

Child day-care

A parents' guide to crèches, kindergartens, after-school care and day-care centres

When can my child start attending day-care facilities?

Children are legally entitled to attend day-care facilities from one year of age. With its range of high-quality day-care facilities and child-minding services, Dresden ensures this legal entitlement is upheld as needed, and that you are able to choose from a variety of care formats, providers and educational programmes.

What does the City of Dresden do for me and my child?

The City of Dresden's mission is to provide a suitable care service that meets your child's developmental needs. The focus here is on striking a balance between work/training and family, as well as on ensuring the care facility is located close to your home or workplace.

Thanks to its comprehensive network of crèches, child-minding services and kindergartens, Dresden offers a variety of day-care options.

You choose the care service, and decide when you want your child to start attending a day-care facility or child-minding service, based on your family's needs. When choosing, it is helpful to consider your preferred location, opening hours, group size, programme, and the amenities of the facility, as well as any siblings who are already attending, or your child's integration needs.

After-school care facilities offer a day-care service for children attending primary schools and special-needs schools. This care is available before and after school hours, and during school holidays.

Where can I find the latest information?

The latest news – such as open days, parent surveys, construction projects, changes of patrons etc. – is published in the official Dresdner Amtsblatt gazette, which is released every Thursday: www.dresden.de/amtsblatt.

You can also read the latest news published by the City of Dresden at www.dresden.de/pressemitteilungen.

How can I enrol my child for a day-care placement?

The City of Dresden provides a central, Internet-based placement system for enrolments. You can register for a placement as soon as your child is born. Applications should be lodged at least eight months prior to your desired start date. Day-care placements are generally arranged and booked by the day-care facility, childminders, or the Main Counselling & Placement Centre six months prior to the care start date.

The online registration and placement services can be accessed 24/7. Simply use the registration platform (parents' portal) at <https://kita-anmeldung.dresden>.

This enables you to request a placement at any day-care facility or childminder registered in the portal city-wide, or request a move. You can enter up to five preferred facilities or childminders – in your order of preference. Parents without Internet access at home, or who would like personal advice, can submit their application in hardcopy to the Main Counselling & Placement Centre, Breitscheidstrasse 78, Haus/Building E.

How much does a placement at a day-care facility cost?

Day-care is governed by the standard by-laws on parental fees city-wide. The parental fees are determined by the type of care and the duration established in the care contract. The costs for care provided by crèches and child-minders are the same. A reduced parental fee applies to solo parents and for siblings attending care at the same time.

Parents can request a waiver or absorption of the parental fee if they receive social-welfare benefits such as the Arbeitslosengeld II unemployment allowance, a housing allowance, a children's allowance, asylum-seeker benefits, or a social-welfare allowance. If parents are not receiving any of the aforementioned social welfare benefits, the parental fee may also be waived or absorbed if the parents cannot be expected to pay it due to their low income. Further information on this is available online at www.dresden.de/elternbeitraege.

Other, specific, facility-based meal charges are incurred in addition to the parental fees. Parents receiving the Arbeitslosengeld II unemployment allowance, social-assistance payments, a housing allowance, asylum-seeker benefits, a social-welfare allowance or a children's allowance can apply to the Social Welfare Office for a lunch-cost reduction based on the German Education & Participation Package (Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket). Further information on this is available online at www.dresden.de/bildungspaket.

How do I find a day-care placement?

The City of Dresden's website contains a comprehensive overview of all day-care services and providers. The list of day-care facilities and childminding services available at www.dresden.de/kitas enables you to search by various criteria. It offers detailed information on all day-care facilities and many public and private childminding services, and is linked up to the theme map. The Main Counselling & Placement Centre and the Counselling & Placement Centre for Childminding Services are also available to advise on various care options.

Day-care facilities and childminding services additionally run open days, facility tours and parent information evenings for your convenience.

Where can I get advice on day-care facilities?

The City of Dresden's Main Counselling & Placement Centre and the three Counselling & Placement Centres for Childminding Services run by non-governmental youth organisations – Kinderland Sachsen e.V., Malwina e.V. and Outlaw gGmbH – can advise on and arrange placements.

Contacts for questions about ...

■ ...arranging day-care placements

Office for Child Day-Care Services
Main Counselling & Placement Centre
Breitscheidstrasse 78
Telephone (03 51) 4 88 50 51
kindertagesbetreuung@dresden.de

■ ... childminding services

Counselling & Placement Centres for Childminding Services

- Kinderland Sachsen e.V. for Klotzsche, Loschwitz, Blasewitz
Telephone (03 51) 3 12 0990
kindertagespflege@kinderland-sachsen.de
- Malwina e.V. for Old Town, Neustadt, Pieschen, Cotta
Telephone (03 51) 21 52 36 40
kindertagespflege@malwina-dresden.de
- Outlaw gGmbH for Leuben, Plauen, Prohlis
Telephone (03 51) 3 12 06 20
kindertagespflege.dresden@outlaw-ggmbh.de

■ ... parental fees

Office for Child Day-Care Services Fees Office
Breitscheidstrasse 78
Telephone (03 51) 4 88 51 88
kindertagesbetreuung@dresden.de

■ ...day care at city crèches, day-care centres and after-school care facilities

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