



WAS KOMMT NACH DER GRUNDSCHULE?

**What's next after primary school?
Brief information for parents on
choosing a secondary school**

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Impressum

What's next after primary school? - Brief information for parents on choosing a secondary school
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Preface

Dear Parents,

In Hesse primary school (Grundschule) finishes after 4 school years. Then the children transfer to a secondary school (weiterführende Schule). During the application procedure in Year 4 you will have to make some decisions. That is not always easy. We would like to help you with this brochure. Here you will find the answers to the questions:

Which course of education (Bildungsgang) is right for my child?
 What is the difference between a course of education (Bildungsgang) and type of school?
 What is the application procedure in Year 4?
 Which secondary schools (weiterführende Schulen) are there in Offenbach?
 Where can I get advice?

If you need more information about the "weiterführende Schulen" in Offenbach, the brochure "What's next after primary school?" from the municipal parents' council (Stadtelternbeirat) will help. It is distributed to parents in Year 4 and explains in detail what the different weiterführende Schulen in Offenbach offer and what their specialist areas are.

We hope that you will find this information useful.

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www.offenbach.de/schulen

Brochure
 "What's next after
 primary school?"
 from the municipal
 parents' council
 (Stadtelternbeirat)



4 | Summary: The school system and transferring to secondary school

1. Summary: The school system and transferring to secondary school



In Germany, the federal states (Bundesländer) are responsible for school laws. With 16 federal states, there are big differences. In this chapter you will find a summary of the rules in Hesse – in particular about transferring to secondary school (weiterführende Schule).

- **Compulsory Schooling**

Children in Hesse must go to school for a minimum of nine years.

- **Primary School (Grundschule)**

Between the ages of six and ten years old children attend their local primary school (Grundschule). At the end of Year 4 Grundschule finishes and the children transfer to a weiterführende Schule.

- **Transferring to a weiterführende Schule**

From year 5 children attend a weiterführende Schule. During the application procedure in Year 4, the class teacher will recommend which course of education (Bildungsgang) your child should take. It is the parents however who make the decision. This is regulated in the school law. You can choose between the "Hauptschulbildungsgang", the "Realschulbildungsgang" or the grammar school course of education ("Gymnasialbildungsgang"). Parents also choose a "preferred" type of school: in the state school system of the city of Offenbach you can choose between special school (Förderschule), integrated comprehensive school (integrierte Gesamtschule) or grammar school

(Gymnasium). (There are no longer any Hauptschulen or Realschulen in the state education system in Offenbach). In addition, you can also name your preferred school (first and second choice).

The difference between Bildungsgang and type of school is explained in Chapter 3, Chapter 4 explains the application procedure, and the range of schools in Offenbach is described in Chapter 5.

- **Recommendations on making your decision**

You should not pressure your child with your decision. Children develop differently and sometimes need more time and help with learning. So maybe an integrierte Gesamtschule would be a better choice than a Gymnasium. The decision should be made based on the performance of the child and their motivation to learn rather than according to the parents' personal wishes.

Please keep in mind that if successful participation in the chosen Bildungsgang cannot be expected, children can be moved to a different type of school at the end of Year 5 and Year 6 without the parents' approval ("Querversetzung"), for example from Gymnasium to an integrierte Gesamtschule. Parents should therefore consider their choice carefully!

In Chapter 2 you will find some helpful advice.

- **School-leaving qualifications**

Pupils receive a school-leaving certificate in Year 9 at the earliest. If their level of performance is good, they can then reach the next highest qualification, right up to A levels (Abitur).

Chapter 3 explains the different school-leaving qualifications and an info box shows the various possibilities.

- **Advice and support**

Your Grundschule will assist and advise you in making your decision. The school will also give a recommendation on which Bildungsgang is suitable for your child as mentioned above. *You will find information on getting advice in Chapter 6.*

2. Making responsible decisions

What do schools expect from parents?

Schools expect parents to support their children's school attendance and to actively take part in school life. Parents should:

- send their children to school regularly,
- give them a healthy packed lunch/breakfast to take with them,
- provide the right materials (exercise books, pencils for example),
- ensure that they can learn and do their homework in peace and quiet at home,
- take part in parents' evenings, parent-teacher meetings and school festivities.

Parents can arrange appointments with teachers if they have questions. Parents who require translation can contact their class teacher. The Parents' Council (Elternbeirat) can also help with questions or problems. Parents in each class vote for their representative on the parents' council who acts for them in dealings with teaching staff or the school administration.

What does the transfer to secondary school (weiterführende Schule) mean for your child? How can you support him/her?

