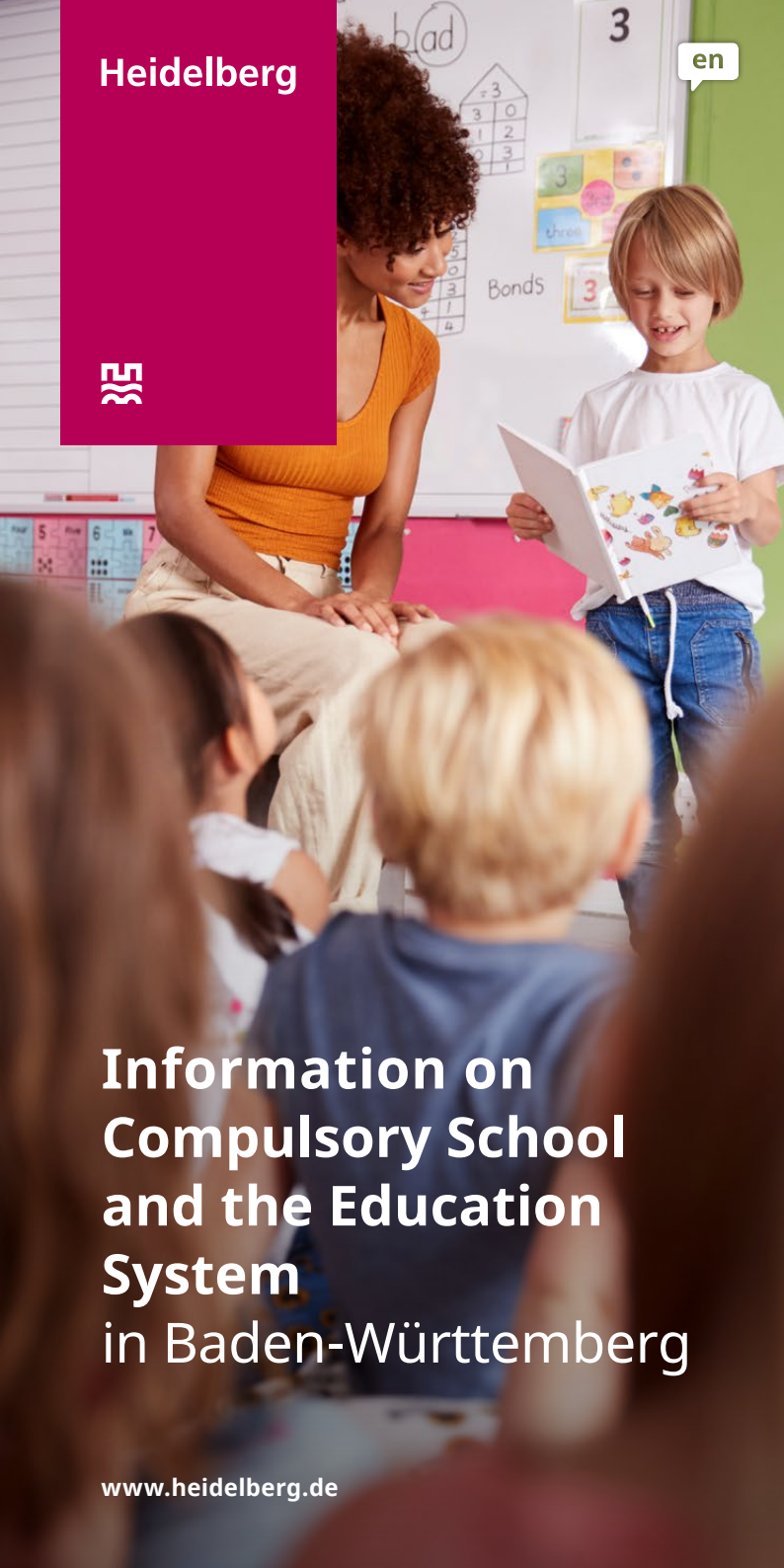


Heidelberg



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# Information on Compulsory School and the Education System in Baden-Württemberg

[www.heidelberg.de](http://www.heidelberg.de)



## **In Germany, school attendance is compulsory for children and adolescents from the age of 6 until they turn 18.**

This flyer provides comprehensive information about the start of compulsory schooling, its duration, and the different types of schools in Baden-Württemberg. Additionally, it offers practical advice on school selection and registration for children in Heidelberg.

