A black and white photograph of a classroom. In the foreground, several students are seen from behind, with their arms raised. In the background, a chalkboard is filled with mathematical equations and diagrams. The overall scene suggests an active learning environment.

STRUCTURE OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

in the Czech Republic

Compulsory Education

What is the age range for compulsory schooling in the Czech Republic?

From 6 – 15 years of age.



Responsibility for Education

The responsibility for education is distributed amongst:

1. The central government
2. Each region (14)
3. municipalities

Public education funding

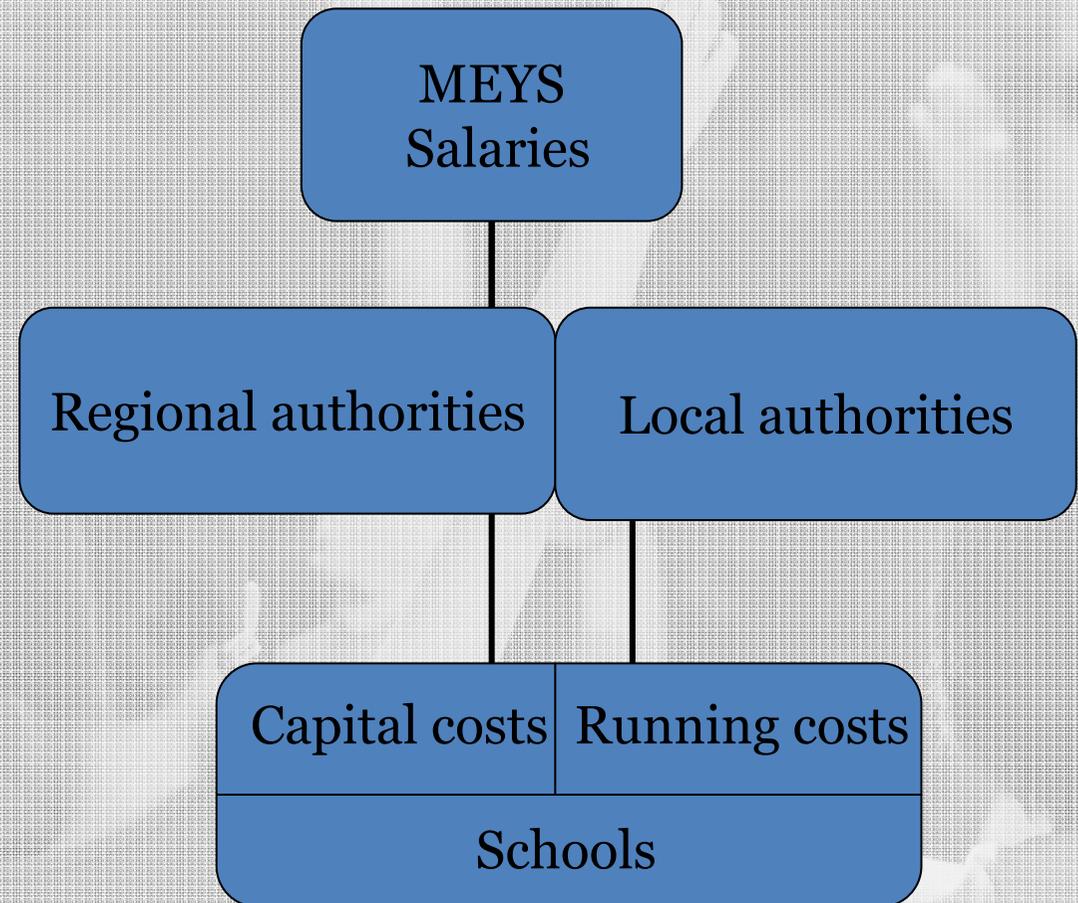
The funding of schools:

Capital costs and running costs:

- funded by the organising bodies (regions and municipalities from regional/local budgets).

Educational costs (salaries and teaching aids):