Your child's last year in primary school (Grundschule) has started. Your child has almost certainly settled in well in the last few years. They know the children in their class and the teachers. They have made friends. Now in Year 4 your child belongs to the "biggest" in the school. That gives a feeling of strength and security.

From Year 5 a lot of that will change. Your child will attend a new school with new teachers and new pupils. They will then belong to the "smallest" in the



school. Perhaps they will feel insecure at the beginning, but with your help and support they will cope well with the change.

However, the change to secondary school (weiterführende Schule) also has its advantages:

- Your child will get to know new children and teachers.
- You can choose a course of education (Bildungsgang) and type of school that suit your child's abilities, motivation to learn and working behaviour (*the difference between Bildungsgang and type of school is explained in Chapter 3*).

You can choose a weiterführende Schule according to your child's interests. Schools often have specialist areas such as languages, sport or music. There are also differences in daycare support offers and development measures. You can get detailed information straight from the weiterführende Schulen themselves, for example on their websites.

You should include your child in the choice of school. Ask them what would be important for them at a new school or how they would like various facilities or activities.

What is different at secondary school (weiterführende Schule)?

From Year 5 there are major subjects (German, Mathematics and a foreign language) as well as minor subjects. There are new subjects on the timetable (for example Biology and Geography). There are therefore more specialist teachers who are responsible for the class.

What should you consider when making your choice?

The decisive factors when making your choice should be your child's learning development, current performance level, motivation to learn and working behaviour.

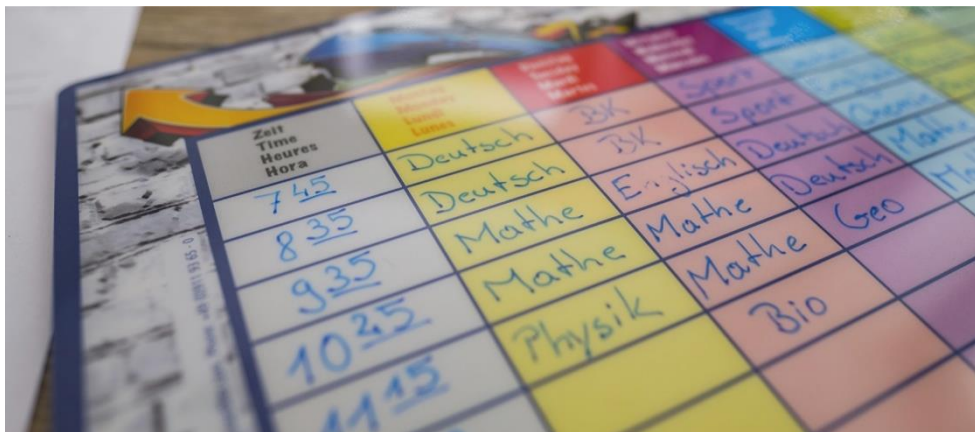
Here are some questions to help you:

- Does your child like going to school?
- Do they take an interest in the lessons?
- Do they participate regularly in class?
- Does your child like to read regularly?
- Can they write stories well?
- Can they concentrate on their homework?

The answers can give you an indication of the suitable course of education (Bildungsgang) (if all the questions can be answered with "yes", then grammar school (Gymnasium) is perhaps the right choice).

Please bear in mind your child's abilities and interests!

Clearly parents always want the best for their children. But many parents would like their child to transfer to Gymnasium in Year 5 and take their Abitur there. However, such a decision can put the child under pressure if they do not (yet) have the appropriate skills. Don't be disappointed if your child does not get a recommendation for Gymnasium from primary school (Grundschule). Every school-leaving certificate paves the way for a good start in working life and with the right performance every qualification can be built upon. The courses of education (Bildungsgänge) in Germany are flexible and offer opportunities to switch, as shown in the *info box in Chapter 3 and the diagram in Chapter 5*.



3. Courses of education, types of school and school-leaving certificates

The school law in Hesse states that in the application procedure in Year 4, parents must decide on a course of education (Bildungsgang) for their child. They can choose between the Hauptschulbildungsgang, Realschulbildungsgang or the Gymnasium Bildungsgang. Parents also choose a “preferred” type of school. In the state school system in Offenbach these are: special school (Förderschule), integrated comprehensive school (integrierte Gesamtschule) or grammar school (Gymnasium) (in the state school system in the city of Offenbach there are no more Hauptschulen or Realschulen).

What is the difference between a course of education (Bildungsgang) and a type of school?

As described above there are 3 courses of education (Bildungsgänge):

- Hauptschulbildungsgang
- Realschulbildungsgang
- Gymnasialbildungsgang.

