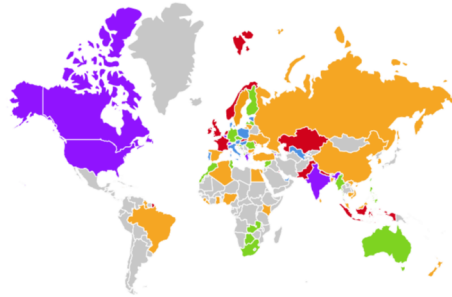


Issue 108

January 2021

COVID-19: January lockdowns lead to new wave of school and university closures



■ Went / going ahead as planned
■ Cancelled
■ Varies, by qualification and / or region
■ Adapted
■ Postponed

The introduction of lockdowns in January has had a dramatic impact on education across the world, with 31 countries having now closed their schools and universities at a national level, representing the highest number since September.

It is possible this number could increase further, as many countries, particularly in South America, are currently on a break but may not re-open afterwards.

Our research team continues to track developments and regularly publishes information updates on our blog. [READ MORE](#)

Individual qualification comparison services enjoy record satisfaction rating



The most recent survey of applicants to our comparability statement services for individuals showed record ratings of customer satisfaction, with 96% of applicants saying they had a positive experience of the service.

This is a considerable achievement in the face of the challenges of our teams' remote working due to COVID-19 restrictions and historically very high numbers of applications for qualification comparison statements. Despite these challenges, operations and service levels are being sustained and enhanced. [READ MORE](#)

Upcoming training webinars on UK education and the new Student visa

Secondary education in Latin America: Argentina, Mexico and Brazil – an interactive webinar



Secondary education in Latin America | www.naric.org.uk | events@naric.org.uk

Upcoming training: new online sessions on the UK education system and the new UK Student visa system that was implemented recently.

These webinars take place on 10 and 24 February, respectively, and can be booked through the [training schedule web page](#).

Members may use their pre-paid places for this online training; contact your account manager for details. Non-members can email events@naric.org.uk to book places. [READ MORE](#)

Need for TNE cooperation discussed at Westminster Higher Education Forum

UK NARIC took part in a recent Westminster Higher Education Forum (WHEF) conference alongside other leading sector bodies and experts to discuss the current challenges and opportunities for transnational education (TNE).

Participants shared views on the current landscape for UK TNE, recent trends, institutional and sector-wide strategies for growth, and possible post-COVID scenarios. [READ MORE](#)

Brexit changes: UK participation in ECVET and ReferNet to end



Following the end of the Brexit transition period on 31 December 2020, the UK will now no longer participate in the European ECVET programme - the European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training - or the ReferNet programme.

AIM IPC qualifications reviewed and benchmarked



We have recently completed our benchmarking of International Pre-school Curriculum (IPC) qualifications offered by AIM Middle East.

The research found the AIM IPC Level 2 Early Childhood Care and AIM IPC Level 3 in Early Childhood Education Theory and Application qualifications to be comparable to RQF Level 2 and 3 respectively, whilst the AIM IPC Level 5 in Leadership and Management for Early Childhood Settings has been benchmarked at RQF Level 5. [READ MORE](#)

Archived information and resources will continue to be available in the meantime via the existing websites, ecvet.naric.org.uk and refernet.naric.org.uk.

Information on UK ReferNet publications from 2020 and earlier can also be found on [READ MORE](#)

New grade comparison resources published

We have published new grade comparison resources for a number of upper secondary qualifications, including information on how exams have been conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic.

There is new information on the Irish Leaving Certificate and the International Baccalaureate, as well as entries on the USA Advanced Placement (AP) Examination and the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE). [READ MORE](#)



Quarterly statistics series: October to December 2020

UK NARIC presents the latest, 23rd edition of our quarterly statistics series, covering October to December 2020. This shows movements in numbers of completed UK NARIC individual enquiries, by country. A noticeable trend has been the increase in the number of [READ MORE](#)



UK NARIC | Suffolk House | 68-70 Suffolk Road | Cheltenham | GL50 2ED | UK
T +44 (0)871 330 7303 | F +44 (0)871 330 7005 | E communications@naric.org.uk | W www.naric.org.uk
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