

INTERVIEWS FOR FOUR-AND-A-HALF-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN AT THE SCHOOL

Information on the school interview process for four-and-a-half-year-olds at the school responsible for your area

Dear Parents,

The upcoming school interviews for all four-and-a-half-year-olds are important for everyone concerned – the children, the parents and the school. Around 18 months before the planned first day at school you will be invited to the school responsible for your area with your child. You will have the chance to get advice there about the educational options for your child in Hamburg and how to make your child's start at school a success.

The interviews for four-and-a-half-year-olds are an important part of the children's transition from day nursery to school. You are consequently obliged to accept this invitation.

The purpose of the school interview

The interview will give you and your child the chance to gain a first insight into Hamburg's schools as well as the options offered there. The interview will answer all your questions about starting school and what may be expected of your child.

During the interview, the school will assess your child's development and gain an impression of any special gifts, or possible delays in development, your child may have. Should any special arrangements be required before your child starts school, the school can initiate these in good time.

What role does the day nursery assessment play?

During the interview process, your day nursery will work closely with the school to ensure the best possible start for your child.

In preparation for the school interview, all day nurseries arrange talks for parents where the nursery teachers discuss the children's development.

If you agree, a summary of your child's assessment will be sent directly to the relevant school – and will form a good basis for the school interview with you and your child.

What happens at the interview?

Each school organises the interviews differently. At the interview, the teachers will need your input on the following points:

- ➔ How do you see your child's development?
- ➔ Are there any particular aspects or limitations that need to be taken into account when your child starts or attends school?
- ➔ What language do you speak at home?
- ➔ Does your child understand everything that is said to them?
Can your child respond to what is said?
- ➔ Does your child have any special gifts?

How will your child's level of development be assessed?

To assess your child's overall development, the teachers will talk to your child. They may also offer your child guessing games or puzzles, either on their own or occasionally in a small group, or look at a picture book together.

The teachers will ask additional questions if they notice any particular issues. The school will then advise you, or make a binding agreement with you, concerning how your child can be supported until he or she starts school. The focus is often on a child's language development, but it goes without saying that their physical, cognitive and emotional development is also taken into account.

At the end of the interview, the teachers will discuss the summary of the results with you. You should then submit this summary to your day nursery for information purposes. That way the nursery will be better able to prepare your child for their first day at school and to help them enjoy a successful start to their school life.

What offers are available for children with special needs?

Among the mainstream schools, there are schools with a special focus that offer specialist expertise, facilities and staff for children who have special educational needs. Such needs include sight, hearing and communication, autism, physical, motor or mental development. In addition, there are educational centres for children with hearing and visual impairments, Regional Education and Advice Centres (ReBBZ) and special schools which offer teaching and advice.

All children attend an interview for four-and-a-half-year-olds at the primary school responsible for their area:

if necessary, and with your approval as a parent or guardian, the school will establish further contacts and act as your point of contact until your child has been enrolled at school.

Documents from doctors and therapists may be submitted at the interview for four-and-a-half-year-olds.

In the autumn before your child starts primary school, the school will invite you to another interview. The next steps will be discussed with you and you will be given information about suitable schools. If you wish, staff from a school with a special focus, from a Regional Education and Advice Centre or a special school may also attend the interview.

At www.hamburg.de/inklusion-schule you can find the current list of the schools with a special focus in the primary school area.

List of primary schools with a special focus (Schwerpunktschulen) – August 2020

- » Aueschule Finkenwerder
- » Clara-Grunwald-Schule
- » Erich Kästner Schule, comprehensive school with primary school
- » Fridtjof-Nansen-Schule
- » Am Johannisland all-day primary school
- » Grundschule Am Heidberg
- » Grundschule An der Haake
- » Grundschule Mümmelmansberg
- » Grundschule St. Nikolai
- » Loki-Schmidt-Schule
- » Louise Schroeder Schule
- » Schule Ahrensburger Weg
- » Schule Alsterdorfer Straße
- » Schule An der Burgweide
- » Schule auf der Veddel, comprehensive school with primary school
- » Schule Barlsheide
- » Schule Brockdorffstraße
- » Schule Grumbrechtstraße
- » Schule Hinsbleek
- » Schule Iserberg
- » Schule Kamminer Straße
- » Schule Kielortallee
- » Schule Langbargheide
- » Schule Max-Eichholz-Ring
- » Schule Mendelssohnstraße
- » Schule Moorflagen
- » Schule Nettelburg
- » Schule Neubergerweg
- » Schule Ohrnsweg
- » Schule Öjendorfer Damm
- » Schule Rellinger Straße
- » Schule Rönnkamp
- » Schule Stengelestrasse
- » Schule Surenland
- » Alter Teichweg comprehensive school with primary school
- » Eppendorf comprehensive school with primary school
- » Winterhude comprehensive school with primary school

Where can I find out more?

To find out more about the interview process, please contact the school responsible for your area or ask at your day nursery how cooperation with the school is managed.

If you require any further information about the process, the School Information Centre (SIZ) will be happy to help you.

You can also find out more at:

www.hamburg.de/bsb/ifbq-vorstellung-viereinhalbjaehriger

➔ Office for Schools and Vocational Education (BSB)

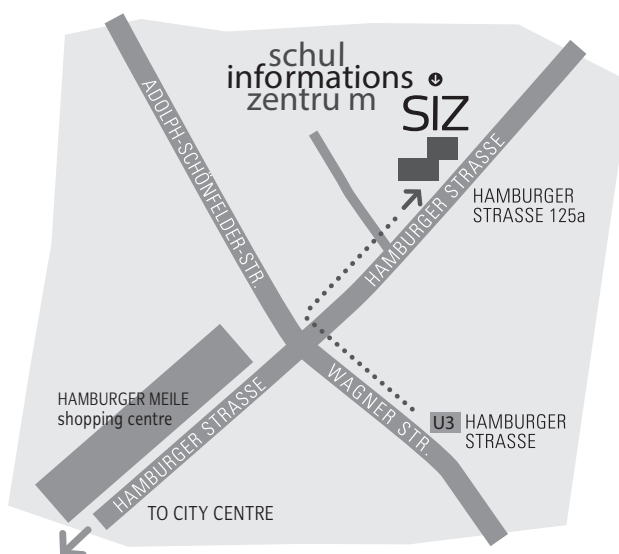
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Appointments by prior arrangement only

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