In addition, there are types of school where these Bildungsgänge are taught. The Gymnasialbildungsgang for example can be completed at this type of school (“Gymnasium”) and the Hauptschulbildungsgang at the Hauptschule type of school.

In the state school system in Offenbach there are the following types of school:

- Förderschule
- integrierte Gesamtschule
- Gymnasium.

There are types of school that offer several Bildungsgänge (either two or all 3 Bildungsgänge), such as the integrierte Gesamtschule.

In the integrierte Gesamtschule all three Bildungsgänge are combined. Children in Year 5 and 6 learn all together without being assigned to a particular

Bildungsgang. From Year 7 they are taught at different levels according to their learning and performance development in more and more subjects, which reflects the different Bildungsgänge. Five of the six integrierte Gesamtschulen in Offenbach finish in Year 10. It is possible to take the Hauptschulabschluss and Realschulabschluss there or pupils are allowed to transfer to sixth form (gymnasiale Oberstufe), for example at a Gymnasium. At one integrierte Gesamtschule in Offenbach (Edith-Stein-Schule) it is possible to take Abitur.

You will learn more about the types and range of schools in the city of Offenbach in Chapter 5.

How do the different Bildungsgänge vary?

Hauptschulbildungsgang

This Bildungsgang prepares pupils above all for vocational training. Knowledge and skills are conveyed in practice-oriented lessons. With the right performance, school attendance can be continued in Year 10.

At the end of Year 9 the pupils attain Hauptschulabschluss. The exams consist of final papers in the major subjects (German, Mathematics and the first foreign language) as well as a presentation (project appraisal). However, the results that were achieved in the current school year also count towards the Hauptschulabschluss. Pupils with high performance attain the so-called “qualifying Hauptschulabschluss” (“qualifizierenden Hauptschulabschluss”). This allows them to continue attending school and to attain Realschulabschluss after the end of Year 10.

➔ School can continue after Hauptschule. The Hauptschulabschluss can be built upon.

Realschulbildungsgang

This Bildungsgang provides a broader general education. It prepares pupils for working life as well as for further education. Some subjects can be chosen according to performance and interests, for example a second foreign language can be chosen in Year 7. At the end of Year 10 the pupils attain Realschulabschluss. As in the Hauptschulabschluss the exam consists of two parts (see page 7). Realschulabschluss qualifies for vocational training or further schooling. Pupils with high performance attain the “qualifying Realschulabschluss” (“qualifizierenden Realschulabschluss”). This also allows them to transfer to sixth form (gymnasiale Oberstufe).

→ **School can continue after Realschule. The Realschulabschluss can be built upon.**

Gymnasialbildungsgang

The grammar school Bildungsgang (gymnasiale Bildungsgang) is particularly suitable for talented, top-performing and highly motivated children. The Bildungsgang provides a broad and in-depth general education. The grammar school (Gymnasium) allows pupils to set priorities according to their preferences and abilities. However, they have to be able to work and learn independently. A second foreign language can usually be learned from Year 6. The Gymnasium prepares pupils for university, but a professional training qualification is also possible.

→ **The gymnasiale Bildungsgang is completed with Abitur (“Allgemeine Hochschulreife”).**

The Bildungsgänge are flexible and with the right performance, every school-leaving qualification can be built upon!

Goal: Hauptschulabschluss

- Transfer to a vocational school (berufliche Schule) (see Chapter 5)
- Transfer to a production school (Produktionsschule for example the START-Project at the Adult Education Centre (vhs))

Goal: Realschulabschluss

- Attendance of Year 10, for example at an integrierte Gesamtschule (Requirement: “Qualifizierender Hauptschulabschluss”)
- Transfer to a berufliche Schule (see Chapter 5)

Goal: Abitur

- Transfer to Year 11 at a Gymnasium
- Transfer to Year 11 at a berufliche Schule (see Chapter 5)

Vocational training

- Apprenticeship in a company together with attendance at a Berufsschule (“duale Berufsausbildung”)
- Full-time school-based training (for example at a berufliche Schule)

Degree course

- at a university or (technical) college.

How can
education con-
tinue after Year
9 or Year 10?



Late completion of Hauptschulabschluss


- At an Adult Education Centre (Volkshochschule) (so-called "external qualification" ("externer Abschluss"), fee-based) or at an evening-Hauptschule (Abendhauptschule)

Late completion of Realschulabschluss

- At an Adult Education Centre (Volkshochschule) (so-called "external qualification" ("externer Abschluss"), fee-based), at the Realschule for adults (in the city of Offenbach at the Gewerblich-technische Schulen) or at an evening-Realschule (Abendrealschule)

Late completion of Abitur

- at an evening-Gymnasium (Abendgymnasium) or Hessenkolleg



How can
education con-
tinue during
adulthood?

