

Lithuania

Pre-primary education

Age	Up to 6-7 years old
Duration	From 1 to 6-7 years.
Description	Pre-primary education in Lithuania is not compulsory. The pre-school curriculum is implemented by traditional kindergartens, nurseries-kindergartens, kindergartens-schools and other education providers. A new idea of establishing preparatory pre-school education groups has been fostered since 1997. The preparatory pre-school education shall provide one-year education for 5-6 year-old children targeted at helping them to get ready for school.
Timetable	There are no strict rules concerning timetable in these institutions. Usually the day starts at 8-9 a.m. and finishes at 5-6 p.m.
School year and holidays	Kindergartens and nurseries are open whole year, but less children attend them during the summer
Subjects	Art, music, speech therapy, logical thinking, physical education
Exams	No exams
Schools	Public and private

Primary education

Age	From 6-7 to 9-10 years old
Duration	4 years (1 st – 4 th form)
Description	Primary education is compulsory. A non-mark system is applied to assess educational achievements in primary school.
Lithuanian name	Pradinė mokykla
Timetable	5 days per week, the lessons start approximately at 8.30 a.m. and finish approximately at 12 p.m..
School year and holidays	The duration of a regular lesson is 45 minutes. In the first year of primary education, lessons last 35 minutes. Children may additionally attend extra-curriculum activities that are organized at school, after the lessons are finished. Holidays: Summer holidays – from end of June to September 1 Autumn holidays- a week in the beginning of November Christmas holidays – 2 weeks Easter holidays – 1 week Additional holidays – 2 weeks (school may choose the time)
Subjects	The primary education curriculum comprises languages (mother tongue, foreign language), moral (basics of religion and ethics), social and natural sciences (perception of the world), mathematics, arts (visual art, music, theatre, and choreography), technology (crafts), health

	(physical training) education. Early foreign language teaching starts in the second form. At form 4, learning of a foreign language is compulsory for all
Exams	No exams
Schools	Public and private

Lower-Secondary education

Age	From 10-11 to 16-17 years old
Duration	5 years (5 th - 10 th form)
Description	General secondary education is obtained at 3 levels: primary, lower secondary and secondary. The purpose of the lower secondary education is to provide an individual with a foundation for sociocultural and civic development as well as general literacy, the technological literacy and to develop life-long learning strategies.
Lithuanian name	Pagrindinė mokykla
Timetable	The lessons start from 8.30 a.m. and lasts to 1.30-2 p.m.
School year and holidays	The school year starts on September 1 and finishes on June 1, though children attend various extra activities or work on projects till approximately end of June. Holidays: Summer holidays – from end of June to September 1 Autumn holidays- a week in the beginning of November Christmas holidays – 2 weeks Easter holidays – 1 week
Subjects	The curriculum comprises compulsory subjects: moral education, and groups of subjects: languages, science and mathematics, social sciences, arts and craft education, physical training. Every subject group includes optional subjects that students are free to choose.
Exams	Examinations at the end of 10 th form are not compulsory but children are recommended to take tests and to evaluate their level of achievement. The results of the test may influence student acceptance to further educational institution.
Schools	Public and private: Basic Comprehensive, Secondary, Youth schools – for pupils lacking learning motivation and failing to adapt to other types of schools.

Upper secondary education

The two-year secondary education programme leads to the acquisition of a secondary education, preparation for further education or gaining a professional qualification.

Upper secondary education

Age	From 16-17 to 18
Duration	2 years (11 th -12 th forms/ 3 rd -4 th forms in Gymnasium)
Lithuanian name	Vidurinė mokykla/ Gimnazija
Description	The programme is oriented to education, diversification, and curriculum differentiation.
Timetable	The lessons start from 8.30 a.m. and lasts to 2-3 p.m.
School year and holidays	The school year starts on September 1 and finishes on June 1, though children attend various extra activities or work on projects till approximately end of June. Holidays: Summer holidays – from end of June to September 1 Autumn holidays- a week in the beginning of November Christmas holidays – 2 weeks Easter holidays – 1 week
Subjects	The curriculum comprises two structural parts: the main group of general education subjects is obligatory for all pupils and the curriculum chosen by each pupil that depends on a profile of learning. At upper secondary school children may choose of 2 profiles: the humanities and science and mathematics, the other two profiles are implemented at vocational schools.
Exams	The final examinations are of two types: external state examinations (taken at the examination centers and assessed by the special commission) and final school examinations (taken at schools). The results of external state examinations are used for admission to the institutions of higher education.
Schools	Private and public: Secondary, Gymnasium, Lyceum

Vocational training

Age	From 15 – 1 st level of vocational training, from 17- 2 nd , 3 rd level up to 19 years old
Duration	1 st level - 2 years, 2 nd and 3 rd – 3 years
Description	Vocational education is of 3 levels: 1 st level for those having no lower secondary education, 2 nd level for those having lower secondary but no upper secondary education, and 3 rd level for those having upper secondary education. During the course of studies in the 1 st level students acquire lower secondary education and profession, during the 2 nd - upper secondary education and profession.
Lithuanian name	Profesinė mokykla

Timetable	The lessons start from 8.30 a.m. and lasts to 2-3 p.m.
School year and holidays	The school year starts on September 1 and finishes in June. Holidays: Summer holidays – from end of June to September 1 Autumn holidays- a week in the beginning of November Christmas holidays – 2 weeks Easter holidays – 1 week
Subjects	13 wide areas: art, production, engineering, computers, architecture and building, services, security services, social services, health, transport, business and administration, agriculture, information Those who do not have secondary education additionally study according the secondary school programme.
Exams	The final secondary school examinations and profession examinations are taken
Schools	Public and private