



Sustainable Development Goal 4 Quality Education 2026 Report





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1. Introduction.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



GEDU, headquartered in the UK and comprising 15 education institutions across 16 countries, has a strong focus on **Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education**.

GEDU recognises education as a fundamental driver of employability, economic participation, social mobility, and lifelong learning. It also believes that education supports individuals in developing the skills, knowledge, and capabilities required to participate fully in society and the labour market.

Evidence consistently demonstrates that educational attainment is strongly associated with improved labour-market outcomes and reduced

inequality. Employment rates increase from approximately 61% among 25- to 34-year-olds with below upper secondary education to 79% among those with upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary qualifications, with further gains at tertiary level.

Tertiary-educated adults also experience significantly higher earnings, earning, on average, around 27% more than those whose highest attainment is upper secondary education.

These patterns underline the importance of access to quality education across the full learning pathway, from secondary schooling through to higher education and lifelong learning.



“Education in the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
Nelson Mandela

2. GEDU Group Approach to Quality Education.

GEDU is committed to widening participation in education and supporting lifelong learning across diverse learner groups. GEDU institutions serve learners across the full educational spectrum, from K-12 pupils through to postgraduate and doctoral students, including mature learners, career changers, working professionals, and individuals who may not have previously had access to higher education.

This learner-centred approach is reflected across GEDU’s global portfolio:

- **ICN Business School** is a Triple Crowned institution, ranked in the top 1% of business schools globally. At its campuses in Nancy, Paris and Berlin, it promotes quality education through strong employer engagement, large-scale apprenticeships, and close alignment between academic learning and professional practice across Europe.
- **Queen Elizabeth’s Global Schools** delivers high-quality K–12 education in Dubai Sports City and Gurugram, India, combining rigorous academic standards with strong pastoral care and character development to prepare students for future success.
- **Schiller International University** provides internationally focused education in global business, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and international relations, supporting academic progression, mobility, and cross-border career pathways.
- **Global Banking School (GBS)** provides flexible higher education programmes in business, construction management, healthcare leadership, project management and other job-centric courses for adult learners in the UK.
- **GBS Malta** delivers higher education in business management, information technology, and public health, combining flexible study options with strong employability support within the European context.
- **GBS Dubai** provides UK-quality higher education in business, finance, digital technology, and construction management, aligned with the UAE’s national priorities for skills development and workforce readiness.

- **MLA College** investment supporting new course development and a new campus in Canary Wharf, London to complement MLA’s established online delivery. MLA has expanded beyond maritime education into engineering and sustainability to address critical skills shortages.
- **The Australian Performing Arts Conservatory (APAC)** delivers specialist education in performing arts, screen production, and creative industries, supporting access to professional pathways within cultural and creative sectors.
- **École de Management Appliqué (EMA)** provides applied management education in Paris, combining academic rigour with professional placements and inclusive scholarship programmes that widen access for international and underrepresented learners.
- **English Path** delivers accessible language education and employability-focused training, recognising language proficiency as a critical foundation for academic progression, workforce participation, and long-term social integration.
- **Global Institute of Entrepreneurship (GIE)** nurtures entrepreneurial talent by fostering innovation, and enabling learners to develop the skills required for meaningful, inclusive, and sustainable career pathways.
- **GlobalU** expands access to higher education through affordable online learning pathways, enabling learners worldwide to progress into undergraduate and postgraduate study while supporting continuous professional development and adaptability in a changing labour market.
- **MetaGedu Apprenticeships** supports quality education through work-based learning models that combine paid employment with accredited study, integrating structured workplace experience with educational attainment.
- **LOKMANI**, operating in India, empowers students from low-income families through sustained educational access, breaking cycles of poverty and enabling long-term economic resilience.
- **GEDU Services** delivers end-to-end student onboarding, recruitment, and operational support across the GEDU network.

Strategic Investment and Education Infrastructure.

GEDU continues to invest strategically to expand access to quality education, strengthen institutional capacity, and support inclusive lifelong learning across its global portfolio. In 2025 alone, **GEDU** invested in new campuses, institutional development, and global partnerships. Key investments include:

- **GBS UK expansion to Brindleyplace, Birmingham** – a major new campus in the West Midlands, a region with historically uneven access to higher education. The campus will serve 8,000 students, many from underrepresented backgrounds, supporting local economic development, job creation, and skills growth.
- **GEDU** is partnering with **Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet** to create the first international campuses of a UK state grammar school.

Queen Elizabeth's School, Dubai Sports City and **Queen Elizabeth's School, Gurugram** in India will open in 2026. Both schools will deliver the high standards that have consistently earned **Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet** an 'Outstanding' rating by Ofsted and recognition as State Secondary School of the Year 2026 by the Sunday Times School Guide.

- **ICN Business School, Berlin** – a 2,000 m² campus in Moabit providing 300 students with access to new postgraduate and undergraduate programmes. These programmes are embedded within Berlin's innovation ecosystem and integrate real-world business challenges directly into the curriculum through partnerships with start-ups and established companies.

- **The Global Institute of Entrepreneurship (GIE), Riyadh** – which supports aspiring entrepreneurs aligned with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030.
- **MLA College, including a campus in London Canary Wharf** – investment supporting new course development and a new campus in Canary Wharf, London to complement **MLA**'s established online delivery. **MLA** has expanded beyond maritime education into engineering and sustainability to address critical skills shortages.
- **Digital Infrastructure – GEDU Services'** Global Centre of Excellence in Noida underpins academic operations, digital learning delivery, and institutional capacity across the Group, ensuring consistent and scalable education quality worldwide.