4. The application procedure in Year 4

When applying for secondary school (weiterführende Schule) you must make various decisions and state your preferences. You will be supported and advised during this process. There are deadlines that you have to keep. The application procedure is as follows:

1. Primary schools (Grundschulen) inform the parents

In the first half year of Year 4 parents' evenings take place at Grundschule. These give information on the transition to weiterführende Schule and the application procedure.

2. Secondary schools (weiterführende Schulen) inform the parents

The weiterführende Schulen provide information about themselves at events or on their websites.

3. Discussion with the class teacher

With your child's class teacher you discuss how their education can continue after Grundschule. This meeting will take place up to **25th February**. You

will be given an application form during the discussion.

4. Parents decide and fill out the application form

- You decide which course of education (Bildungsgang) your child should attend from Year 5: Hauptschul-, Realschul- oder gymnasialer Bildungsgang,
- You specify a "preferred" type of school,
- You name two favourite schools (first and second preference).

You have to hand in the application form at your Grundschule by **5th March**.

5. The class conference recommends a Bildungsgang

All teachers who teach your child at Grundschule come together in a class conference. They talk about the child, their strengths and weaknesses, and recommend a Bildungsgang. There are two possible outcomes:



→ If the Bildungsgang which you have chosen corresponds to the recommendation of the class conference, the Grundschule forwards the application form to the weiterführende Schule which you have named as your first choice.

→ If the Bildungsgang which you have chosen does not correspond with the recommendation of the class conference, you will be invited to a second consultation session. The teacher will discuss with you the reasons for the class conference recommendation and your assessment. However, the final decision is in your hands. You must tell the Grundschule your final decision by **5th April**. If you do not give the Grundschule a new decision by this date, the Grundschule will forward the application form to the weiterführende Schule, which you named as your first choice. The Grundschule also forwards the class conference recommendation.

6. The weiterführende Schule contacts you

In general you will hear by about the end of May from the school that has given your child a place.

It is however possible that your wish cannot be taken into consideration, as there are schools that receive more applications than they have free spaces. For these schools a random selection procedure or "lot-

tery" is carried out by the school supervising authority, das Staatliche Schulamt. This means that the applications, that is all the first choices for the "over-booked" school, are put in a pot. The pupils who do not get a place are therefore selected by chance. For these children the second choice is taken into consideration.

It is possible that your second choice school is also very popular and that there are no free spaces. Then this choice cannot be considered either. In this case the Staatliche Schulamt will contact you and name the school that can give your child a place.

If you do not agree with the result of the random selection procedure, you can appeal to the Staatliche Schulamt. An appeal involves costs (You can get information on this from the Staatliche Schulamt, Tel.069 80053-0).

The application procedure for children with special educational needs

For children who for example have particular difficulties with learning, an application can be made for special needs support (sonderpädagogische Förderung). Children who have been identified as needing special educational support (sonderpädagogische Förderbedarf) can take various routes after Year 4. You can choose between inclusive schooling (inklusive Beschulung) and special education classes. Inklusive Beschulung means learning together with children without special educational needs. Special education classes take place together with children who all have special needs.

So possible is:

- inclusive schooling ("inklusive Beschulung")
- Special school (Förderschule)

It is also possible to change from a special school to "inklusive Beschulung" (for example at an integrierte Gesamtschule).

Deadlines that must be kept:

To transfer to a Förderschule:

→ You must submit an application to your Grundschule for enrolment in a Förderschule by **15th December**.

If you would like inklusive Beschulung:

→ You will be advised by your class teacher and the special school teacher about inklusive Beschulung up to **25th February**.

→ You must hand in your application form to your Grundschule by **5th March**, or if your child is at a Förderschule, submit it to the Förderschule.

