## Overview

### Population
Estimated population of Hungary is 9,877,365.

### Climate
Four seasons. Average summer temperature is around 20°C. Average winter temperature is around 0°C.

## Education System – main differences and implications for schools

### School starting age
Though kindergarten may include programmes in subjects such as foreign languages and music, children spend most of their time playing. In their last year children are beginning to get prepared for Primary School.

### School day
- The school day is from 8 am to 1-2 pm in Primary Schools and to 3-4 pm in Secondary Schools. Lessons last for 45 mins with 10-15 mins breaks between them. Schools also offer after school (homework) clubs and other extra curricular activities such as sports, music etc. until 4 pm.
- The number of students in one class varies between 10 and 30, with no teaching assistants. Most schools use blackboards and whiteboards; interactive whiteboards and computers in classrooms are rare.
- Children are encouraged to work independently, rather than do collaborative work.

### Curriculum
- For Primary School children subjects taught are literature, grammar, maths, environmental studies, music, art, and PE. History is taught from age 11; biology, geography and physics from age 12, chemistry from age 13.
- In Primary Schools foreign languages are taught from age 9-11 (usually English, German and French), although some schools and kindergartens offer foreign language education from an earlier age.

## Literacy
- Primary school children learn to write with the aid of 3 line guides.
- Independent writing starts much later, usually from age 9-10. In the first year of independent writing, children are expected to write 8-10 simple sentences.

### Maths
- Multiplication is taught from age 7 and division from age 8.
- Some mathematical signs differ in Hungary. The multiplication sign is a ‘dot’ instead of the ‘x’; the division sign is two dots above each other ‘:’. Decimals are written using commas rather than a full stop.
- Hungarian children can get confused when reading the clock in English, as ‘half past five’ reads ‘half (to) six’ in Hungarian.

### Cultural sensitivities
- In Hungary, children do not wear school uniform.

## Education System (for children from Hungary)

### Age 3-6 Kindergarten
- Grammar School – for generalized studies, to prepare students for University studies
- Secondary Vocational School
- Vocational School – to help low achieving students in Primary School to catch up and join the usual Vocational School curriculum (2 years)

### Age 6-14 Primary School
From 18 years Higher Education
- College – 4 years
- University – 4-6 years

At the end of Grammar and Secondary Vocational Schools, students take their ‘Matura’ (exit exam) in Hungarian literature and grammar, Mathematics, History, one foreign language and one subject of the student's choice, (this can be anything that they have studies previously for at least 2 years).

The academic year runs from September to mid June, with half-year examinations in January and at the end of the academic year in late May.

**SEN:** Students with mild impairments are integrated to mainstream education while those with profound disabilities attend special schools.

## Hungarian Speaking Children in Hampshire Schools

**Population**
Estimated population of Hungary is 9,877,365.

**Climate**
Four seasons. Average summer temperature is around 20°C. Average winter temperature is around 0°C.

**Education System (for children from Hungary)**

### Age 3-6 Kindergarten
Age 6-14 Primary School
Age 14-18 Secondary School
- Grammar School – for generalized studies, to prepare students for University studies
- Secondary Vocational School
- Vocational School

**From 18 years Higher Education**
- College – 4 years
- University – 4-6 years

**At the end of Grammar and Secondary Vocational Schools, students take their ‘Matura’ (exit exam) in Hungarian literature and grammar, Mathematics, History, one foreign language and one subject of the student's choice, (this can be anything that they have studies previously for at least 2 years).**

The academic year runs from September to mid June, with half-year examinations in January and at the end of the academic year in late May.

**SEN:** Students with mild impairments are integrated to mainstream education while those with profound disabilities attend special schools.
Parental involvement and attendance in Hungary

- In their first 4 years of primary education, children receive an essay type evaluation. Grading starts from the 5th year with grade scales ranging from 1-5 (1= insufficient, 5= excellent).
- Hungarian children have to repeat a school year if they do not achieve the expected minimum grade (grade 2); however, this not based on the school’s decision alone but subject to parent consultations too.
- Children are tested almost on a weekly basis, with regular feedback to the parents, who are used to feedback through frequent whole class and individual parents’ evenings.
- Children take all their school text and exercise books home every day for homework so parents can see what their children have been learning. In the UK, Hungarian parents often feel ‘left out’ or poorly informed about their child’s progress and what they are learning at school - a home-school diary is very effective to put parents’ minds at rest.

Language differences that may cause problems with Literacy

Spelling
Unlike in the English language, in Hungarian the names of the days and months are not written with capital letters.

Punctuation
Quotation marks are written differently: „Are you OK?” she asked.

Auxiliaries/negatives/questions/tenses
The auxiliary “do” has no equivalent in the Hungarian language. Students therefore find it difficult to incorporate it into their sentences. The same applies to modal verbs.

Word order
The Hungarian word order is less rigid than in English. Hungarian speakers often follow the same syntactical pattern in English that they would use in Hungarian. Similarly, a sentence can begin with the object in Hungarian. Adverbs may separate a verb from its subject (“You speak very well English”).

Gender/Articles
Third personal pronouns have no equivalent in the Hungarian language, with the word “ő” being used for both “he” and “she”, while “az” is the equivalent for “it”.

Useful classroom words

Greetings
- Welcome: Üdvözölnik
- Hello: Szia
- Thank you: Köszönöm szépen
- Please: Kérjem szépen
- Goodbye (formal): Vizsont látsára
- Bye (casual): Szia
- Morning: Reggel
- Afternoon: Délután
- Are you OK?: Jól vagy?

School Routine
- School playground: Iskola udvar
- School office: Iroda
- Hall: nagy terem, hall
- School: iskola
- Assembly: gyűlés
- Toilets: WC
- School field: iskola udvar
- Classroom: osztályterem
- Registration: nyilvántartás
- Computer suite: számítógép terem
- Tutor group: csoportos

foglalkozás
- Break time: szünet
- Outside: kint
- Inside: bent
- Fire drill: tűzjelző
- Packed lunch: csomagolt tízórai
- School dinner: iskolai ebéd (ált.)
- School nurse: iskola nővér
- First aid room: orvosi szoba
- Staff room: tanári szoba
- Lunchtime: ebédszünet
- School uniform: iskolai egyenruha
- Library: könyvtár
- Reading book: olvasó könyv
- Library book: könyvtári könyv
- Copy: másolat, másolni
- Label: címke
- Colour: szín
- Pen: toll
- Pencil: ceruza
- Yes: igen
- No: nem

Useful classroom words

Days of the week
- Monday: hétfő
- Tuesday: kedd
- Wednesday: szerda
- Thursday: csütörtök
- Friday: péntek
- Weekend: hétféve

Numbers
- Zero: nulla
- One: egy
- Two: kettő
- Three: három
- Four: négy
- Five: öt
- Six: hat
- Seven: hétfő
- Eight: nyolc
- Nine: kilenc
- Ten: tíz

How many?: Mennyi?

Instructions/Questions
Work with a partner
Valakivel együtt dolgozni

Use your dictionary: Használj szótárat.

Do you understand?: Érted?

Talk about this at home
Ezt beszéljétek meg otthon

Translate these words at home
Érted?

Write in sentences
Írj mondatokat

Fill in the blanks
Írd be a hiányzó mondatokat

Annotate
Jegyzet

Highlight
Kiemelés

Draft
Piszkozat

Please be quiet
Légyszíves maradj csendben

Come here please
Légyszíves gyere ide

Sit on the carpet
Ülj a szőnyegre

Where does it hurt?
Hol fáj?

Well done!
Ügyes vagy!