Welche Schule für mein Kind?

Englische Fassung – Stand 2019
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Grammar school¹</th>
<th>Comprehensive school with or without upper level secondary education</th>
<th>Transition options after...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 13   | General entrance qualification for higher education (Abitur) | General entrance qualification for higher education (Abitur) | Abitur:  
- Transition to a university or university of applied sciences  
- Transition to vocational training |
| 12   | Attainment of university of applied sciences entrance qualification (school part)  
Upper level profile: qualification phase 12/13 | Attainment of university of applied sciences entrance qualification (school part)  
Upper level profile: qualification phase 12/13 | |
| 11   | Upper level profile: introductory phase 12/13 | Upper level profile: introductory phase 12/13 | |
| 10   | Intermediate school leaving certificate (MSA) in year ten  
Initial school leaving certificate in general education (ESA) in year nine  
- Examination predictions from year 8  
- Joint learning also where different educational goals  
- Education of groups differentiated by performance possible from year 7  
Grades 5 to 7:  
- Joint learning at all "learning levels"  
- Integrated specialised teaching of natural sciences (biology, physics, chemistry) and political sciences (history, geography, where appropriate economics and politics)  
- In principle competence-based reports | MSA:  
- Where expected performance level met: transition to upper level profile at a comprehensive school, grammar school or vocational grammar school  
- Transition to a course of education of a vocational school  
- Transition to vocational training  
ESA:  
- Where expected performance level met: continue to go to the school  
- Transition to a course of education of a vocational school  
- Transition to vocational training  
More information on dual vocational education can be found in the "School leaving certificates in the dual vocational education" flyer on the Land Government’s website: www.bildung.schleswigholstein.de |
| 7-10 | - Subject-based teaching in natural and social sciences in physics, chemistry, biology, history, geography, economics/politics  
- Offer of a third foreign language  
- Start of second foreign language from year 7  
- Students, who leave the grammar school, receive the ESA on progressing to year 10 the MSA on progressing to year 11. | 8-10 |  |
| 5-6  | Orientation level:  
- Where appropriate, progression to the comprehensive school at the end of year 6  
- Report stating grades for all subjects | 5-7  |  |

¹ In G8 grammar schools the second foreign language starts in year 6, introductory phase of the upper school study profile in year 10, attainment of the university of applied sciences entrance qualification in year 11 and the general entrance qualification for higher education in year 12.
Overview of school leaving certificates and transition options

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Which school for my child?

Information for parents
Academic year 2019/20

For our future

2019/20

Schleswig-Holstein. Der echte Norden.
Dear Sir or Madam,

As parents of children in year four of primary school (Grundschule) you are now facing an important decision: Which secondary school is the best for my child? Where will his/her potential be best recognised and supported? Where will he/she feel most comfortable? Where does he/she have the best chances of a successful school career?

By means of this brochure we would like to inform you about the chronology and transition procedure and the two types of secondary schools that you can choose between in Schleswig-Holstein.

Types of secondary schools

We have two types of secondary schools in Schleswig-Holstein, to which children move after attending primary school: grammar schools (Gymnasien) and comprehensive schools (Gemeinschaftsschulen). The two types of schools are equivalent but have different education goals and different educational concepts.

The focus of grammar schools is the targeted preparation for scientific education or comparable vocational training. The general higher education entrance qualification (Abitur) is obtained at the end of the course of education. The Abitur examination includes central tasks based on the educational standards agreed by the Standing Conference of Ministers of Education. The entrance qualification for universities of applied sciences can also be attained in the upper level at the grammar school.

From the 2019/20 academic year the schooling has generally been extended again to nine years throughout Schleswig-Holstein in order to provide children with more time to learn and improve their knowledge. The more intensive development of topics is also linked to the extension of schooling.

The school conference decided to retain the eight year course of education at only one grammar school in Schleswig-Holstein, three grammar schools offer both courses of education when registering. Whether eight- or nine-year courses are provided at these so-called Y grammar schools depends on the parent’s registration pattern. Find out about the process when registering your child.

By attending a comprehensive school, the students can obtain all school leaving certificates: initial school leaving certificate in general education (ESA), intermediate school leaving certificate (MSA), university of applied sciences entrance qualification as well as general higher education entrance qualification. They obtain the ESA after year 9 by progressing to year 10 or by successfully passing an examination at end of year nine. The tasks centrally set for this are based on the education standards agreed by the education ministers of all German federal states. The central examination for the intermediate school leaving certificate obtained after year 10 also includes central tasks. Furthermore, students at comprehensive schools with an upper level secondary education can obtain the general higher education entrance qualification (Abitur) in nine academic years. At comprehensive schools, upper level secondary education starts in year 11 with the introductory phase.

Many comprehensive schools without upper level secondary education cooperate with schools that do have such upper level secondary education – often with vocational grammar schools – and thereby enable its students to obtain higher educational qualifications.

Besides general education schools, vocational education is the second pillar of the education system in Schleswig-Holstein. After attending a comprehensive school or a grammar school, students not only obtain there the required basic or technical education for a given occupation or occupational field. At the same time your children can also obtain all school leaving certificates – including the Abitur at vocational grammar schools – at 33 public vocational schools and regional vocational training centres.

Obtain advice

Schools and teachers will assist you in making your decision. Together with the half-year report for year four all parents receive a written school transition recommendation (Schulübergangsempfehlung) for attending the comprehensive type of school or the comprehensive and grammar school types. Based on this Schulübergangsempfehlung a detailed and mandatory consultation meeting is held at the primary school. In this meeting
Teachers will discuss with you the further education of your child and explain why a recommendation for a certain type of school has been made. However, if parents wish to register their child at the grammar school against the advice of the primary school to register him/her only at a comprehensive school, they must obtain counselling from the receiving grammar school.

Parents of children with special educational needs are informed by the support centres at the end of the first term of year 4 of the regulations regarding the forthcoming change of school and the schools and support centres in question. The parents give the competent support centre a first, second and third preference for a school, which their child is to attend in the future. The parents may take advantage of the information options offered by the general secondary schools, but registration is not required.

Moreover, information evenings and consultation appointments regarding secondary schools as well as detailed information on the website of the Schleswig-Holstein Government and on the websites of the schools help you in finding the suitable school for your child. You obtain a good overview of the choice of schools in your region and special profiles and particular projects of each individual school.

Timetable for the transition

Report and development report
At the end of the first term parents receive together with the report a recommendation concerning the school type (Schulübergangsempfehlung). At the beginning of the second term the class teachers invite the parents with their child to a compulsory individual consultation session and discuss the Schulübergangsempfehlung with them.

Information on secondary schools
Information events are being held in the secondary schools until 22 February 2019. The types of school with their specific objectives, requirements and working methods are presented at these.

Personal advice provided by the secondary school
The secondary schools offer parents individual counselling upon request until 22 February 2019. Grammar schools conduct mandatory counselling discussions with parents who wish to register their child at a grammar school despite a recommendation to the contrary.

Registration
Parents register their child at the secondary school in the period from 25 February to 6 March 2019. They submit the half-year report of year 4 together with the registration for the secondary school. If a learning plan was prepared at the primary school, this is also to be included with the registration documents.

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