



a million
voices for
nature

Biodiversity in Education Policy and Practice

Andy Simpson, RSPB



Headteacher

“The Environmental Area is an invaluable resource for the school, which brings the science curriculum alive.”



Parent

“I wish I'd had a place like this when I was at school “



Pupil

“It's good! We learn about plants and birds and how to make homes for wildlife so they can come in our garden with us! “



English Education System

Parliament



English Education System

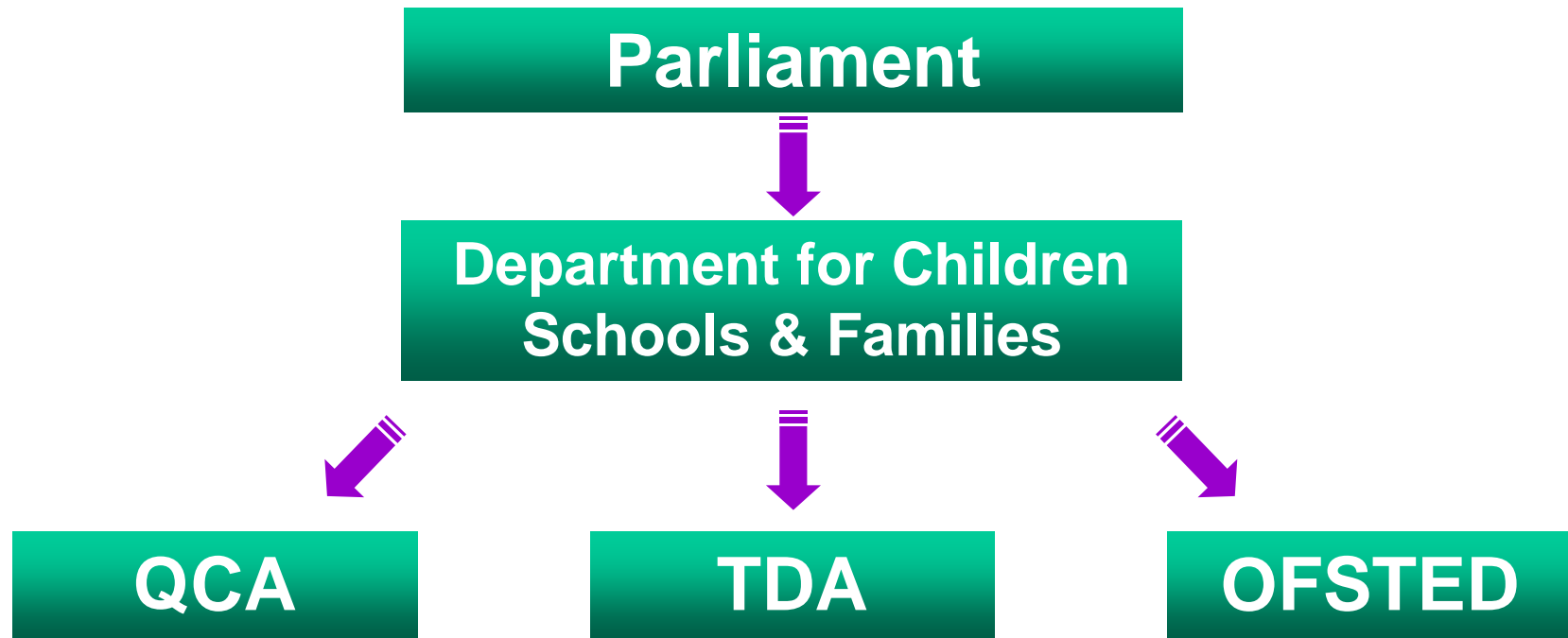
Parliament



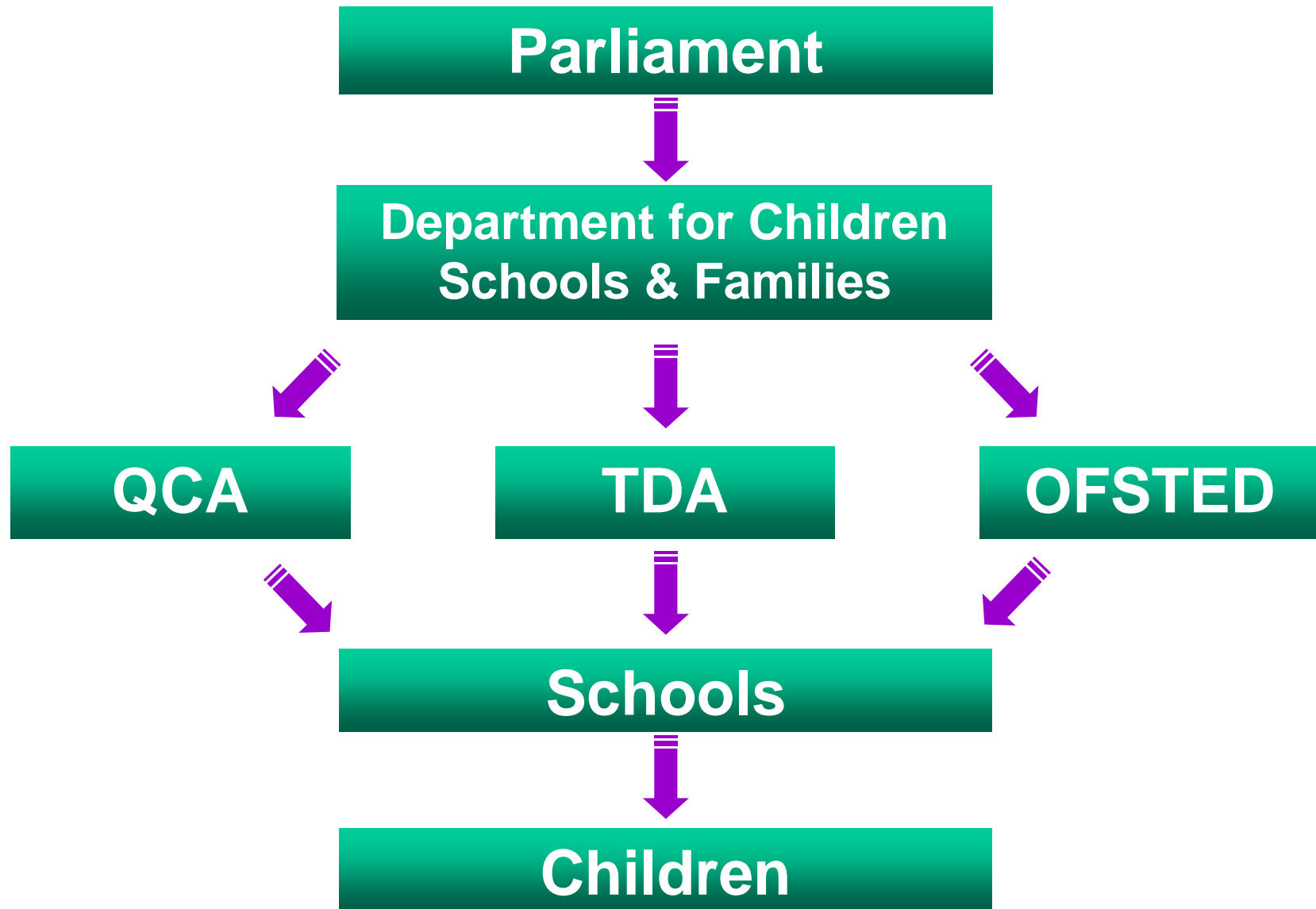
**Department for Children
Schools & Families**



English Education System



English Education System



Stages of Development

- Age 5 to 7 - Key Stage 1**
- Age 7 to 11 - Key Stage 2**
- Age 11 to 14 - Key Stage 3**
- Age 14 to 16 - Key Stage 4**



Biodiversity in the National Curriculum

 **How many times is biodiversity mentioned?**



Biodiversity in the National Curriculum

 How many times is biodiversity mentioned?

0





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Is this a problem?



Yes.....

 **Teachers can ignore biodiversity**



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Yes.....

 **Teachers can ignore biodiversity**

 **Biodiversity has a low status**



Yes.....

 **Teachers can ignore biodiversity**

 **Biodiversity has a low status**

 **Biodiversity gets few resources**



No.....

 **Teachers understand children**

✓ **Curiosity about the natural world**



No.....

Teachers understand children

- ✓ Curiosity about the natural world

National curriculum flexibility

- ✓ Biodiversity can be used as a tool





STAFFORD
BOYS

Government Interest in Environment

 **Sustainable Development**

 **Climate Change**



1. A need arises in society



1. A need arises in society



2. School assigned task of meeting need



1. A need arises in society



2. School assigned task of meeting need



3. Change in education structure to accommodate new function



1. A need arises in society



2. School assigned task of meeting need



3. Change in education structure to accommodate new function



4. New role assumed by schools



1. A need arises in society



2. School assigned task of meeting need



3. Change in education structure to accommodate new function



4. New role assumed by schools



5. Latent and manifest changes in society as consequence of new educational function



Government Backed Initiatives



Sustainable Schools



Healthy Schools



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NGO Initiatives



BBC
breathing
places
schools



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Questions

- 🌍 **How is your education system organised to deliver biodiversity education?**
- 🌍 **How much freedom do teachers in your country have to teach about biodiversity?**
- 🌍 **What is the best way to enthuse children about biodiversity in schools?**
- 🌍 **What are the barriers to biodiversity education in your country?**

