

Patterns and Trends in Educational Achievement

Trends in Achievement – Implications for Policy

Name and date begun:

Time allocation:

2 lessons

Learning objectives:

The focus of this topic is on recent policy, strategy and techniques used in schools to increase attainment.

- To discuss a variety of issues related to schools, public policy and social control
- To ensure that your knowledge of current practice is up-to date

Key Concepts and vocabulary

See your lesson notes for a list of ideologies and philosophies. These must be learned in addition to the following:

- Value added
- League tables
- Key skills
- Vocationalism
- National Curriculum
- Teachers pay and conditions

Additional reading and references

The Times Educational Supplement – copies are held in the LRC and there is a Website which is full of useful debate and information

Social Trends – the most recent copies are held in the Cardiff Central Library.

Make a note of any additional sources that you have used below

Personal Development ideas

- Collect some comparative data on education trends in other countries. You should use the Internet for information
- Consider the difficulties that there are in collecting and reading official data.

Overview of the debate

- Is education feminised?
- Should British education become more multi-cultural in orientation?
- We have a variety of statistics available. Should we trust those statistics?
- Is it the role of school to change the values of society, particularly with reference to social class values and attitudes?

Revision tips

- Make sure that you are aware of the implications of SATS and the National Curriculum.
- Revise the official statistics debate which is in all the main texts, usually with regard to crime and deviance.
- Be sure that you fully understand the policy views of the current government

What you should have in your folder when this work has been completed correctly:

- A clear explanation of each of the glossary terms
- Acceptable lesson notes.
- Evidence that you have been collecting information from newspapers and magazines with reference to schools and school improvement.
- An essay to the title:

Evaluate the evidence to suggest that education in Britain has become feminised.