or 6 at the discretion of their parents) and consisting of 8 years of compulsory schooling. Primary School Curriculum</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="566 600 1865 1461"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cultural Educational Fields, Subjects / Grade (hours)</th> <th>1st</th> <th>2nd</th> <th>3rd</th> <th>4th</th> <th>Total 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grade (hours)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>A. Compulsory Education</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>Bulgarian Language and Literature</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bulgarian Language and Literature</td> <td>217 7 per week</td> <td>224 7 per week</td> <td>224 7 per week</td> <td>224 7 per week</td> <td>889</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>Foreign Language</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1<sup>st</sup> Foreign Language</td> <td></td> <td>64 2 per week</td> <td>96 3 per week</td> <td>96 3 per week</td> <td>256</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>Mathematics, Informatics and Information technologies</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mathematics</td> <td>124 4 per week</td> <td>112 3.5 per week</td> <td>112 3.5 per week</td> <td>128 4 per week</td> <td>467</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>Social Sciences and Civic Education</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Native land</td> <td>31 1 per week</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Man and Society</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>48 1.5 per week</td> <td>32 1 per week</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>Natural Sciences and Ecology</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>The World Around</td> <td></td> <td>32 1 per week</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Man and Nature</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>32 1 per week</td> <td>48 1.5 per week</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>Arts</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Music</td> <td>62 2 per week</td> <td>64 2 per week</td> <td>48 1.5 per week</td> <td>48 1.5 per week</td> <td>222</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art</td> <td>62 2 per week</td> <td>48 1.5 per week</td> <td>64 2 per week</td> <td>48 1.5 per week</td> <td>222</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>Home Economics and Technologies</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Home and Technology</td> <td>31</td> <td>32</td> <td>32</td> <td>32</td> <td>127</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>Physical Education and Sports</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical Education and sport</td> <td>62 2 per week</td> <td>64 2 per week</td> <td>80 2.5 per week</td> <td>80 2.5 per week</td> <td>286</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Compulsory Education hours – total</b></td> <td><b>589</b></td> <td><b>640</b></td> <td><b>736</b></td> <td><b>736</b></td> <td><b>2701</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>B. Core Curriculum Optional</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Compulsory + Core Curriculum Optional – total</td> <td>682</td> <td>704</td> <td>800</td> <td>800</td> <td>2986</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>C. Free Elective Education</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Compulsory + Core Curriculum Optional + Free Elective - total</td> <td>124 806</td> <td>128 832</td> <td>128 928</td> <td>128 928</td> <td>508 3494</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Cultural Educational Fields, Subjects / Grade (hours)	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total 1 <sup>st</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> grade (hours)	<b>A. Compulsory Education</b>						<b>Bulgarian Language and Literature</b>						Bulgarian Language and Literature	217 7 per week	224 7 per week	224 7 per week	224 7 per week	889	<b>Foreign Language</b>						1 <sup>st</sup> Foreign Language		64 2 per week	96 3 per week	96 3 per week	256	<b>Mathematics, Informatics and Information technologies</b>						Mathematics	124 4 per week	112 3.5 per week	112 3.5 per week	128 4 per week	467	<b>Social Sciences and Civic Education</b>						Native land	31 1 per week				31	Man and Society			48 1.5 per week	32 1 per week	80	<b>Natural Sciences and Ecology</b>						The World Around		32 1 per week			32	Man and Nature			32 1 per week	48 1.5 per week	80	<b>Arts</b>						Music	62 2 per week	64 2 per week	48 1.5 per week	48 1.5 per week	222	Art	62 2 per week	48 1.5 per week	64 2 per week	48 1.5 per week	222	<b>Home Economics and Technologies</b>						Home and Technology	31	32	32	32	127	<b>Physical Education and Sports</b>						Physical Education and sport	62 2 per week	64 2 per week	80 2.5 per week	80 2.5 per week	286	<b>Compulsory Education hours – total</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>2701</b>	<b>B. Core Curriculum Optional</b>						Compulsory + Core Curriculum Optional – total	682	704	800	800	2986	<b>C. Free Elective Education</b>						Compulsory + Core Curriculum Optional + Free Elective - total	124 806	128 832	128 928	128 928
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### Lower Secondary School Curriculum

