

Dream school

Task 1: Dream school

Dream school

Everyone in Britain knows Jamie Oliver, the multimillionaire TV chef. But when he left school at 16 with just 2 GCSE qualifications his teachers didn't imagine that he would become so famous a few years later. Jamie's school experience is unfortunately not unusual. In the UK, 47% of young people leave school at 16 with very few qualifications.

Jamie is now on TV again in the documentary series Jamie's Dream School. The programme tries to create the school that Jamie wanted when he was younger. A class of 20 kids aged 16-18 are taught subjects by a team of experts in their field including hip hop vocalist Tinchy Stryder and around-the-world sailor Ellen MacArthur. The idea is to inspire the young people to become interested in learning, to feel positive about school and to encourage them to stay in education. If you want to go to Dream school you can see clips of this fascinating show on YouTube.

What's your idea of a Dream school? A newspaper asked school students to describe their ideal school. These were some of the things that the children wanted:

A flexible timetable

Time to understand things

Speakers that play music instead of a bell

A teacher-pupil swap day

A very big door so that everyone can go into school together

Tables in the playground

More flexibility to choose subjects

Better whiteboards

A bigger building

More stationery for pupils

Longer ICT lessons

Nice, smiling teachers

Friendly children

A) Read the text again and decide if these statements are true or false.

- 1 Jamie Oliver is famous for cooking.
- 2 Jamie passed a lot of exams at school.
- 3 Jamie's Dream school is a reality TV programme.
- 4 Jamie wants to help young people to learn more at school.
- 5 The teachers at Dream school are education experts.
- 6 School children told a newspaper that they want more discipline but no exams.

B) Underline all the words in the text related to school and education. How many words can you find?**C) Read the 'ideal school' list in paragraph 3. Write a tick (✓) if you agree or a cross (x) if you disagree. Compare your list with a partner.**

Task 2: My dream school

A) Design your ideal school with a partner. Make some notes.

Facilities	
Materials	
School building	
Exams	
Discipline	
Teachers	
Students	
Other	

B) You are going to present your ideal school to the class. Use your notes to prepare a mini presentation.

Useful language:

Our ideal school is/has...

We think that...

We would like more/less...

And that's all.