

The German school system

The German education system provides different paths for students based on individual ability. Children enter the *Grundschule* at age 6, and students of all levels of ability remain together as a group through the 4th grade.

Grundschule teachers recommend their students to one of three school forms based on criteria such as academic achievement, potential, and personality characteristics, such as ability to work independently and self-confidence.

The *Hauptschule* (grades 5-9) leads to the *Hauptschule* certificate and then to an apprenticeship training until the age of 18. You can compare it to the American Junior High School.

The *Realschule* (grades 5-10) gets you the *Realschule* certificate with which you can go to higher vocational schools or a *Gymnasium*. It's like the American high school or the British secondary school.

The *Gymnasium* (grades 5-13 in most states) leads to the *Abitur* and prepares students for university study.

Erich Kästner Reaschule

This is our school by night.

Don't worry, we don't sleep there.

We only have school in the morning and once or twice a week in the afternoon.



We are about 550 students and 40 teachers.

Lessons

We have main subjects like Maths, German, Technology, NWA, MUM, French and English. In class 7 you can choose between the main subject Technology, MUM (Human And Environment) or French. You should choose the subject you have the best marks.

We have a timetable like this:

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
07:35	History	Music /Art	Math	EWG	EWG
08:20	History	Music / Art	Math	EWG	EWG
09:30	Math.	German	NWA	English	NWA
10:15	Math	German	NWA	English	NWA
11:20	English		Sport	Religion	German
12:50	English		Sport	Religion	German
14:00	Tech. Mum	Choir			
14:45	Tech. Mum				
15:30	Tech. Mum				
16:15					

Special Instruction

Sometimes we have special instruction for example we work in groups and we must present the finished work in front of the class.

In Chemistry we do experiments with dangerous chemicals.



Welcome

Good
Morning
Mr/Mrs...

If we have English and the teacher comes into the room we stand up and say all together hello to the teacher.

In the other lessons we just say hello to the teacher, without standing up.

A day at our school

School begins at 7:35. Many pupils come by bus, bike or by foot. At the beginning of the lesson a gong rings. Then the teacher comes into the classroom.

At our school we have double lessons, which means 2x45 minutes. Every morning we have 3 such lessons and in between a 25 minutes and a 20 minutes break. Our class has school in the afternoon only once a week but last year we had three times a week.

On Mondays the lunch break starts at 12:50 and ends at 14:00 o'clock. In this break we go to eat something for example kebab, pizza or you can also go home and eat there. At 14 o'clock starts instruction and ends at 16:15 this instruction is three hours long. After that, we go home. But at home we must do lots of homework and that is really hard.



Instruction material



At our school we have very modern instruction material. For example we have 16 PCs in the Computer Room and one in our classroom. They are all connected to the internet. We have five TV sets, one laptop, and one smart board and this is in our classroom too. We have special material in the technology rooms, chemistry rooms, and physics rooms.

Special events

In our school we have the SMV, this means pupils with responsibility. Every class has a representative who represents the interests of the class. This pupils elect the SMV.

The pupils in the SMV then elect a representative of the school. This is the pupil with the most responsibility and this pupil can represent the suggestions of the pupils at our school. Our class has a secondary school representative.



WVR



In class 8 the class must do a big project, the WVR. WVR means economy, administration, law. Our class built a schoolyard in front of the building last year. We had the money from lots of firms. They were our sponsors. That was one of the best WVR projects at our school.

Trust teacher

In our school we have liaison teachers. They help pupils if they have problems with other pupils and the pupils can't help themselves. The teachers try to finish the conflict. Those teachers were voted by all pupils of the school. This year the liaison teachers are Mrs Schneider and Mr Winter.



Study trips



In our school we make a study trip in the 9th form. For example we go to different countries to learn about the history, the language and the sights. The teachers hope that we learn more about the language. This year we make the trip to London. There our class makes some presentation about the sights in London. We are accommodated in host families. Not every trip goes to London it also can go to France.

Project weeks

We have four project weeks in the year. In these weeks we make projects to topics that we work on in the lessons. For example we made a advertising column last year. The projects are very different and creative.



Final school trip



After we pass the exams we make a final trip to relax on the beach. In this week we don't learn anything. The last trip is almost very funny.

Breaks at our school

At our school there are 2 big breaks.

The first from 9.05 to 9.25 and the second one from 11.00 o'clock to 11.15.

We haven't got little breaks, because our lessons goes 2 schoolhours (2 * 45 min).

In the breaks must all people go out of the school building.

But when it rains we can stay in the hall from our school.

At the break it rings. The first time when the break begins, the second time when the break ends and a third time when we must be in the classroom.

Because we have got 5 minutes time to put our pencil cases on the table and wait for the teacher.



Gamestreet



We have a big gamestreet on our schoolyard. There can all pupil play with balls or ropes or other things.

And there is a "red barrel" from which the pupils can choose some of the balls or other things, but they must give something to the pupil who have the "red barrel" and then they get a ball.

Groups

On our schoolyard there are many groups. They stand together and talk a lot or play with little balls.



Problems with the Mainschool



Many pupils from the Mainschool come to our schoolyard and start a big fight. Its not allowed for the other people to come to our schoolyard, but they do it. They come to our school and get drinks from our drink machine but they have there own one.

Breaksale

In our two breaks are two sales. In the first you can buy pretzeln and cheesebread and other. And then in the second sale you can buy

Pizzas and roll food with chocolate.



Smoker places



At our school it's not allowed to smoke in the break. But some people from our school do it again and again. And when the teachers find out where the pupils smoke they search for an other place where they can smoke. And they find new places.

Break in the teachers' room

The teachers are in the school. They have their room and eat and drink there.

They mustn't go out when it rains like the pupils.

But some teachers must go out and look what the pupils in the break do on the schoolyard.



Drink machine



At our school there is a drink machine.

There the pupils can choose some drinks like: Coca Cola, Sprite, apple-juice, mineral water and a sport drink.

It costs 1 Euro but you get 0,10 Euro pledge.

Lunchbreak

When the pupils have got school in the afternoon, they have got 1 hour and 10 minutes break. Then they have school at 2 o'clock. In the lunchbreak they can do what they want.

They can go home or in the supermarket, because the supermarket is in the near from the school.



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