

# Compulsory education

## School attendance

The law states that all children and young people who live in the Free State of Saxony must attend school. This means that they must both attend classes regularly and participate in any other activities as required by their school.

## When children must start school

Children who have turned six years old by 30 June of the current calendar year (enrolment year) are required to attend school.

They must be registered to attend a Grundschule (primary school) within their school district or an independent school, ready to begin a year one class in the autumn of that year (regular enrolment).

Children who will be six years old by 30 September of the current calendar year (enrolment year) and have already been registered at a Grundschule in their district by their parents must also begin attending school in the autumn of that year.

Children who will not turn six years old until after 30 September of the current calendar year (enrolment year) may still be able to attend a Grundschule at their parents' request if they can show that they are intellectually and physically able to do so (early enrolment).

## End of compulsory education

Normally children must attend school until they are 18 years old. Apprentices must attend their Berufsschule (vocational school) until they complete their training programme.

## Special educational guidance

Our special educational guidance service helps children and young people who do not speak German as their first language to integrate into daily school life. The Dresden Regional Office of the Landesamt für Schule und Bildung in (State Office for School and Education) provides parents and children with information on their educational options within the Free State of Saxony, and offers personal advice on children's school careers.

Staff in the Dresden Office will also assess whether children will need to attend a special preparation class and find out whether they want to continue developing their native language skills.

As parents, you must register your school-age children with

the Landesamt's special educational guidance service in Dresden before they can begin attending school.

You can register by emailing:

**daz-bildungsberatung-d@lasub.smk.sachsen.de**

or by writing to the Dresden Office of the Landesamt für Schule und Bildung

### Contact:

Landesamt für Schule und Bildung, Standort Dresden,  
Abteilung 2 - Schulen  
Großenhainer Straße 92,  
01127 Dresden  
Telephone: (03 51) 84 39-113

Consultation hours: Monday, 9 am - 11 am and 1 pm - 4 pm;  
please arrange your appointment in advance.

Please bring the following documents with you to your appointment with the education guidance service:

- ID or passport of the parent or carer who is registering the child
- The child's registration certificate from the Bürgerbüro in Dresden (Meldebescheinigung)
- The last school report that the child received in their home country

## Preparation classes

All children of all nationalities who can either not speak German at all or cannot speak it well enough to participate in normal lessons must first attend a preparation class. In this class, they learn German as a second language and are prepared to move on to regular classes.

A support teacher helps the children and young people to integrate into school life.

## Step-by-step integration – Native language classes

Growing up speaking two or more languages is a gift, and we want to support these children in developing their skills. For this reason, the Free State of Saxony provides optional lessons in these children's native languages where resources are available.

Information about these classes can be requested through the schools.

# Medical checks at school

Being healthy is essential for children to learn. For this reason, children are required to have health check-ups with their school doctor.

Doctors from the Health Authority carry out **pre-school check-ups** on all children the year before they start school.

Check-ups start once children are registered for school, and there is a period of a few months during which appointments are available. Appointments are offered during the school registration process. At least one parent or carer must accompany the child to their check-up, which will normally take place at a Children's and Young People's Health Service Clinic.

These check-ups include a general physical examination (like a normal health screening) and play-based exercises to determine the child's level of development. Parents also have the opportunity to ask any questions they may have regarding their child starting school and their child's development.

Additional check-ups will be offered throughout the child's time at school.

If a child is often absent from school or does not attend school for long periods due to illness, the Children's and Young People's Health Service may be asked to advise and assess the child.

As parents, you are welcome to contact the Health Authority if you have any questions regarding health and school attendance.

## Impressum

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