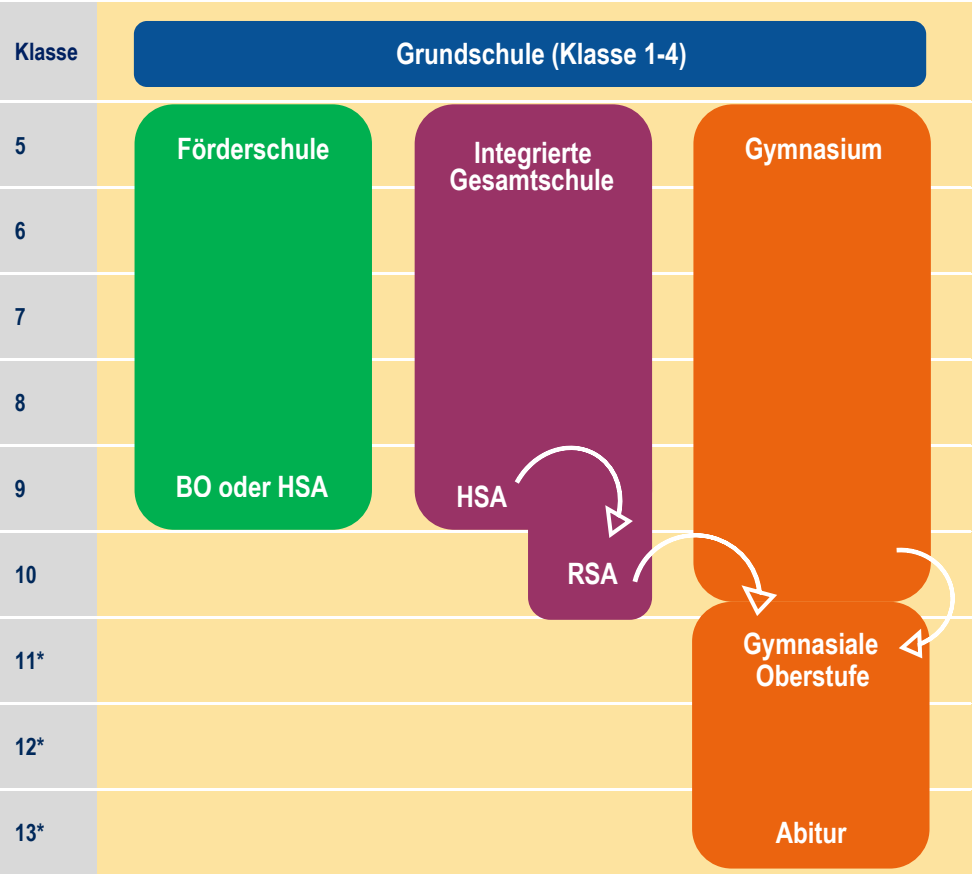
→ For children who have been identified as having special educational needs (sonderpädagogische Förderbedarf) for the first time, a so-called support committee ("Förderausschuss") will take place up to **5th March** (the Förderausschuss will make a recommendation about the type, extent and organisation of the sonderpädagogische Förderung). For children who have already been identified as having sonderpädagogische Förderbedarf, this Förderausschuss can take place after **5th March**.

Parents can get further information from the Staatliche Schulamt, Tel. 069 80053-0.

Summary of dates:

Information evening for parents at Grundschule	Before the Christmas holidays
Application for enrolment at a Förderschule (for example for children with sonderpädagogische Förderbedarf)	By 15th December
Advisory meeting for parents at Grundschule	by 25th February
Deadline for submitting the application form	by 5th March
Advisory meeting for parents if their choice of Bildungsgang does not correspond to the Grundschule's recommendation	Immediately afterwards
Parents inform the Grundschule of their final choice of Bildungsgang	by 5th April
Information to parents from the new school	By the end of May at the latest

5. Types and range of schools in the city of Offenbach



Various school-leaving qualifications can be attained at vocational schools.
These are: Hauptschulabschluss, Realschulabschluss,
Fachhochschulreife, Abitur.

BO= vocational school-leaving certificate (Berufsorientierender Abschluss) /
HSA= Hauptschulabschluss / RSA= Realschulabschluss

* Year 11 (Klasse 11): Introductory Phase (Einführungsphase) / Year 12 (Klasse 12): Qualification Phase I (Qualifizierungsphase I) / Year 13 (Klasse 13): Qualification Phase II (Qualifizierungsphase II)

The chart shows the different types of school from Year 5 in the state school system of the city of Offenbach. The types of school are explained in this chapter.

The diagram also shows that with the right performance each school-leaving qualification can be built upon.

- ➔ After Hauptschulabschluss, Realschulabschluss can be achieved.
- ➔ After Realschulabschluss it is possible to transfer to sixth form (gymnasiale Oberstufe).

Types and range of schools in the city of Offenbach

Special schools (Förderschulen)

Pupils with “special educational needs” (“sonderpädagogischem Förderbedarf”) (see Chapter 4) can be taught at general education schools (allgemeinbildende Schulen) (for example primary schools (Grundschulen), comprehensive schools (integrierte Gesamtschulen) or grammar schools (Gymnasien)). This is called “inclusive schooling” (“inklusive Beschulung”). However, they can also be taught with children, who all have special needs, at a special school (Förderschule).