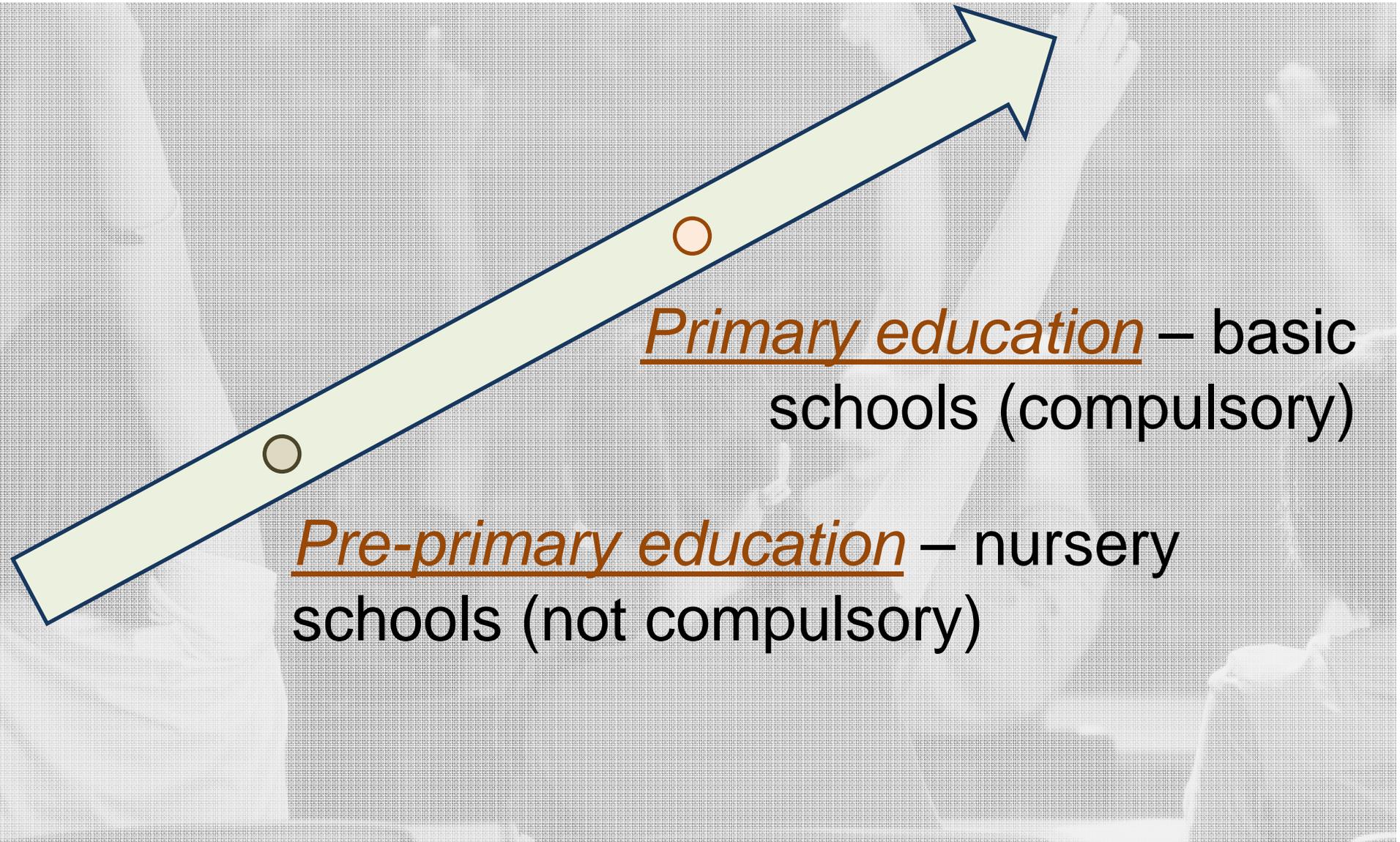
- allocated from the state (central) budget by the MEYS via the regional administration.



