## QUALITY AS AN IMPORTANT CRITERION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM: ANALYSIS OF PRACTICES IN LEADING COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD (PART 1)

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Russia is creating an education system that plays a key role in the development of people and the country, contributing to economic growth and scientific and technological progress. Despite the availability of high-quality human potential and increased labor productivity, Russia lags behind other countries. The formation of human capital begins at an early age and continues at all levels of education. To create an effective education system, it is necessary to study the best practices of domestic and foreign countries. The article discusses the features of building a learning system in the leading countries in terms of education quality.

**Keywords:** education system, features of educational achievement assessment, regional specifics of the education system, higher education, educational standards.

A sovereign education system is being formed in the country, which should be modeled in such a way as to become the basis for the success of not only a person, but also the whole country, contributing to its economic growth and increasing scientific and technical potential.

The problem is that despite the high quality of human capital and growing labor productivity, Russia continues to lag behind many other countries. For example, in 2020, the level of labor productivity in Russia was only 38% of the level in the United States.

Mendeleev argued that truly educated people are the key to the economic, political and spiritual development of the state: «Education is acquired capital that corresponds to the expenditure of time and labor and the accumulation of human wisdom... A truly educated person will find a place for himself ... when the government or an educated society needs him with his independent judgments...».

Motivation, skills, abilities of individuals are important components of human capital, which becomes the most important resource at the disposal of each individual and society as a whole. It is more valuable than natural resources or the accumulation of material wealth, because unlike the material base, machinery, equipment, machine tools, which are characterized by wear and tear, moral and physical obsolescence, hu-

man capital accumulates knowledge and practical experience of its application over time.

The formation of human capital (knowledge, skills and abilities acquired in the process of education, vocational training and practical work experience) begins at a very early age and continues at all stages of the education system, which plays an important role in this matter, therefore, the sovereign education system being formed, from our point of view, should be an integrated model that works for a single end result.

In order to form an effectively functioning education system, it is necessary to study all the best practices that have been developed in the domestic education system and are in world practice.

Let's look at the experience of countries with high indicators of the quality of education: what factors allow them to occupy a leading position in the world rankings of the level of education. Let's turn to the ranking of countries in the world by level of education, published by the American magazine U.S. News & World Report in 2023.

The main goals of the educational system in the UK are the development of independent and creative thinking in children, the formation of communication skills and preparation for an international career. Education in the country is based on the state standards Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and The National Curriculum.

In the UK, the education system consists of 5

main stages: preschool, primary, secondary, preparation for higher education and higher education. All stages from pre-school to secondary education are compulsory for students under the age of 16. Schools in the country are divided into public and private boarding schools, which follow a common educational standard. Public schools are free and designed for English children and foreigners from 8 to 18 years old with the right to permanent residence in the UK. Private schools offer more prestigious education, mainly for English children, where no more than 15% of international students are allowed.

These schools teach children from 8 to 18 years old and have their own infrastructure, including academic buildings, sports facilities, a swimming pool and residences for living.

In the UK, pre-school education is not compulsory, unlike primary and secondary schools. Children from two to five years old can receive quality education at home or attend private preschool institutions similar to kindergartens. These institutions are divided into language and religious groups, where children study relevant subjects. Residents of the country believe that preschool education is important for successful studies in the future, so the state pays for part of the classes, and the remaining cost is paid by parents. Getting an education in preschool institutions helps children enroll in prestigious schools and achieve academic success.

Vyazemsky (Doctor of Pedagogical Sciences) believes: «The social order of British society is expressed in the expectation of the school to fulfill three of the most common tasks.

The first is the transfer of cultural experience. Schools and other educational institutions should pass on to the new generation those elements of cultural experience that are recognized as valuable by a significant part of society. In UK schools, the content of education is conditionally divided into academic subjects representing «forms of knowledge», which, as it is commonly believed, accumulate the wisdom of previous generations.

The second task is the socialization of youth. Schools should provide young people with useful models (norms) of behavior and the values behind them, as well as an understanding of the tasks, skills and knowledge necessary to fulfill

the social roles that they will play in society. This refers to both professional and personal, family, leisure and other fields of activity.

The third task is to prepare for the profession. The school should provide the younger generation with the knowledge and skills necessary for their subsequent professional activities. This refers to both general skills and skills necessary to master a specific profession».

Primary education in the UK is provided for children from 7 to 13 years old. The program for younger students includes subjects such as mathematics, music, geography, English, basic art, technology and English history. They also study the peculiarities of English traditions. Grades are given in alphabetic format, where «A» means excellent and «U» means unsatisfactory. Some schools use numbers for grades — from «1» (diligence) to «5» (lack of diligence)

Among European countries, the United Kingdom stands out for its use of test technologies in education and the level of development of scientific research in the field of pedagogical measurements. The leading scientific and pedagogical center in the country is the National Foundation for Educational Research. National testing in the UK is carried out through three approaches to assessing educational achievements: criteria-based, normative and individual. The tests are developed taking into account national curriculum, which determine the content of the national curriculum and the levels of student achievement.

