

Comparing Class and Grade Levels across Countries

In Ireland children generally begin school at the age of 5. If you are looking at materials from other countries, it is helpful to know the ages of the children that are being referred to. I have compiled the table below to help with this. If you have any additional information about this or that or about other countries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Child's Age	Rep. of Ireland (Class/Year)	Northern Ireland	England (Year) & Wales	Scotland	U.S.A. (Grade)	Australia (Grade)
4 – 5	Junior Infants	Year 1	Reception	Nursery	Pre-Kindergarten	Preschool
5 – 6	Senior Infants	Year 2	1 (Key Stage 1)	P1	Kindergarten	Kindergarten (Primary)
6 – 7	First Class	Year 3	2 (Key Stage 1)	P2	1	1 (Primary)
7 – 8	Second Class	Year 4	3 (Key Stage 2)	P3	2	2 (Primary)
8 – 9	Third Class	Year 5	4 (Key Stage 2)	P4	3	3 (Primary)
9 – 10	Fourth Class	Year 6	5 (Key Stage 2)	P5	4	4 (Primary)
10 – 11	Fifth Class	Year 7	6 (Key Stage 2)	P6	5	5 (Primary)
11 – 12	Sixth Class	Year 8	7 (Key Stage 3)	P7	6	6 (Primary)
12 – 13	Junior Cycle – First Year	Year 9	8 (Key Stage 3)	S1	7	7 (High School)
13 – 14	Junior Cycle – Second Year	Year 10	9 (Key Stage 3)	S2	8	8 (High School)
14 – 15	Junior Cycle – Third Year	Year 11	10 (Key Stage 4)	S3	9	9 (High School)
15 – 16	Transition Year	Year 12	11 (Key Stage 4)	S4	10	10 (High School)
16 – 17	Fifth Year	Year 13	12 (Key Stage 4)	S5	11	11 (High School)
17 – 18	Sixth Year	Year 14	13 (Key Stage 4)	S6	12	12 (High School)

Source: <http://www.theschoolrun.com/overview-welsh-education-system> and <http://www.workingin-australia.com/education/system/overview#.V8nvJTUbKRU>