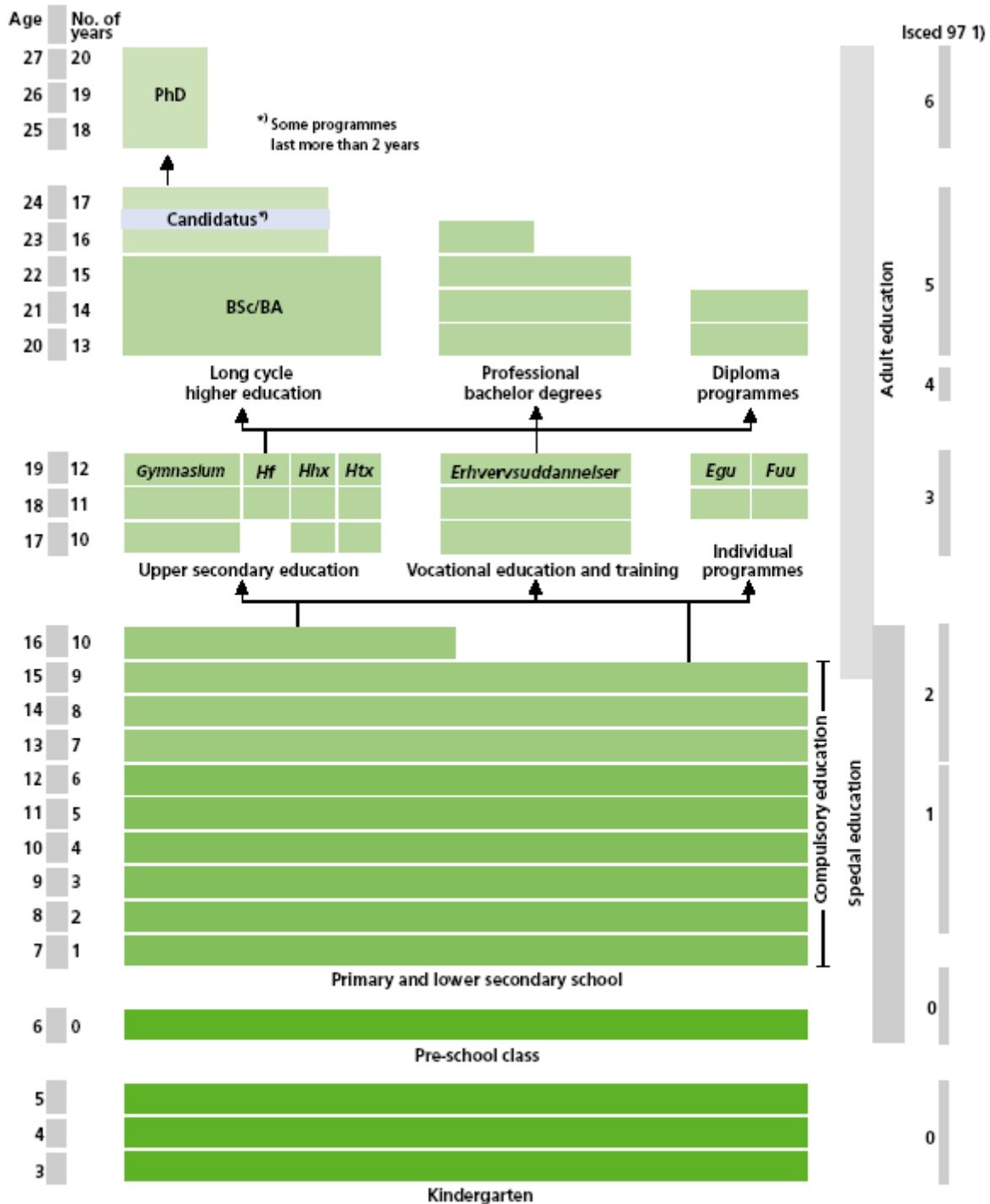


# The educational system in Denmark



1) Isced – International Standard Classification of Education – classification of educational levels developed by Unesco.

## Explanation of the Danish educational system

<p><b>1. Pre-school</b></p>	<p>The so-called nursery school class, from the age of 5, voluntary.</p>
<p><b>2. Primary and lower secondary school</b></p>	<p>Children begin school at the age of six or seven.</p> <p>The primary and lower secondary school (elementary school) is an integrated, comprehensive school. Children are not streamed according to ability or social background.</p> <p>In Denmark, there are 9 years of compulsory teaching rather than 9 years of compulsory schooling. This lack of compulsory schooling makes it possible for children to be taught at the so-called free schools. A good half of all pupils subsequently attend a 1-year 10th class concluding with an extended leaving examination which represents the equivalent of the German intermediate school leaving certificate.</p>
<p><b>3. Upper secondary education</b></p>	<p>Since 2001, pupils have been able to decide for themselves whether they wish to continue their school education at a further education upper secondary school institution. These upper secondary school based courses of education are either general or vocationally related in nature. In the case of the general vocational courses there is a choice between a three-year upper secondary school course, a 2 or 3-year foundation college or a 2-year foundation course.</p> <p>Alternatively, there is the opportunity to attend a three-year vocational upper secondary school (commercial or technical upper secondary school).</p>
<p><b>4 Vocational education and training</b></p>	<p>Vocational education and training courses are of 3 - 4 years' duration. They commence with a school based basic training course, which is followed by dual based main training. Access to basic training is guaranteed. A choice may then be made between 7 occupational fields: technology and communication, buildings and facilities, craft trades and technology, food production, gastronomy, engineering, transport and logistics, services, trade, industry and commerce, office management and banking. An individual training plan and training and careers guidance form a fixed component of basic training.</p> <p>Since 1993, there has been a 2-year specialist basic training courses specifically aimed at individual young people, and since 1995 a 2-year free youth training programme which is put together by the young people themselves from at least three different components of existing or new training forms.</p> <p>Further qualifications may be obtained via numerous educational courses offered by various providers.</p>
<p><b>5. Higher education</b></p>	<p>There are three types of institute of higher education: academies, which offer short (2 to 3 years) courses of study, colleges, which provide courses of study of 3 to 4 years' duration at Bachelor level and universities, at which Bachelor and Masters degrees and doctorates may be obtained. Alongside the upper secondary school leaving certificate, many completed courses of vocational education and training also lead to a higher education entrance qualification.</p>