These Förderschulen have different specialist and support areas. In Offenbach there are three state Förderschulen:

Erich Kästner-Schule: Its focal point is speech therapy. That means pupils from year 1 to 6 are supported in their speech development. As soon as the therapy has been completed, they return to their old school.

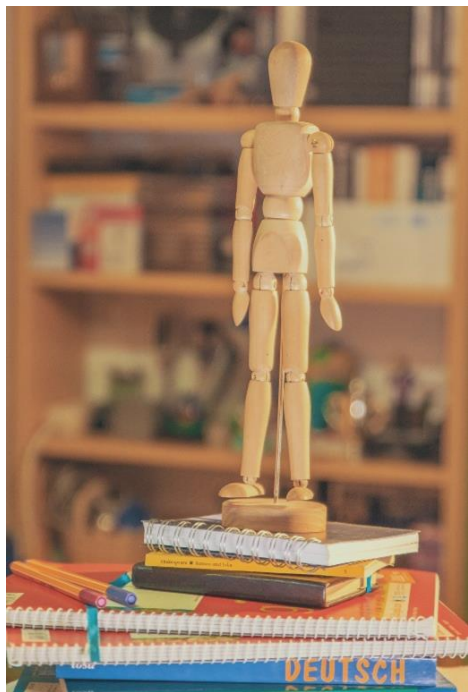


Ludwig-Dern-Schule: Its focal point is learning. That means pupils with particular learning difficulties receive help here. The school finishes in Year 9 and pupils attain a “vocational school-leaving certificate” (“Berufsorientierter Abschluss”). They can build on this and attain Hauptschulabschluss, for example at a vocational school (berufliche Schule).

Fröbelschule: Pupils with special needs in their psychological and/or physical development and mobility receive help here. The school covers years 1 to 12. Pupils who are supported in the area “mental development” (geistige Entwicklung) receive a school-leaving certificate which reflects their level of learning and development.

There is also one private Förderschule in Offenbach:

Oswald-von-Nell-Breuning-Schule: It helps pupils who were ill for a long time or who have problems fitting into their class community. Young people can prepare themselves there for the so-called “external Hauptschulabschluss”, for example at the adult education centre (Volkshochschule), or take their Realschulabschluss or Abitur. The Oswald-von-Nell-Breuning-Schule is a Förderschule, which is maintained by the Catholic Church.



Integrierte Gesamtschulen

Edith-Stein-Schule, Ernst-Reuter-Schule, Geschwister-Scholl-Schule, IGS Mathildenschule mit Grundschule, Schillerschule und IGS-Lindenberg are the names of the six integrierte Gesamtschulen in Offenbach.

At an integrierte Gesamtschule all three courses of education (Bildungsgänge) (Hauptschule, Realschule und gymnasialer Bildungsgang) are combined under one roof. However, the children are not split up according to Bildungsgängen:

In Year 5 and 6 the children are taught together in their class. From Year 7 the major subjects (Mathematics, German, first foreign language) as well as Chemistry, Physics and Biology are taught in "courses". That means that pupils are split into easier or more difficult courses (basic or advanced course/Grund- oder Erweiterungskurs) according to their abilities. The courses represent the different requirements of the various Bildungsgänge. In Year 7 parents can take part in determining if their child is assigned to an easier or more difficult course. Some subjects, for example Sport or Art, continue to be taught in the same class group as in Year 5 and 6. From Year 7 children can also choose between some subjects. They can learn a second foreign language for example.

There is usually no repeating of a school year at an integrierte Gesamtschule. However, one school year can be repeated at the parents' request.

The school-leaving qualification depends on the courses the child has attended: if your child has mostly taken advanced courses, and has good grades, it has the chance to transfer to sixth form (gymnasiale Oberstufe).

At an integrierte Gesamtschule pupils can achieve Hauptschulabschluss in Year 9 and Realschulabschluss in Year 10. With high performance it is possible to attain a qualifying Haupt- or Realschulabschluss and therefore go on to the next-highest qualification. For example, with a qualifying Realschulabschluss, pupils can transfer to sixth form (gymnasiale Oberstufe) to take Abitur. The Edith-Stein-Schule (integrierte Gesamtschule) has its own gymnasiale Oberstufe.

Cooperative Comprehensive (Kooperative Gesamtschule)

As at the integrierte Gesamtschule, this type of school combines several Bildungsgänge under one roof. However, there is no course system such as at the integrierte Gesamtschule, but rather the children are split into Hauptschule, Realschule or Gymnasial branches in all subjects.

