

START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR IN THE HEILBRONN DISTRICT

CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE FROM 6 – 18 YEARS OLD WHO DON'T HAVE SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE OF GERMAN

ENGLISCH

LEARNING GERMAN AT SCHOOL

In Germany, it is mandatory for children and young people between the ages of 6 and 18 to go to school. No child may be missing from school without a sick note. Children and young people who do not speak any German, or who do not speak it well enough, usually go to a Vorbereitungsklasse (VKL, preparatory grade) to begin with. There, together with other children who have immigrated, they learn German and change to a mainstream grade after two years at the latest. Children who are older than 10 years and not able to use Latin script, generally go to a grade for developing literacy.

CHILDREN FROM 6 – 9 YEARS

Please register your child at the Grundschule (primary school) in your place of residence. You can obtain the name and address of the school at the city hall. The school will advise you on the options of a preparatory grade. If you do not speak German well enough, the school can instruct volunteer interpreters (parent mentors) for the school registration process or advisory session. Please inform the school in enough time if this is the case.

CHILDREN FROM 10 – 14 YEARS

For children from the ages of 10 to 14 who don't have a sufficient knowledge of German, suitable schools, such as a Werkrealschule (secondary school with additional lessons), Realschule (secondary modern school), Gemeinschaftsschule (inter-denominational school), or Gymnasium (grammar school) are selected with a preparatory grade (VKL) near your place of residence. The district administration's education coordination department will invite pupils to take a placement test in maths and English. This test is not graded. It is just to assess the proficiency level of the children in order to select the right school. You will be provided with additional information on the day of the placement test.

➔ If they have good results at school, all children can go on to their desired qualification (e.g. "Abitur" (entrance qualification for higher education)).

If you have not received an invitation to the test 4 weeks after registering at the city hall, please contact us!

Contact partners:

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YOUNG PEOPLE FROM 15 – 18 YEARS

After registering at the residents' registration office, young people who have to attend school from the ages of 15 to 18 are usually contacted by letter by the executive school management of the vocational schools. They are then placed in a suitable educational programme with the possibility of learning German. In general, they start in the "Vorbereitungsjahr Arbeit/Beruf ohne Deutschkenntnisse (VABO)" (Preparatory year for work/career without knowledge of German). If they achieve good grades, the pupils can achieve all school qualifications in other educational pathways following the VABO.

If you have still not received a letter four weeks after registering at the city hall, please contact Ms Hettler, Andreas-Schneider-Schule Heil-bronn, Tel. 07131 928-110, alexandra.hettler@ass-hn.de.

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

General information on studying in Germany: <https://www.study-in-germany.de/de/>