

Education

BBC, [online], [dostęp 8 grudnia 2013], dostępny w internecie:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language/theteacher/2013/09/130911_teacher_bbc70.shtml (future of learning English)

I. Which of the predictions about learning/teaching English were true:

English by: pigeon, by radio, by television, by injection, a green alien, by internet

II. When did the first TV programme teaching English appear?

III. When did the first blog teaching English appear on BBC?

BBC, [online], [dostęp 8 grudnia 2013], dostępny w internecie:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-21336313>

Multimedialny słownik angielskiego online, [online], [dostęp 8 grudnia 2013], dostępny w internecie: www.diki.pl

The national curriculum is being revised for maintained primary and secondary schools in England

Changes to the national curriculum in England are likely to see pupils being taught a robust "core knowledge" of facts and information.

Details of planned changes to the national primary and secondary national curriculums will be announced by the Education Secretary Michael Gove in the House of Commons - alongside a formal announcement of the abandoning of plans to scrap GCSEs in key subjects.

Ahead of the announcement Mr Gove promised to rid the curriculum of "vapid happy talk" and ensure pupils have a structured "stock of knowledge".

The BBC News website has gathered a range of viewpoints on the national curriculum.

BBC School Reporters from Haberdashers' Aske's Crayford Academy in Bexley

Lisa, 12: I think the national curriculum is a good thing because it makes you learn maths, English, science and humanities which you'll need in any job. In my dream school I'd learn DT (design technology) because I am really good and making stuff and want to be a fashion designer. I wouldn't learn maths - I know it is useful but sometimes it is really hard and I don't enjoy it, so I wouldn't study it!

Seray, 12: The national curriculum isn't a good thing. If someone wants a job that doesn't use maths then it isn't relevant to learn maths at school. Drama is important because if you don't like someone it teaches you to act like you do, and if you are a doctor it teaches you how to not show that the news is really bad!

Siobhan Freegard, Net mums

Parents want their child to learn from a curriculum, but they also want him or her to grow as a person. A good curriculum should give pupils a core knowledge of essential subjects, instil a love of learning and teach them how to discover more on a subject, but also shape them into a well-rounded person.

Ideally children should get a good grounding in English teaching literature and creative writing alongside grammar and punctuation, maths which they will use in the real world and a solid

understanding of the sciences. Modern children need to learn IT skills and at least one language along arts and music, plus it's also essential for kids to continue to have PE lessons.

Many parents are also calling for the return of home economics and cookery classes to combat rising child obesity, alongside personal finance and money management skills which will equip children for the fast-moving world we live in now.

There is no doubt that many children today are not learning the basics at school and employers complain they are struggling to find school leavers with even rudimentary maths and English skills, so this needs to be urgently.

Nick Gibb, former Conservative schools minister

The government is publishing a new national curriculum. The English curriculum for primary schools emphasises the importance of the tried and tested phonics method of teaching children to read; the importance of spelling and grammar; and it promotes reading for pleasure, including children's classic literature and important poems, fables and plays.

The primary maths curriculum will ensure pupils become fluent in long multiplication and long division as well as calculation using fractions. Children will be expected to know the multiplication tables by heart, including the 12-times table by the time they are nine.

The new secondary curriculum will be a knowledge-rich curriculum, the type that is commonplace in the independent sector and in the successful emerging economies that Britain will compete with in the globalised marketplace of tomorrow.

Although the new curriculum will not be compulsory in academies, it will set the benchmark for what parents can expect their children to be taught and will drive what will be examined when pupils take their GCSEs or its replacement qualification. The new curriculum is a further step towards meeting the government's objective of closing the attainment gap between those from wealthier and poorer backgrounds.

Dr Simon Gibbons, National Association for the Teaching of English

If a curriculum is important its job should be to outline a 'minimum entitlement'. That is it should set out what all children (and their parents) can expect to have access to during their time in school. It should give a broad and balanced view of the subject.

I understand the current rhetoric suggests that a slimmed-down curriculum will give teachers more freedom, but my concern is that children's experience of English will be impoverished unless certain expectations are made clear in curriculum documents. Also, freedom has to come with proper support in the form of teacher education and professional development. Current changes to teacher education threaten this - and it is difficult to exercise freedom without proper knowledge.

The question of freedom is an interesting one. My view is that a well constructed, broad and balanced curriculum that sets out minimum entitlement but includes plenty of non-statutory guidance gives teachers the freedom to adapt whilst also providing a decent level of support - provided, too, that the curriculum does not stray into the area of pedagogy then teachers have freedom over the 'how'.

I would add a couple of other concerns. Primarily the lesson of the last 25 years is that - in a culture of high stakes testing and accountability - the assessment system has put a stranglehold on curriculum.

I Match words with definitions

1. robust
2. abandon

3. core
4. compulsory
5. benchmark
6. assessment system
7. relevant
8. stranglehold

- a) obowiązkowy
- b) forteca, twierdza
- c) intensywny, zdecydowany
- d) porzucić, zostawić
- e) standard, punkt odniesienia
- f) **istota, sedno**
- g) przeciwny
- h) istotne
- I) system oceniania

II True or False.

1. One child thinks that drama lessons may be more important than maths.
2. A parent thinks that following curriculum is the most important element of learning.
3. A group of parents are concerned with children's eating habits and suggest re-introduction of cookery classes.
4. Some people worry that slimming down the curriculum will lead to worse education level.
5. Teachers will have less freedom concerning the scope of material to do in class.
6. Preparing a good assessment system will be very important in the new curriculum.

III. Writing (120-150 words)

What is your opinion on the Polish middle and secondary school curriculum? What changes would you introduce if you were the Minister of Education?

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