In Offenbach there is one kooperative Gesamtschule, the **Marienschule**. It is a private Catholic school for girls. The Marienschule offers the Realschul- and the Gymnasialbildungsgang. In addition the pupils can attend the Berufsfachschule (You will find informationen on the Berufsfachschule in this chapter under "vocational schools" ("berufliche Schulen")).



Further
types of
school in
Offenbach

Haupt- und Realschule

There is one private Haupt- und Realschule in Offenbach: the **Marianne-Frostig-Schule**. Otherwise there are no longer any Hauptschulen or Realschulen in the state school system in Offenbach.

Grammar schools (Gymnasien)

Albert-Schweitzer-Schule, Leibnizschule and **Rudolf-Koch-Schule** are the names of the three Gymnasien in Offenbach.

As at the integrierte Gesamtschule the first foreign language starts at grammar school (Gymnasium) in Year 5. However, in contrast the second foreign language is usually started in Year 6 (exception: Rudolf-Koch-Schule where it is started in Year 7).

The Gymnasium finishes with the general higher education entrance qualification ("Allgemeine Hochschulreife"), or A Levels (Abitur). Abitur can be achieved after 13 school years at the 3 Gymnasien in the city of Offenbach.

Vocational schools (Berufliche Schulen)

The four berufliche Schulen in Offenbach are called: **August-Bebel-Schule, Gewerblich-technische Schulen, Käthe-Kollwitz-Schule** und **Theodor-Heuss-Schule**.

Pupils can attend a berufliche Schule after their first school-leaving certificate (after Year 9 or 10) and attain all further qualifications up to Abitur. Pupils who have no Hauptschulabschluss after Year 9 can take it there. As well as school-leaving certificates berufliche Schulen also offer various opportunities to attain professional qualifications.

An overview of some of the educational opportunities at berufliche Schulen:

Bildungsgänge zur Berufsvorbereitung (for example “pre-vocational training measures” (“*Berufsvorbereitende Bildungsmaßnahmen*”)): Young people who have no Hauptschulabschluss or trainee place receive vocational guidance and can prepare themselves for an apprenticeship.

Berufsfachschule: At a Berufsfachschule pupils can choose various subject areas or technology fields. They learn the work-related content of the various fields and can prepare for Hauptschulabschluss, Realschulabschluss or an apprenticeship.

Berufsschule: At the Berufsschule the school-based, theoretical content of an apprenticeship is taught. The Berufsschule is therefore part of the so-called “dual training system”. The other practical part of the apprenticeship is conveyed in the company with which the trainee has signed a contract.

In *Fachschulen* various aspects of an occupational field can be expanded on and further knowledge and skills acquired. There are Fachschulen for different occupational fields, for example engineering, design, economics and the social sector. Fachschulen can be attended after an apprenticeship and only after sufficient practical experience has been gained.

Just like the “classic” Gymnasium, the *Fachoberschule* and *technical grammar school* (*Berufliches Gymnasium*) qualify pupils to take a degree course. The Fachoberschule leads to general higher education entrance qualification (allgemeine Fachhochschulreife), which entitles students to take a Bachelor degree at college or university (Bachelor: a (first) academic degree). At the berufliche Gymnasium Abitur can be attained which entitles students to study at university.

All school-leaving qualifications can also be attained at berufliche Schulen. They also offer prospects for young people who finished Year 9 or 10 without a school-leaving certificate.



6. FAQs



How can I find the right course of education (Bildungsgang), and the right type of school for my child?

This brochure provides information and assistance. In addition, the primary school (Grundschule) recommendations and the advisory meetings with the teachers will give you some ideas. If you are uncertain, you can ask there.

If my child doesn't go to grammar school (Gymnasium) after Year 4, will they have poorer career prospects?

No, every school-leaving certificate enables a good start in working life. Moreover, the school system is "permeable". That means, that after every good school-leaving qualification, your child has the opportunity to reach the next-highest qualification. This is shown in the diagram in Chapter 5.

What is the application procedure for secondary school (weiterführende Schule), which deadlines must I keep and where can I get further information?

You will find information on applying and the various deadlines in this brochure. If you have further questions, you can contact your child's class teacher or the Grundschule administration.

What happens if my child has to use public transport to go to the weiterführende Schule? Can they get the travelling expenses refunded?