Cultural Educational Fields, Subjects / Grades (hours)	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	Total 5 <sup>th</sup> to 8 <sup>th</sup> grade	Total 1 <sup>st</sup> to 8 <sup>th</sup> grade
<b>A. Compulsory Education</b>						
<b>Bulgarian Language and Literature</b>						
Bulgarian Language and Literature	170 5 per week	170 5 per week	170 5 per week	170 5 per week	680	1569
<b>Foreign Languages</b>						
1 <sup>st</sup> Foreign Language	119 3.5 per week	119 3.5 per week	102 3 per week	102 3 per week	442	698
<b>Mathematics, Informatics and Information technologies</b>						
Mathematics	136 4 per week	136 4 per week	136 4 per week	136 4 per week	544	1020
Information Technologies	34 1 per week	34 1 per week	34 1 per week	34 1 per week	136	136
<b>Social Sciences and Civic Education</b>						
History and Civilizations	68 2 per week	68 2 per week	51 1.5 per week	51 1.5 per week	238	238
Geography and Economy	51 1.5 per week	51 1.5 per week	51 1.5 per week	51 1.5 per week	204	204
<b>Natural Sciences and Ecology</b>						
Man and Nature	85 2.5 per week	85 2.5 per week			170	250
Biology and Health Education			68 2 per week	68 2 per week	136	136
Physics and Astronomy			51 1.5 per week	51 1.5 per week	102	102
Chemistry and Environment Protection			51 1.5 per week	51 1.5 per week	102	102
<b>Arts</b>						
Music	51 1.5 per week	68 2 per week	51 1.5 per week	51 1.5 per week	221	443
Art	68 2 per week	51 1.5 per week	51 1.5 per week	51 1.5 per week	221	443
<b>Home Economics and Technologies</b>						
Home Technology and Economy	51 1.5 per week	51 1.5 per week			102	102
Technologies			34 1 per week	34 1 per week	68	68
<b>Physical Education and Sports</b>						
Physical Education and sport	62 2 per week	64 2 per week	80 2.5 per week	80 2.5 per week	286	
<b>Compulsory Education (hours - total)</b>	589	640	736	736	2701	
<b>B. Core Curriculum Optional</b>	93	64	64	64	285	
<b>Compulsory + Core Curriculum Optional – total</b>	682	704	800	800	2986	
<b>C. Free Elective Education</b>	124	128	128	128	508	
<b>Compulsory + Core Curriculum Optional + Free Elective - total</b>	806	832	928	928	3494	

Aware of the **importance of technologies** in modern education, in 2005 MEYS developed National strategy for the implementation of ICT in Bulgarian schools. The National Program for school education and pre-school training and preparation (2006 -2015) put a further emphasis on broadening students' access to technologies and the Internet. Since 2007 National education portal ([www.start.e-edu.bg](http://www.start.e-edu.bg)) has been in operation with free access for all. It supports school education in an up-to-date manner. The portal offers lots of opportunities to all pupils, teachers, principals, parents – with the option for 1,000,000 users to work simultaneously.

### Upper secondary education

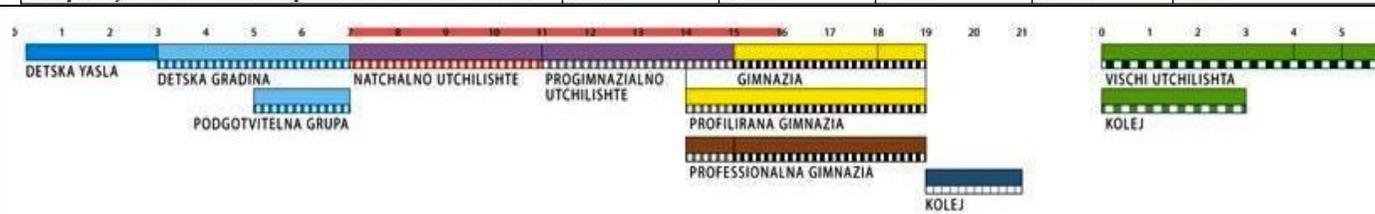
In the Republic of Bulgaria secondary education is **single-staged** (upper secondary/high school education), lasting 4 or 5 years and leading to completion of secondary education. Secondary education is acquired on completing 12th grade. For those students who want to go further with their education it also includes successfully taking state matriculation exams. It is certified with a diploma of completed secondary education, which is final and entitles the holder to continue his education or vocational training. In case students decide not to sit for state matriculation examinations, they are issued a certificate of completed upper secondary education, which, however, does not entitle them to university enrollment.