Attendance in British schools is taken extremely seriously. At the end of the quarter, along with the grades, parents are given information about the days missed by the child. Moreover, absenteeism without a valid reason and committed in consultation with parents are separately noted.

The UK requires that every child under the age of 16 must attend secondary schools, where basic subjects, physical education, English traditions and language are studied. Many parents prefer to send their children to private boarding schools until the age of 16. Upon completion of secondary school, students take exams for admission to high school. After receiving a diploma or a certificate of completion of education, a child can go to college or start a job. Secondary school education is a good start for further edu-

cation at a university or other educational institutions around the world.

Discussions about the goals of school education in British society have shown different points of view on the key skills that graduates should acquire. There are three main approaches to this issue. According to the first approach, a British school should develop common skills that are valued in society regardless of the graduate's profession, such as problem solving, communication and teamwork. According to the second approach, the school should develop professionally oriented skills related to specific technologies. According to the third approach, basic skills (for example, literacy and numeracy) and social skills important for successful adaptation to the labor market, such as time planning, are prioritized.

The high school is designed for students between the ages of 14 and 16. The main purpose of this stage of education is to prepare for the state exam, which is required to obtain a certificate of general secondary education.

After graduating from high school, students can choose the path of «Free Swimming» or continue their studies with the aim of entering the university. To do this, they can complete the Alevels program, which prepares them for admission to higher education. An alternative is the University Foundation Year (UFY), a training program for international students with a high level of English. UK universities are considered the best in the world due to the high level of education and the quality of teaching of higher education programs. Diplomas and certificates issued by British universities are recognized worldwide. Graduates have great opportunities, but it is important to make the right choice for their future.

Higher education in the UK includes programs that result in students receiving degrees such as a bachelor's, Master's, or PhD.

At the first level — Bachelor Degree — the bachelor's degree program usually lasts 3 years, but can be extended to 4 years in case of practical training. For example, fields like medicine and architecture require 7 years of study. Upon completion of the program, the student receives a bachelor's degree.

To enroll in graduate and postgraduate studies, you must have a bachelor's or master's degree, de-

pending on the level of study. Academic performance also plays an important role: the average score should be 4.5 or higher. Some specialties, such as business and economics, require a GMAT certificate to confirm knowledge in the relevant subjects. In addition, you must have TOEFL iBT or IELTS certificates to confirm your knowledge of the English language. The scores for these certificates may vary depending on the university. In addition to certificates, an important element of the application is a motivation letter, where you need to explain your choice of educational institution and specialty. Letters of recommendation from employers and/or teachers, as well as participation in conferences, forums, volunteer programs and Olympiads can increase the chances of admission.

At the second level – Master Degree – Master's degree programs are diverse and can be both a continuation of the bachelor's degree and research. The programs can last from 1 to 2 years and end with the defense of a thesis project.

At the third level – Ph.D. Degree – doctoral programs are focused on research and require 2-3 years of study, culminating in the defense of a dissertation and obtaining a doctorate degree.

From the above, we can highlight the main features of the UK education system, which allow it to occupy the first place in the ranking:

- 1. Education in the UK covers a wide range of disciplines, including natural sciences and humanities, arts, technology and sports. This helps to develop students' horizons and reveal their talents.
- 2. Students should choose a course of study by high school in order to focus on it in the last two years of study.
- 3. The UK education system focuses on the development of critical thinking, initiative and independence of students, knowledge of the country's history and language.
- 4. Teachers in the UK receive good working conditions, which makes the profession prestigious and attractive for talented applicants.
- 5. Education in the UK is compulsory until the age of 16, but most children continue to study until the age of 18 and enter universities.
- 6. Critical attitude towards skipping classes at all levels of the education system.
  - 7. Understanding the need for socialization

of children and youth in educational institutions.

- 8. The UK tries to provide access to education to everyone, including students
- 9. The educational achievement assessment system in the UK is based on a theoretical and practical approach. The assessment of various levels and the decision to achieve an educational standard are determined by whether the subject has achieved a result that should not be lower

than the average level of knowledge of the majority of students.

This method differs significantly from the approach adopted in the United States, which determines whether a student has reached the minimum level (necessary and sufficient) to make a decision about meeting (achieving) an educational standard.

To be continued.

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# КАЧЕСТВО КАК ВАЖНЫЙ КРИТЕРИЙ ЭФФЕКТИВНОСТИ СИСТЕМЫ ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ: АНАЛИЗ ПРАКТИК ВЕДУЩИХ СТРАН МИРА (ЧАСТЬ 1)

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В России создается система образования, которая играет ключевую роль развитии человека и страны, способствуя экономическому росту и научно-техническому прогрессу. Несмотря на наличие качественного человеческого потенциала и повышение производительности труда, Россия отстает от других стран. Формирование человеческого капитала начинается в раннем возрасте и продолжается на всех уровнях образования. Для создания эффективной системы образования необходимо изучить передовой опыт отечественных и зарубежных стран. В статье обсуждаются особенности построения системы обучения в странах — лидерах по показателям качества образования.

**Ключевые слова:** система образования, особенности оценки образовательных достижений, региональная специфика системы образования, высшее образование, образовательные стандарты.