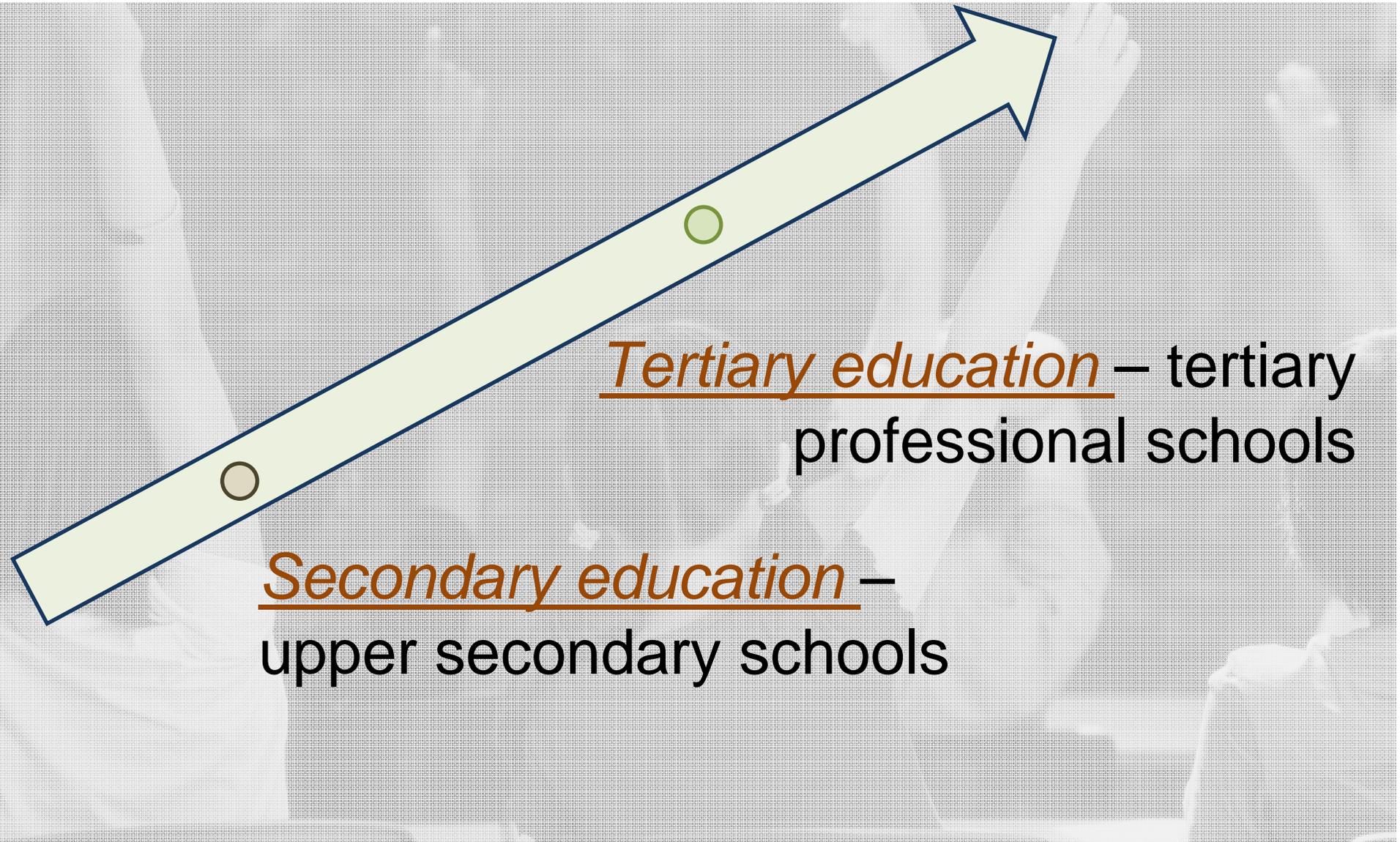
The Ministry of Education, Youths and Sports

- is responsible for the curriculum, state and development of the education system;
- determines the content of education: approves frameworks for educational programmes; accredits educational programmes;
- is responsible for the state financing policy in education.

