How does the admission procedure work?
Up to ten percent of places are awarded to hardship cases in the admission procedure. All other places at academic secondary schools and up to one third of places at general secondary schools are preferentially awarded to pupils with achievements above the default standard. The places at general secondary schools are preferentially awarded to pupils from the allocated primary schools. If the number of parents who listed a school as one of their choices exceeds the number of places at the school, places are allocated by lot.

When does the hardship provision apply?
Hardship cases can be recognised under certain conditions:
- Children with physical disabilities,
- Children with exceptionally high familial or social burden or
- Children with siblings at the same school if non-admission would lead to family problems.
You can find more information online and in the booklet. The hardship application must be submitted directly to your chosen secondary school before the application deadline.

Is my child above the default standard?
You can tell how successful your child is from their learning development reports. A score is given for several skills per subject to indicate how well your child has learned them. Performance is considered above the default standard if, after the first half of Year 4, most scores are 9 or 10 for German and Mathematics. In addition, there must be at least one cross in the 9th or 10th box in each of the four areas.

Which foreign languages will my child learn?
English is the first foreign language at both types of school. A second foreign language can be chosen at general secondary schools from Year 6. The second foreign language is mandatory at academic secondary schools.

What does inclusion mean?
Inclusive education is provided for children with learning difficulties or special needs in Bremen. This means that all children learn together in the same class. By learning with and from their peers, everyone can make the most of their potential. In addition, this allows lots of scope for social and content-based learning; teaching something to someone else is an especially good way of learning it.
Consultation services
Consultation days at primary schools and information events at general and academic secondary schools.

Application deadline
Please submit the application form to your primary school by 8th February, 2022. If you would like to transfer from a private primary school to a public school, please submit the application form to the Senator for Children and Education.

Admission procedure
If enough places are available at your first-choice school, your child will be accepted there. If not, a decision will be made for each school following the admission procedure.

Decision
You will receive a notification of admission from your new school known as the “Aufnahmebescheid.” If none of your wishes could be taken into account, you will receive a letter from the education authority instead. This authority will then offer you a place at another school following a consultation.

Preparing for the new school
The school where you have been offered a place will provide you with information about the next steps.

General or Academic Secondary School?

General secondary school (Oberschule)
- The general university entrance qualification (Abitur) is acquired after 13 years
- Performance-oriented school for all pupils
- Joint learning at different ability levels
- All aptitudes are both challenged and encouraged
- Class size: 25
- A year team will consistently support the year group from Year 5 to Year 10

Academic secondary school (Gymnasium)
- The general university entrance qualification (Abitur) is acquired after 12 years
- Increased learning pace for higher-achieving pupils
- Joint learning at a single ability level
- Greater time demands: up to 35 hours of lessons per week
- Class size: 30
- A second foreign language is mandatory from Year 6