These investments reflect **GEDU**'s conviction that expanding physical and digital infrastructure is inseparable from expanding opportunity.

By meeting learners where they are, whether in major cities such as Berlin, Birmingham, Gurugram, or online, **GEDU** creates the conditions for inclusive access and lifelong learning to thrive.

This commitment extends beyond campuses. In December 2025, **GEDU** signed a landmark agreement with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to establish CIFAL London, one of 32 global UNITAR training centres.

Teaching Quality, Skills Development, and Learner Outcomes.

GEDU emphasises education that develops both academic capability and practical, transferable skills. Programme design integrates subject knowledge with competencies required by employers, including leadership, critical thinking, communication, digital literacy, time management, and project management.

Career development modules support self-evaluation, reflective learning, and progression planning, enabling learners to identify skills gaps and map their career pathways. This student-centred approach aligns with international research emphasising that education systems must equip learners not only with qualifications, but with adaptable skills that support long-term participation in work and society.

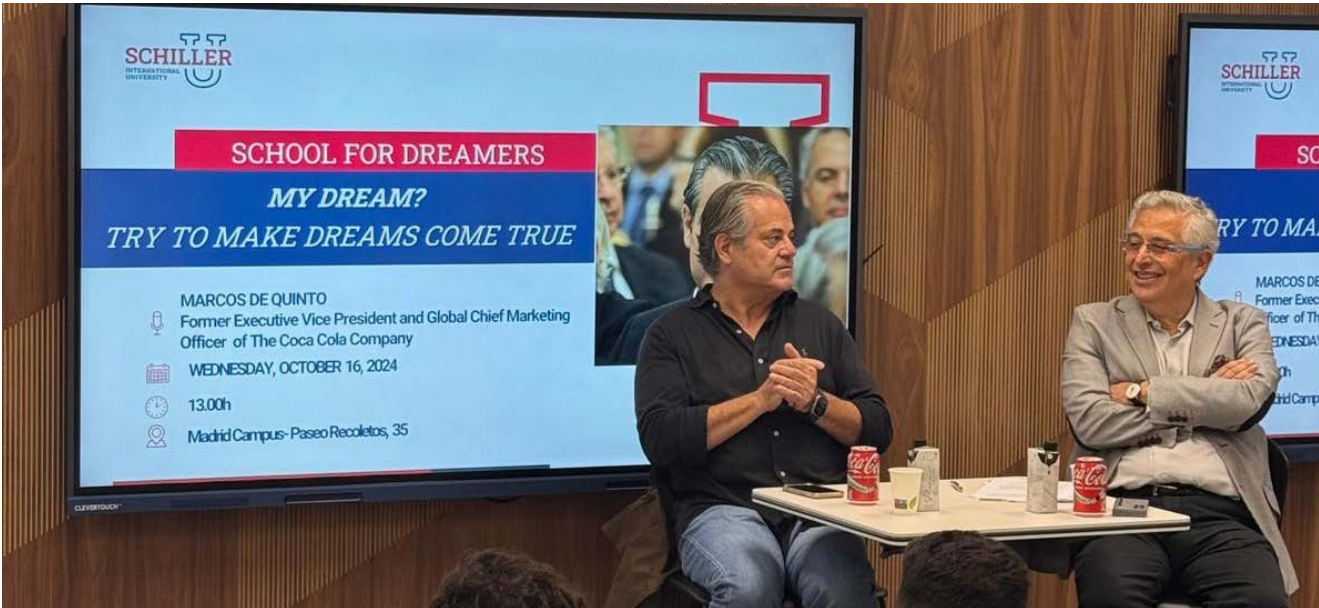
Partnerships and Education Quality.

Partnerships play a central role in maintaining academic quality, relevance, and progression outcomes. Employer engagement, professional body alignment, and validation partnerships inform curriculum design, assessment, and skills development, ensuring that learning outcomes remain relevant to evolving labour market and societal needs.

Institutions such as **ICN Business School** embed work-based learning, and employer collaboration within academic provision, strengthening

transitions between education and employment while maintaining academic rigour.

GEDU also collaborates with external organisations to support place-based impact and educational access. Partnerships with organisations such as the Purpose Coalition enable **GEDU** to use data-driven approaches to target regions with lower educational participation, supporting inclusive access to quality education and progression opportunities.



3. Conclusion.

GEDU's efforts to advance **SDG 4** reflect the diversity of learner needs and global education contexts, spanning academic, vocational, professional, language, and work-based learning across technical sectors, regulated professions, and creative industries.

Through strategic investment, flexible learning models, industry-aligned programmes, apprenticeships, and digital pathways, **GEDU** supports individual learner success and broader social and economic inclusion across the regions in which it operates, demonstrating how quality education translates into improved employability, career mobility, and long-term resilience.

“Education liberates the intellect, unlocks the imagination and is fundamental for self-respect. It is the key to prosperity and opens a world of opportunities, making it possible for each of us to contribute to a progressive, healthy society. Learning benefits every human being and should be available to all.”

UN - SDG4





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