



Information about the school

for families who have just moved into the area

Welcome

We are looking forward to your child joining the class. In order to make his/her start easier, we have included some important information in this leaflet. We hope we can work well together and are happy to have any further talks with you. We hope your child enjoys school and are confident that he/she will be happy here.

Your child's teacher

Entrance class (formerly Kleinklasse E) / entrance lessons

The entrance class is a special class for 10 - 14 children who do not speak any German yet. They study the same subjects as the regular classes, but the focus is on learning German. At the same time the children familiarize themselves with everyday life at school in Switzerland. Transfer to a regular class in a local school will follow after one year at the latest; a transfer is also possible during the course of the school year.

In the part-time entrance class, children attend some classes in what will be their regular class. They learn German intensively in the entrance class or entrance lessons. The number of hours spent in the regular class continues to increase. The final transfer to regular classes takes place after two or three years at the latest.

School system

Kindergarten: compulsory	2 years
Primary school : compulsory	6 years
Lower level:	year one – year three
Upper level:	year four – year six
Transfer: allocation following an overall assessment and recommendation by the teacher and talks with parents. (Students take an entrance test for academic high school)	
Secondary school: compulsory (with different levels to suit the students' competency)	3 years
Apprenticeship: or College (academic high school):	2-4 years 4-6 years

There is a parallel program for children with special needs led by specially trained staff.

Reports and grades

There are no grades in the entrance class. Certification of attendance is confirmed in the child's report. Parent - teacher meetings take place. Grades may be awarded in the entrance class or entrance lessons except for German.

Every child receives a report twice a year (before the sports holiday and before the summer holiday). Grade system: 1 - 6 (1 very poor, 2 poor, 3 unsatisfactory, 4 satisfactory, 5 good, 6 excellent). Half grades can also be awarded (for example, 4 - 5, 5 - 6 etc). In addition, their attitude to work and learning, and their conduct is assessed.

There are no grades in the primary year one, but there are two parent - teacher meetings and confirmation in the child's report.

Absences, holiday requests, religious feast days

Notification of a child's absence must be made. Holiday requests for more than two days must be addressed to the school. Permission for a holiday will be granted for important religious feast days.

No costs for parents

Attending school and school materials are free. Most books have to be returned, but some can be kept.

Timetable (see attachment)

Lessons follow a strict timetable. It is important that your child attends classes punctually.

On 4 days a week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday), lessons are taught in the mornings and afternoons. On Wednesdays lessons only take place in the mornings. If necessary, the lunch break is organized by the school.

The following subjects are taught: German, English (from primary year two), mathematics, man and the environment, sport (gymnastics and swimming), music, art, crafts, French (from primary year five), religion and culture.

You are notified about special events such as sports day, excursions, and school camp etc. separately.

Child's native language and culture (Heimatliche Sprache und Kultur - HSK)

Children can opt to attend additional lessons of 2 - 4 lessons a week taught in their native language.

Sport

Children need a T-shirt, shorts and sports shoes, which they only wear in the sports hall, for gymnastic lessons; for swimming lessons, they need swim gear, a towel and a swimming cap. (In winter they will need a hat for the way home.)

Homework

Homework is assigned regularly and your child must do this carefully and by themselves. You are requested to make sure your child does their homework regularly and in peace and quiet.

Contact and cooperation between teacher and parents

For parents there are open days, parent - teacher meetings, and one-to-one talks to develop mutual understanding and cooperation. If there are invitations to the school, please come! If you have any questions or would like to talk to your child's teacher, please make an appointment. If necessary, an interpreter can be invited to facilitate the meeting.

School dentist

The school dentist examines your child's teeth at regular intervals. Children are taught how to take care of their teeth.

School and public holidays

(for exact dates and public holidays, please see the school holidays plan)

13 weeks of holidays are divided up over the whole school year as follows:

- 5 weeks summer holiday (July, August)
- 2 weeks autumn holiday (October)
- 2 weeks Christmas holiday (End of December)
- 2 weeks sports holiday (February)
- 2 weeks spring holiday (April)

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