# **Education System in UK and USA**

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## Introduction

Education is one of the most fundamental pillars in most countries in the world. In UK, Education is compulsory to all children under the age of four to sixteen years. The schools are either provided by the state government and it is free to all students or independent schools where parents pay a certain fee. Education in United Kingdom is one of the education systems that are highly ranked and a big number of students attend prestigious universities upon completion. United States form of education is different from that of United Kingdom as it offers diverse courses in different fields. The education system is not controlled by the government but rather, controlled by both the local and state government. The discussion below focuses on the difference between the United Kingdom form of education and United States of America system of education.

#### Similarities

First, education is compulsory in all countries (Moos, 2013, 12). Thus all children from the age of four to eighteen must attend both elementary, primary and secondary schools. They both believe that the basic education is crucial to students between the mentioned ages as it directs them into choosing their desired careers in future. Another similarity is that both education systems are funded by the government apart from the private schools. The schools offer a range number of subjects to students which assist them in choosing careers in near future. These subjects include Mathematics, English, Arts, and Science among others.

# Differences

There are many differences between the education system in USA and UK. First, the education in United Kingdom is presided over by the local government (Phillips, 2012, 75). The government funds the school and also decides the school curriculum. United Kingdom has national exams to assess their students unlike United States where exams are set and assessed by the schools boards. The assessment in US is done throughout the year through projects, quizzes that all add up to the final examination (Ravitch, 2010, 135). In United States the each state has its own system of education. The schools are governed by local states, a body chosen by parents and the local government. The board makes decisions concerning the running of the programs

Another difference is that the academic year in UK begins in September and end in July. It has three terms which are separated by Easter holidays and Christmas. The students also have short holidays where students stay at home for a few days or a week (Phillips, 2012, 101). In United States the years contains of three semesters of summer winter and fall. There are four stages of education system in the United Kingdom. They range from primary school, secondary school education, higher education and further education. In United States, there are also four stages in the system of education which entails the primary, secondary, undergraduate and graduate level (Ravitch, 2010, 135).

In terms of quality education, United Kingdom is well known for its efforts to offer quality education for a long time now. Centralizing the system of education is one way they ensure that they offer quality education. In this case they are able to enhance the skills and change the curriculum for success. However, In United States, the quality of education has gone down due to a number of factors. First, the poverty rate in the country affects the education process (Ravitch, 2010, 149). Poverty goes hand in hand with education and since most schools are located within the poor locations, most children do not perform and other also drops out of schools.

## **Implications of education**

There are many implications facing the education system on both United Kingdom. Reports indicate that many states in USA. Some states such as Mississippi have a number ranging up to 76% of these children (Ravitch, 2010, 146). The fact of the matter is that children from poor background performs poorly in schools thus, reducing the quality of education. There many dropouts in these States hence a high rate of insecurity. The government has been able to tackle these problems with teamwork from different organizations. The organizations fund children and provide for their daily needs to keep them in schools.

Another implication is about the immigrants who get admitted in these schools. Sources say that they bring down the education system in the country or the bright ones pulled down by the natives (Ravitch, 2010, 147). However, the government in collaboration with other organizations have introduced cultural acceptance in the school curriculum so that these student may embrace each other's culture. The government has also introduced tuition programs for immigrants to enable them catch up with others students. Food stumps among other programs have helped to keep these children in schools.

In UK, the government has set a budget to the education sector to cater for the tuition in the country. Through this, children from poor backgrounds can easily access education without hurdles. Another implication in UK is that they have made a policy to reduce the number of international students applying for education in the country (Moos, 2013, 78). They are arguing that these students reduce the grading and the quality of education, hence it's important to exclude them from the program. The reason for this is that the country wants to offer quality education to its students. It also wants to maintain its position in the world in terms of education prosperity.

#### Conclusion

In conclusion education is a fundamental to change the social-economic status in a country. UK and USA are some of the countries trying their best to ensure that its citizens are literate through many efforts. These countries fund the education system and also offer diverse programs to ensure that these students have a wide range of products to choose from. Changing the education system in UK and offering diverse programs for the destitute in the United States are also efforts made to enhance education in the country.

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