

What type of schools are there in Baden-Württemberg?

Primary school

Children start school at the age of 6. Primary school is for 4 years, from first to fourth class.

Secondary schools

Children change to secondary school after 4th class.

There are several different types of secondary school:

- Vocational school (Final exam after 5 years called Hauptschulabschluss)
- Hybrid of vocational and comprehensive school (Offers final exam of both school types after either 5 or 6 years)
- Comprehensive school (final exam after 6 years called Mittlere Reife)
- Grammar school (final exam after 8 or 9 years called Abitur).

Each type of school has its own final exam, giving in brackets.

Further Education / Berufliche Schulen

From the age of 15 it is possible to attend a College of Further Education / Vocational College (School / Further Education / Vocational Training).

Information and videos describing the different types of schools are available here in a range of language:



Regional Offices in Ortenaukreis

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Information about the school system for immigrant families



BILDUNGSGERECHTIGKEIT
BILDUNGSERFOLG
für alle Schülerinnen und Schüler


Baden-Württemberg
STAATLICHES SCHULAMT OFFENBURG

My child doesn't speak any German.

Which school should she / he attend?



If a child doesn't speak any German, she / he can attend a preparatory course (VKL), where she /he has the opportunity to learn German. Generally a child stays in this class for one year before moving into a regular class.

Some schools have an integration class. This means that a child attends both a VKL and also a regular class for some lessons.

VKL, preparatory classes are offered at every type of school but not every school has a VKLclass.

How do I register my child for school?

Children between 6 and 10 years registration for primary school.

You have the choice to register your child for a primary school VKL, preparatory class (for children without any German) or to attend regular classes (child can speak German).

If your child needs to attend a preparatory class, VKL contact the regional educational officer. They will assign your child a place.

Children between 11 and 14 years registration for secondary school.

If your child needs to attend a preparatory class, VKL (child doesn't have any German) at a secondary school, contact the regional educational officer. They will support your child.

Teenagers between 15 and 18 years registration for Vocational training / Further Education.

If your child is 15 or older, she / he can attend a preparatory class, VKL at a Vocational College in order to learn German. (Berufliche Schule) Registration is directly at the school.

Additional information is available on the website of the Department of Education in Offenburg



<https://og.schulamt-bw.de/.Lde/Startseite/Paed+Dienstleistung+Beratung/Vorbereitungsklasse+Zuwanderung+und+Integration>

Important: the following documents are necessary in order to register your child at a school.

- child's passport or ID
- parents' passports
- registration at current address / proof of address
- Certificate of vaccination for measles
- Last school report, if available