



The South Korean education system, as in many other education systems, consists of five levels: preschool, primary, secondary, higher and continuing education.

PRESCHOOL AND PRIMARY EDUCATION

- Preschool education is for children between the ages of three to six and carried out by kindergartens and nursery schools. The institutes that provide preschool education are usually privately owned, though some get subsidized by the government.
- Primary education is compulsory and its free of charge from the ages of six to twelve.

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Secondary Education

- Secondary education consists of two stages and lasts six years in total. The first stage is three years of middle school, the second stage is three years of high school. The average age of a student starting middle school is 12.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

- ▶ Nowadays, students are still being punished in this way by teachers for any offence in school. However, lately there have been some developments regarding corporal punishment in South Korea. Following declarations by officials from the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education, corporal punishment was banned in several schools, a rule which is expected to spread.



Higher and Continuing education

- Approximately 67% of high school graduates progress to higher education. Higher education in South Korea includes several different kinds of institutes: Junior colleges, four-year colleges, universities, Open University (which allows you to take academic courses via the Internet), cyber colleges and colleges in workplaces.
- Colleges usually offer four year programs at the undergraduate level. Universities provide undergraduate programs, as well as, master and doctorate degree programs.