A reimbursement of the cost of school transport is only possible if your "first choice" of school is the nearest of the chosen type of school (integrierte Gesamtschule, Gymnasium) and the distance one-way on foot is more than three kilometres. This is laid down in the Hesse school law. You will get further information on this together with the application form for the weiterführende Schule. If you have questions, please contact the Stadtschulamt, Sachgebiet Schülerbeförderung (Tel. 069 8065-2827 or -2915, E-Mail: fahrtkosten@offenbach.de).

Who can advise parents about the choice of school?

You must speak first of all with your child's class teacher. The school administration at your Grundschule can also help or you can contact the weiterführende Schulen.

You can also get information and advice from:

Staatliches Schulamt für den Landkreis Offenbach und
die Stadt Offenbach am Main
Stadthof 13, 63065 Offenbach am Main
Tel.: 069 80053-0
E-Mail: poststelle.ssa.offenbach@kultus.hessen.de
Internet: www.schulamt-offenbach.hessen.de



Admissions and Advice Centre (Aufnahme- und Beratungszentrum (ABZ)) specially for school-age children between the ages of 10 and 16 years old who are new to Germany and need to learn the language:

Staatliches Schulamt für den Landkreis Offenbach und
die Stadt Offenbach am Main
Aufnahme- und Beratungszentrum (ABZ)
Stadthof 13, 63065 Offenbach am Main
Tel.: 069 80053-254
E-Mail: poststelle.ssa.offenbach@kultus.hessen.de
Internet: www.schulamt-offenbach.hessen.de

For all questions to do with education you can contact the OF Bildungsbüro:

OF Bildungsbüro
Berliner Straße 77, 63065 Offenbach am Main
Tel.: 069 8065-3838
E-Mail: bildung@offenbach.de
Internet: www.offenbach.de/bildungsbuero

Information and support – including in your native language – is available from the foreign communities and migrants' associations in Offenbach.

The "advice guide" (Beratungswegweiser) from the Netzwerk Bildungsberatung contains an overview of the many counselling services in Offenbach (available from OF Bildungsbüro, see above for contact details).

Appendix: Addresses of secondary schools from Year 5

Special schools (Förderschulen)

Erich Kästner-Schule

Geleitsstraße 18
63065 Offenbach am Main
069 80652147
www.eks-offenbach.de

Fröbelschule

Goethestraße 10-12
63067 Offenbach am Main
069 8065-2755
www.froebelschule.info

Ludwig-Dern-Schule

Schubertstraße 89
63069 Offenbach am Main
069 8065-2247
www.lids.schulen-offenbach.de

Integrated Comprehensives (Integrierte Gesamtschulen)

Edith-Stein-Schule

Gravenbruchweg 27
63069 Offenbach am Main
069 80652658
www.ess-offenbach.de/

Ernst-Reuter-Schule

Bürgeler Straße 60
63075 Offenbach am Main
069 8065-4550
www.ernst-reuter-schule-offenbach.de

Geschwister-Scholl-Schule

Erich-Ollenhauer-Straße 1
63073 Offenbach am Main
069 8065-4610
www.gss-offenbach.de

IGS-Lindenfeld

Friedensstraße 81
63071 Offenbach am Main
069 8065-2425
www.igs-lindenfeld.de

IGS Mathildenschule mit Grundschule

Mathildenstraße 30
63065 Offenbach am Main
069 8065-2145
www.mathildenschule.de

Schillerschule

Goethestraße 109-111
63067 Offenbach am Main
069 8065-2245
www.schillerschule-offenbach.de

Grammar schools (Gymnasien)

Albert-Schweitzer-Schule

Waldstraße 113
63071 Offenbach am Main
069 8065-2925
www.albert-offenbach.de

Leibnizschule

Brandsbornstraße 11
63069 Offenbach am Main
069 8065-2635
www.leibnizschule-offenbach.de

Rudolf-Koch-Schule

Schloßstraße 50
63065 Offenbach am Main
069 8065-2235
www.rudolf-koch-schule.de

Private schools

Marianne-Frostig-Schule

Auf der Rosenhöhe 55
63069 Offenbach am Main
069 83837960
www.marianne-frostig-schule.de/startseite

Marienschule

Ahornstraße 33
63071 Offenbach am Main
069 851081
www.marienschule-offenbach.de/

Oswald-von-Nell-Breuning-Schule

Oswald-von-Nell-Breuning-Straße 3
63069 Offenbach am Main
069 984200-56



Volkshochschule
Offenbach am Main

**Volkshochschule
Offenbach am Main**

Berliner Straße 77

63065 Offenbach

069 8065 3141

vhs@offenbach.de

www.vhs-offenbach.de

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Lernen, Bildungsberatung und Ver-
mittlung zwischen Ratsuchenden und
Institutionen.