

Free Schools and Studio Schools

Two of the more recent developments in education policy have seen the introduction of 2 new types of schools;

Free Schools and Studio Schools.

As of Summer 2011, the numbers of these schools were extremely low (less than 50 in total across the UK). It is worth, however, understanding their role and why they exist should they become more influential in the coming years.

Free Schools

Free Schools can be Primary or Secondary Schools of any size in any location (although at the moment they are in hardly any locations). Whilst set up independently, they are non profit making organisations and subject to all the usual standards of schools such as Ofsted inspections.

It is expected that Free Schools could be set up by teachers, parents, charities, community groups and more. The reasons for setting up these schools could be many though it is expected that they should be set up in response to a particular local demand, ie; lack of local school places.

Studio Schools

Studio Schools are state funded and are open for 14 to 19 year-old pupils. They are small schools - typically with around 300 pupils – that deliver mainstream qualifications through practical work and enterprise.

By promoting teachers as ‘advisors’ and placing students in smaller schools with strong links to the family home, it is hoped that Studio Schools will increase student achievement and see a decrease in disruption around school.

Students work with local employers and a personal mentor and follow a specialised curriculum with the aim of giving them employability skills that they may need in work.

Should you have any more questions about these or other schools, call School Mailings on **01257 460036** or email info@schoolmailings.com.