

## Parents' Rights and Responsibilities

### Regular School Attendance

In Germany, school attendance is compulsory for all minors. Unexcused absences may result in fines.

### School Health Examination

A mandatory health check must be completed before school starts:

### Children's and Youth Health Service

Telefon: 0340 204-2054

E-Mail: [gesundheitsamt@dessau-rosslau.de](mailto:gesundheitsamt@dessau-rosslau.de)

### Everyday School Life

Support your child with homework and ensure they have the necessary school supplies.

Use the "Education and Participation" program (Bildung und Teilhabe), for support for:

- School trips
- Access to sports, cultural, and music programs
- Tutoring in school subjects
- Participation in school or kindergarten lunch programs
- School supplies

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## Advisory Services and Contacts

### Key Authorities and Contacts

Office for Education and School Development (Amt für Bildung und Schulentwicklung):

Supports with organizational matters and special cases.

#### Address:

- Zerbster Straße 4, 06844 Dessau-Roßlau
- Phone: 0340 204-2040
- Email: [schulamt@dessau-rosslau.de](mailto:schulamt@dessau-rosslau.de)

Regional School Authority (Landesschulamt):

Responsible for the formal recognition of foreign school certificates and acts as the higher school supervisory authority.

#### Address:

- Nantegasse 6, 06844 Dessau-Roßlau
- Phone: (0340) 230 169-17 (primary schools), (0340) 230 169-30 (secondary schools)
- Email: [Lscha-poststelle@sachsen-anhalt.de](mailto:Lscha-poststelle@sachsen-anhalt.de)

### Further Points of Contact

Youth Migration Service (Jugendmigrationsdienst – JMD)

Supports people up to the age of 27 in settling in Germany.

- Provides advice on parenting, the school and training system, career planning, and leisure activities.

### Parent Evenings and Teacher Meetings

Regular meetings provide information about local opportunities and the German education system.

### Migrant Organizations

Networks and self-help groups where you can exchange experiences and practical tips.

At school, the School Social Workers (Schulsozialarbeit) provide help and serve as trusted persons for children and parents.



## Compulsory Education – Information for Newcomers



Basics – What does compulsory education mean?

### Compulsory Education for All Children

- In Saxony-Anhalt, all children and youth who live here must go to school – **regardless of residence status, origin or language.**

### What it Means for Newcomers

- Every child has the right to education and school support.
- Compulsory education supports social integration and helps your child both linguistically and academically.

### Available Support and Special Programs

- Many schools offer language support for children with limited German language skills.
- Language support courses help with learning.
- There are special support programs for families with a migration background.

Welcome Guide



# Welcome to Dessau-Rosslau!



Dear Parents,

as the Deputy for Education, I am delighted to warmly welcome you to Germany!

It is important to me to introduce you to the German school system and support you in the integration of your children.

In Saxony-Anhalt, there are various types of schools tailored to the needs and abilities of your children. From kindergarten and primary school to secondary schools, each school type offers individual support opportunities.

We understand that transitioning into a new education system can be challenging. That's why we are here to support you with information, guidance, and assistance.

Together, we want to ensure that your children receive the best possible education and feel comfortable in their new environment. I wish you all the best and much success during your time in Germany.

Let's work together to shape the educational opportunities of your children!

With best regards,

Eter Hachmann

## The School System in Saxony-Anhalt

### Compulsory schooling – start and duration

- Children who turn 6 by 30 June are enrolled in school after the summer holidays.
- There are 12 years of compulsory schooling:
- At least 9 years full-time at general schools.
- After that, compulsory schooling is fulfilled at a further general school or at a vocational school. 12 years of compulsory schooling, with at least 9 years full-time.

### Types of Schools

- **Primary School** (Grundschule): Grades 1–4
- **Secondary Schools:** Secondary School (Sekundarschule), Comprehensive School (Gesamtschule), Community School (Gemeinschaftsschule), Special Needs School (Förderschule), Grammar School (Gymnasium):

The choice depends on your child's performance level and interests.

- Secondary Level I: Grades 5–10
- Secondary Level II: Grades 11–12

Alongside **public schools**, there are also **private schools**, which may feature:

- Admission independent of your residential district
- Alternative educational or religious concepts
- Tuition fees



\* The linked page is in German. Please use your browser's translation function (for example "Translate this page").

## Registration and School Enrollment Process

### Residence Registration

Please register with the local Residents' Registration Office within 14 days of moving in. A current registration certificate is required for enrolling your child at school.

### Documents Required

- Valid passport or national ID card
- Birth certificates of your children
- School reports and educational records (certified and translated into German)

### School Enrollment

**New to Germany?** Is your child attending a German school **for the first time?**

Please contact the **Office for Education and School Development** (Amt für Bildung und Schulentwicklung).

**Otherwise:** You can enroll your child directly at the school responsible for your district.

### Practical Tips

- Collect all required documents early:
  - Registration certificate (Meldebescheinigung)
  - School medical certificate (schulärztliche Bescheinigung)
- Make use of advisory services if you feel uncertain.
- Take advantage of extracurricular programs, especially language support.