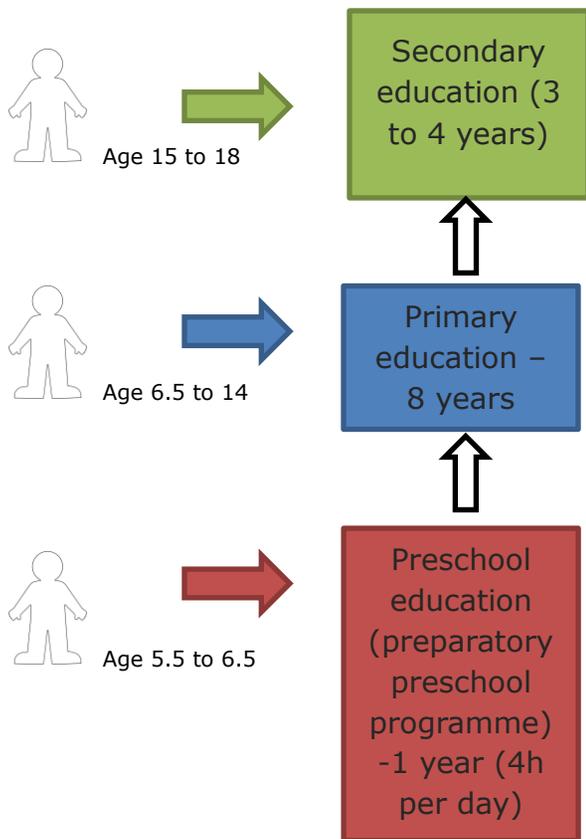


A basic illustration of structure of pre-university education in Serbia



This Brochure is developed within the project
“**Support to education of migrant children/ refugees in the Republic of Serbia**”,
implemented by UNICEF and Centre for Education Policy, with support of Ministry of
Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia

This Brochure is developed within the project
“**Support to education of migrant children/ refugees in the Republic of Serbia**”,
implemented by UNICEF and Centre for Education Policy, with support of Ministry of
Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia

Education in Serbia

A brief description of structure of preschool (preparatory programme), primary and secondary education system in Serbia.

Education system in Serbia consists of 4 levels of education: preschool, primary, secondary and higher education. In this brochure, a brief description of preparatory preschool programme, primary and secondary education is given, as these levels are essential to well-being of children.

In Serbia, every child has a right to education. This means that every child, no matter which country is from, can enter schools in Serbia and have access to formal education, as any Serbian citizen.

Compulsory education consists of one year of preparatory pre-school program and eight years



Copyright: ©UNICEF Serbia/Emil Vaš

Preschool Education

Preschool education is aimed for children between 6 months and 6.5 years of age.

In Serbia, preparatory pre-school programme (PPP) is compulsory for children between the age of 5.5 and 6.5 years. The main goal of preparatory preschool programme is to prepare children for primary education and contribute to development of child – their social-emotional and cognitive and physical development.

PPP lasts one school year, half day (4h). Programme in preschool institutions creates environment that stimulates children participation in activities such as learning languages, mathematics, arts and literature, music and drama, while acquiring communication skills, hygiene habits, improving physical condition etc.

Primary Education

Primary education lasts for 8 years and it is divided into 8 grades. Primary education is obligatory for all children and they spend around 4-7 hours in school per day.

Children enter the primary school (1st grade) when they reach the age of 7. As an exception, a child may be admitted to 1st grade at the age of 6, based on a doctor's, psychologist's or pedagogue's assessment of their level of maturity.

In first 4 years of primary education, children learn to read, write, learn languages (including English), literature, arts, music, mathematics and the basics of world around us. Starting from 5th grade, children begin to learn also about natural and social sciences such as physics, chemistry, biology, geography and history. There are many additional extra-curricular activities in which children can participate as well.

At the end of primary education, pupils pass the final exam which qualifies them for secondary education entrance.

No matter what your plans are, education is never a waste.

Each child that enters schools in Serbia will get a proof of attendance – schools will issue a confirmation document for each child, in the English language.

Secondary Education

Secondary education lasts for 2, 3 or 4 years, depending on the type of school. There are general secondary schools (gymnasiums), vocational schools and art schools. Secondary education is not obligatory, although almost all children in Serbia attend it. Children enter secondary education at the age of 15 and spend 6 hours per day in school.

General secondary school offer four-year programmes which are focused on social and natural sciences.

Secondary vocational schools offer education programmes that last 2, 3 or 4 years, and prepare students for work and/or further education. In vocational schools, children get educated in fields of construction, mechanical engineering, agriculture, forestry, chemistry, medicine, dentistry, economy, catering, trade etc. Art schools last for 4 years and offer programmes in the fields of music, visual arts and ballet.

At the end of secondary education (four-year programmes) students pass the final exam.

Contact Us

For additional information on possibilities to access education, please contact the Commissariat personnel.