Education at state and municipality run schools is **free of charge**. Schools are co-educational. Upper secondary education can be **general** (offered at general and specialized study courses schools) and **vocational**. General upper secondary education is acquired at general schools (with a course of study of 4 years) and specialized schools (with a course of study of 4 or 5 years).

Upper Secondary General Education after completion of primary education - Educational Fields, Subjects, Hours

Grades	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	Total 9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
School weeks	36	36	36	31	
Cultural -- Educational Fields Subjects					
<b>A. Compulsory Education</b>					
<b>Bulgarian Language and Literature</b>					
Bulgarian Language and Literature	108 / 3 per week	108 / 3 per week	108 / 3 per week	93 / 3 per week	417
<b>Foreign Languages</b>					
1 <sup>st</sup> Foreign Language	72 / 2 per week	72 / 2 per week	72 / 2 per week	72 / 2 per week	278
2 <sup>nd</sup> Foreign Language	72 / 2 per week	72 / 2 per week			144
<b>Mathematics, Informatics and Information technologies</b>					
Mathematics	108 / 3 per week	108 / 3 per week	72 / 2 per week	72 / 2 per week	350
Informatics	72 / 2 per week				72
Information Technologies	36 / 1 per week	36 / 1 per week			72
<b>Social Sciences and Civic Education</b>					
History and Civilizations	72 / 2 per week	72 / 2 per week	72 / 2 per week		238
Geography and Economy	54 / 1.5 per week	54 / 1.5 per week	36 / 1 per week		144
Psychology and Logic					54
Ethics and Law		54 / 1.5 per week			54
Philosophy			36 / 1 per week		36
World and Personality				62 / 2 per week	62
<b>Natural Sciences and Ecology</b>					
Biology and Health Education	72 / 1 per week	36 / 1 per week			108
Physics and Astronomy	72 / 1 per week	72 / 1 per week	36 / 1 per week		180
Chemistry and Environment Protection	72 / 1 per week	72 / 2 per week			144
<b>Arts</b>					
Music	36 / 1 per week				36
Art	36 / 1 per week				36
<b>Physical Education and Sports</b>					
Physical Education and sport	72 / 2 per week	72 / 2 per week	72 / 2 per week	62 / 2 per week	278
<b>Compulsory Education hours - total</b>	1008 / 28	864 / 24	522 / 14.5	341 / 11	2735
<b>B. Core Curriculum-Optional</b>	144 / 4	288 / 8	630 / 17.5	651 / 21	1713
Compulsory + Core Curriculum-Optional - total	1152 / 32	1152 / 32	1152 / 32	992 / 32	4448
<b>C. Free Elective Education</b>	144 / 4	144 / 4	144 / 4	124 / 4	556
Compulsory + Core Curriculum-Optional + Free Elective - total	1296	1296	1296	1116	5004

Structure of the national education system 2012/13



<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/urydice/index.php?title=Countries>

Media literacy in the curriculum

ML education in top level curriculum

"Media education does not have a sound basis in Bulgaria, even ideas for the improvement of education by introducing new technologies in schools are connected to the knowledge about computers but not about media. In some specialized secondary schools some of the subjects cover problems of communications and telecommunications but they are again presented as technical not as social or political issues. "

(Bissera Zankova, media consultant - Ministry of Transport, IT and Communications)

Basic Features and Goals of the Media Education in Bulgaria by Anna Arnaudova (manuscript)

resources

Steering documents of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science: [www.mon.bg](http://www.mon.bg)

