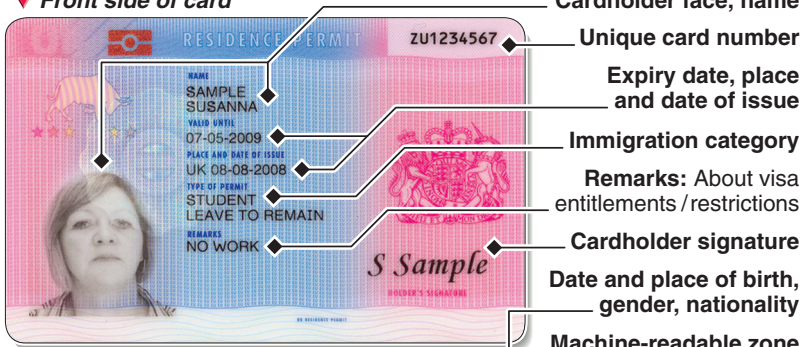# What to expect from Britain's ID card scheme

The UK government's introduction of compulsory identity cards for some foreign nationals is the first step in a controversial nationwide scheme aimed at tackling illegal immigration, terrorism and identity fraud

▼ *Front side of card*

Cardholder face, name

Unique card number

Expiry date, place and date of issue

Immigration category

Remarks: About visa entitlements / restrictions

Cardholder signature

Date and place of birth, gender, nationality

Machine-readable zone
Used by optical scanner

WHO WILL GET THE CARD

► **From Nov 25, 2008:** Non-EEA* foreign nationals who apply to enter/stay in UK as students or on marriage visa
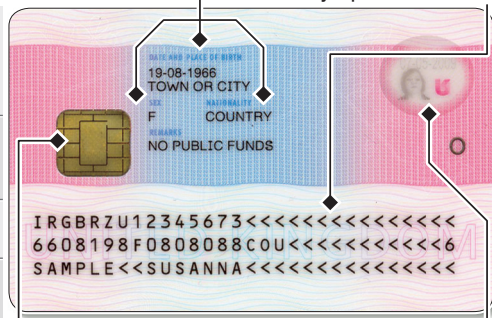
► **Within three years:** All non-EEA foreign nationals applying to enter/stay in UK

► **2009:** Workers in high-risk areas such as airports

► **2010:** Voluntary – firstly for young people to aid proof of identity – then for all ages

► **2011/12:** People applying for new biometric passport will be registered on scheme

▼ *Reverse side*

Biometric chip
Stores cardholder's fingerprints and digital facial image

Anti-fraud measures
Ultra-violet design, plus objects and colours only visible when card is tilted