From nursery school to PRIMARY SCHOOL
Information for a successful start to school life

• Practice the route to school together on foot. Choose the safest, rather than the shortest route. Many schools have set up meeting points for those who walk to school, known as the „School Express“. The children meet up and walk together from there.

Pay attention to your child’s sleeping hours. Your child should not go to bed too late. Primary school-aged children need about 10 hours of sleep. Wake your child up in the morning in plenty of time to arrive on time.

Give them a healthy breakfast and plenty to drink, preferably water.

Check their schoolbag together. It should have everything they need in it, but not be unnecessarily heavy.

Your child needs somewhere to do homework. Your child needs a suitable, quiet place for their homework, preferably with their own desk. It is helpful if you always set a fixed time for doing it.

Talk about the school day. This will give you a good idea of what is going on at school and let you help your child to think about everything important.

Show interest in what your child is learning. It is an important signal for your child if you take school seriously and are interested in what they are learning.

Stay in good contact with your child’s teachers. This is especially important during the initial period.

Get involved ... in parents’ evenings and information events at your school. In addition, you can help the children with reading, help out with school parties, or accompany the class on trips.

Reduce media consumption. Exercise and sports can help your child to learn; too much television and computer games impair their attention.

You can find detailed information in the prospectus „An introduction to primary schools in Bremen“. It is available free of charge at primary schools and from the Senator for Children and Education.

Primary schools
If you have any questions about the school enrolment ceremony or everyday school life, please contact your primary school directly. You can find the contact details in the letter and at www.bildung.bremen.de/schulwegweiser

Contact persons at the Senator for Children and Education
Information on the enrolment procedure: Anja Horstmann 0421 361-18389 anja.horstmann@bildung.bremen.de
Ombudswoman: Anke Warneke 0421 361-4786 anke.warneke@bildung.bremen.de

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WWW.BILDUNG.BREMEN.DE
When your child enrols at school, they are beginning an important stage of their life. The information in this flyer is intended to make starting school easier.

Which children should be enrolled in school?
All children who turn 6 years old by the 30th of June of the current year must register for school. Children who turn 6 years old by the 30th of September are known as “waiting period children”. In this case, parents can decide if their children will attend school this year or next year.

When and where do I register my child?
All parents must register their children for primary school in October. You will be sent a letter about this in plenty of time, with all the important information and details about the relevant primary school. Each street in Bremen is assigned to a primary school, so that all children have the shortest possible route to school.

WELCOME TO PRIMARY SCHOOL!

FOR A GOOD START AT SCHOOL

Nursery and primary schools work together closely in Bremen. This way, the children can get to know their school before enrolment. This makes them feel more secure and makes starting school easier.

Many schools offer information sessions prior to enrolment. These are important so that your child is well supported and can learn successfully.

The enrolment ceremony is an important event for the children. It always takes place on the first Saturday of the new school year so that parents and siblings can participate.

Your primary school will provide information about the daily routine, cooperation, and the special facilities at the school.

WHICH TYPES OF SCHOOL ARE THERE?

Fixed-hours primary school (Verlässliche Grundschule)
The fixed-hours primary schools last from 8:00 to 13:00. After that, many schools offer clubs, for example in the fields of sports, music, or theatre. Participation is voluntary.

Optional all-day primary school (Offene Ganztagsgrundschule)
At these schools, some children take part in additional services and get a hot lunch. Parents choose in advance whether they register their child to attend until 15:00 or 16:00 (Fridays until 14:00 also possible).

Compulsory all-day primary school (Gebundene Ganztagsgrundschule)
These schools last from 8:00 to 15:00 or to 16:00 on three days a week and to 14:00 on two days a week. In addition, there is a voluntary care provided until 16:00. All children take part in lunch.

If you need an all-day school place at an optional all-day school, you can apply for it during registration. Children with an all-day school place can also be enrolled for early care from 7:00 to 8:00 or late care from 16:00 to 17:00, as well as holiday care. These childcare services are subject to a charge.

FOR EVERYDAY SCHOOL LIFE

Time off / holiday
Your child is legally required to attend school. They must be at school on all days they are not sick. They can only be exempted in justified exceptional cases with a written request. However, this does not apply to the days immediately before and after the holidays.

Calling in sick
If your child is sick, please inform the secretary’s office immediately. When they are well again, give them a sick note or doctor’s certificate.

Accident insurance
All children are covered by accident insurance during school hours. This also applies to the school route and school trips.

Bremen Pass
If you have a Bremen Pass, please show it at the secretary’s office. It is valid for meeting the costs of lunch and school events such as theatre visits or class trips.