Media literacy in education from a historical view

The continually rising interest in media and especially new media has resulted from The National Strategy of Bringing ICT into Bulgaria's Schools. The strategy had been worked out before the country's joining the European Union /2007/ and drawn its fundamental components from the eLearning Action Plan of the European Commission. When speaking of Information Society development in 2006 Bulgaria had the lowest indices of progress compared

		<p>to the rest of the new member countries. Since then the Ministry of Education and Science has been determining the objectives in the area of e-education.</p> <p>In <b>ISCED 1</b> the media literacy is targeted to achieve the children’s general awareness of media and is focused on traditional ones – magazines, cinema, radio, television. The youngest pupils, however, get acquainted with some children’s computer products.</p> <p>In the higher educational stages it is more subject-focused, oriented towards the competence of understanding, critical evaluation and artistic interpretation. In <b>ISCED 2</b> media literacy is taught integrated in fields such as mother tongue and arts or civic education. Critical understanding in the early years of this stage /age 10 - 14/ is developed mainly through the study of Bulgarian language and literature, Man and society or Arts.</p> <p>Later in <b>ISCED 2</b> and in <b>ISCED 3</b> pupils are taught and expected to develop critical evaluation and artistic interpretation to an even higher level: individual creative work.</p> <p>The area of study in this case is new media.</p> <p>The <b>ISCED 2</b> and <b>ISCED 3</b> media education where it is carried out either as integrated in ICT or Applied Informatics at common (general knowledge) formal schools or as separate subjects when Professional High Schools are concerned.</p> <p>Along the line of professional high schools specialized in Audiovisual arts and techniques and media production, for instance, regular media education continues 4 years /grade 9 to 12 included/.</p> <p>If a pupil of a general education school is keen on studying and gaining competence in the media area, he/she may enter a special professional course which is voluntary and runs parallel to the compulsory curriculum but takes place before or after normal classes. At some schools voluntary forms of participation of the pupils are set up through which they get awareness about specific media issues as journalism, publishing or intercultural dialogue (the so called Clubs of Young Journalists). These clubs function overtime for the teacher/s and pupils involved.</p>	
	<p>Media literacy in the curriculum – recent view</p>	<p>Ivan Zhikov: Media Education in Bulgaria: Slightly above Ground Zero <i>Media education in schools</i></p> <p>(...) Compared to other countries in the EU, Bulgaria is at the bottom of all charts measuring the levels of media education. And considering the fact that the media freedom is strongly dependent on the general quality of education, our country should pay big attention to all the EU-initiatives for raising the levels of media literacy. (...)</p> <p>The term “media education” in Bulgaria is widely understood only as education in the field of journalism, public relations or graphic design, provided mostly in universities and some professional high schools. Almost no one understands it as a means to develop critical thinking in the minds of the youth, to raise media awareness and to teach children how to seek, choose, use and create media products. (...)</p> <p>Of course, our educational system provides fundamental computer education –web browsing, using office packages, programming etc. And still – there are almost no teachers who can make children able to critically understand the nature, techniques and impacts of media messages and products, to make them decode, analyze, synthesize and evaluate media, to teach them how to navigate through the complex and often manipulative media landscape.</p> <p>One of the few attempts to implement media education in school was part of the project OnAir, funded by the European Commission and done by several nonprofit organizations across Europe, the Bulgarian being Zinev Art Technologies. It took place between 2005 and 2008 in Nikola Stoychev High School in Razlog, a town in Southwestern Bulgaria, involving more than 100 classes and providing training courses for both teachers and students. During that time a vast range of media activities was taught in the school – for example writing a newspaper article, analyzing online communication and video games, investigation of stereotypes or risk behaviors, related to the use of media products.</p> <p>Although the authors of the project claimed that it worked and that it was very beneficial, there still has not been even any attempt to start a discussion regarding the inclusion of media education in the school curriculum.</p> <p><a href="http://jikkai.blog.bg/drugi/2012/05/04/media-education-in-bulgaria-slightly-above-ground-zero.949355">http://jikkai.blog.bg/drugi/2012/05/04/media-education-in-bulgaria-slightly-above-ground-zero.949355</a></p>	
<p>Ad Teacher profession</p>	<p>-</p>		

development		
Specialized network for media educators	-	