Responsibility of municipalities for education



Regional responsibility for education

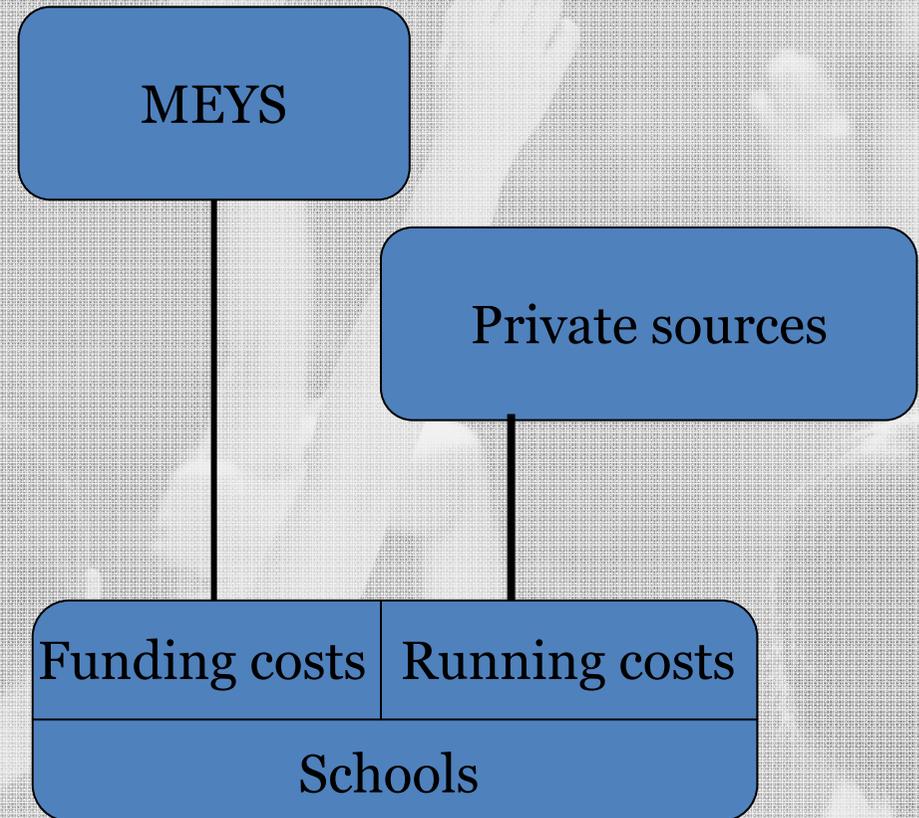


Private (church) education

- Private and denominational (church) schools
- Private schools – established since 1990 (universities – 1999).
- The schools – usual legal form – a for profit or non-profit grant organisation.

Private education

- The funding of private schools – the same per capita principle as public schools.
- Basic subsidies (50-80 % of the amount granted to similar public institutions) can be raised to 80-100 % if the school meets a certain criteria.



Pre-primary education

- *mateřská škola* (nursery school);
- attendance is not compulsory; approximately 85 % of the total age group (3-6 years);
- the year prior to compulsory schooling is free of charge and children have a legal right to attend it;
- parents pay a maximum of 50 % of the running (not educational) costs covered by the municipality.

Compulsory education

- school attendance is compulsory for nine years, usually from the ages of 6 to 15;
- pupils start in a comprehensive single structured institution called *základní škola*;
- during the second stage it is possible to proceed to *gymnázium* – secondary school providing general education – or to eight-year *taneční konzervatoř* – dance conservatoire.

Compulsory education

Education (institution)	Typical age
<i>Základní škola</i> (single structure) – primary education – lower secondary education	first stage: 6-11 second stage: 11-15
Lower stage of multi-year <i>Gymnázium</i> (general lower secondary education)	11/13-15
<i>Taneční konzervatoř</i> – dance conservatoire	11-15

Compulsory education – extra info

- the school year begins on 1st September and ends on 30th June;
- lessons of 45 minutes are spread over five days during the week;
- the timetable is 18-26 lessons at the first stage, 28-32 lessons at the second stage (gradually);
- the number of pupils per class is between a minimum of 17 and maximum of 30 .

Post-compulsory education/upper secondary level

Secondary education	Levels of education	Length (years)	Theoretical age
Secondary education completed with <i>maturitní zkouška</i> examination (<i>střední vzdělání s maturitní zkouškou</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upper secondary general education at <i>gymnázium</i> secondary school • Upper secondary technical education at secondary school • Art education at conservatoire 	4	15-19
Secondary education leading to apprenticeship certificate (<i>střední vzdělání s výučním listem</i>)	Upper secondary vocational education at secondary school	2/3	15-17/18
Secondary education (<i>střední vzdělání</i>)	Upper secondary general and vocational education at secondary school	1-2	15-16/17

Post-compulsory education/post-secondary level

Post-secondary non-tertiary education	Levels of education	Length (years)	Theoretical age
Post-secondary education completed by <i>maturitní zkouška</i> examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • technical follow-up study (<i>nástavbové studium</i>) at secondary school • technical shortened study (<i>zkrácené studium</i>) at secondary school 	<p>2</p> <p>1-2</p>	18+
Post-secondary education leading to apprenticeship certificate	vocational shortened study (<i>zkrácené studium</i>) at secondary school	1-2	18+

Tertiary education

Institution	Length (years)	Theoretical age
<i>Konzervator</i> – art education	2	17-19, 19-21
<i>Vyšší odborná škola</i> (tertiary professional school)	3 (3.5)	19-22
Vysoká škola (higher education institution, university and non-university type) – Bachelor and Master's studies	3-4/5/6/7	19-22/23/24/25/26
<i>Vysoká škola</i> (university type) – Doctoral studies	3-4	

Teacher

Who can become a teacher in the Czech Republic?



Teachers of theoretical subjects must obtain a university qualification at Master's level. Different types of lower vocational qualifications (from non-tertiary education) are sufficient for vocational teachers and teachers of apprentice courses.

School evaluation – Czech School Inspectorate

- institution of state administration concerned with monitoring activities in pre-primary, basic, secondary and tertiary education, both public and non-public;
- provides information on the state of the education system in the Czech Republic and aims to influence it by independent, objective and professional feed-back;
- evaluates educational conditions, processes and results of school and school services.

Thank you for your attention

