Education and Childhood Studies

Time allowed: 1.5 hours (90 minutes)

Answer 2 questions

1. "Only half of the required number of trainee secondary school teachers in England have been recruited as the academic year gets under way" (Guardian, September 2023). Critically discuss why it is currently difficult to recruit secondary teachers and how this matter could be addressed.

2. 'The education of 'a generation' of children could be damaged by the impact of the pandemic without 'faster and more effective recovery action', MPs warn' (TES, June 2023). To what extent are pupils still impacted by their Covid-19 educational experience, and what should be done to alleviate any remaining problems?

3. Research has suggested that 1 in 6 school pupils may have a mental health problem (Gov.uk, March, 2021). Critically discuss the role of schools in responding to such a situation.

4. Critically consider whether the recent developments in generative AI are a problem or a benefit for education.

5. Modern day pupils will never engage effectively with their education unless their teachers have a digital competence to develop innovative and creative learning opportunities. Discuss to what extent this statement is true.

6. Evaluate the arguments for and against the statement that the best, personalised education method is home schooling.

7. "The poorer a child's family is, the less well they are likely to do in the education system"(Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2007). How should schools respond to the issues of poverty and the consequent outcomes for pupils?

8. Compulsory schooling currently begins at 5 and ends at 16 in the UK. Outline the arguments for changing the current situation.