### **When does compulsory schooling begin?**

- Children are generally required to attend school once they turn 6 years old.
- As soon as they have their permanent or habitual residence in Baden-Württemberg.
- All children turning 6 years old, by June 30th of the current calendar year are required to attend primary school at the beginning of the school year.

### **How long does compulsory schooling last?**

- In Germany, compulsory schooling lasts from the age of 6 to 18. Full-time school attendance is required until the 9th or 10th grade.
- If a student does not attend a Gymnasium (comparable to grammar school or high school) at the age of 16, they fulfill their compulsory schooling at a vocational school.

### **What is the process for your child to attend school in Heidelberg?**

- If your child is between 6 and 10 years old, they will attend one of the 26 public or private primary schools in Heidelberg. Public primary schools in Heidelberg have designated school districts. Typically, children are assigned to a school within their residential district. The school should be within walking distance for the children.
- Children who are not proficient enough in German attend a preparatory class before joining a regular class.
- If your child is between 10 and 18 years old, they will attend one of the secondary schools in Heidelberg.

**For further information, please contact our representatives via email at: [bildungsbuero@heidelberg.de](mailto:bildungsbuero@heidelberg.de)**

### **What types of schools are there?**

In Heidelberg, all school qualifications can be obtained, and if needed, also in a full-day program. After primary school, your child will receive a school recommendation, based on his or her school performance. This provides an orientation for the secondary school type: Gemeinschaftsschule (community school), Realschule, Gymnasium or Gesamtschule (comprehensive school).

# Education system in Baden-Württemberg

## Primary school

Your child is between 6 and 10 years old

Primary school lasts four years and is mandatory for children aged approximately 6 to 10. Here, basic subjects such as German, mathematics, science, art, music, and physical education are taught.

## Secondary school types

Your child is between 10 and 18 years old

After primary school, your child must attend a secondary school in Heidelberg:

### Community school

Community schools in Heidelberg cover grades 5 to 10. Students can obtain the Hauptschule certificate after grade 9 or 10, and the Realschule certificate after grade 10.

### Realschule

A Realschule leads to a middle school certificate after six years but also offers the possibility to obtain the Hauptschule certificate at the end of grade 9.

### Gymnasium

A Gymnasium offers a general university entrance qualification (Abitur) and usually takes 8 to 9 years to complete, ending after grade 12 or 13.

## Comprehensive school IGH

**(International Comprehensive School Heidelberg):**

A comprehensive school combines elements of Hauptschule, Realschule, and Gymnasium in one school. After a two-year integrated orientation phase for all students in grades 5 and 6, they divide into the different school types starting at grade 7.

## Vocational schools

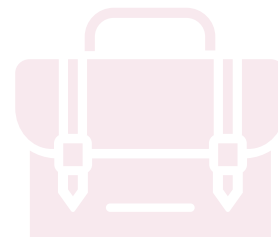
Your child is between 15 and 18 years old

There are various vocational schools, vocational colleges, and specialized schools. These allow students to acquire vocational qualifications alongside their schooling.

Requirements are: Your child must be 16 years old and the 8th grade must be successfully completed.



Which school is best for my child? Scan the code for the school guide.



## Registration

**!** Please do not go directly to a school to register your child. Instead, contact the respective representatives for the different types of schools in writing!

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### Primary school

#### **Ms. Schicht**

Executive Head of Primary Schools and Special Education Centers

06221 802870

poststelle@zghs-hd.schule.bwl.de

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### Community school, Realschule, International comprehensive school

#### **Mr. Klinga**

Executive Head of Realschulen and Community Schools

06221 58-410300

sekretariat@jkr-heidelberg.de

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### Gymnasium

#### **Mr. Nürk**

Executive Head of Gymnasien

06221 64340

sekretariat@bunsengymnasium.de

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### Vocational school

#### **Mr. Wittemann**

Executive Head of Vocational Schools

06221 507-700

poststelle@whs-hd.schule.bwl.de

## Contact for general inquiries about school attendance:

### City of Heidelberg, Office for Schools and Education (Amt für Schule und Bildung)

#### **Ms. Schroeder**

Office of School Development/Regional Education Bureau, Municipal Education Coordination and RÜM Management

06221 58-32012

bildungsbuero@heidelberg.de

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### Staatliches Schulamt Mannheim

#### **Ms. Brokowski-Shekete**

School Director and Head of Secondary Education I

0621 2924135

florence.brokowski-shekete@ssa-ma.kv.bwl.de

All responsible parties make every effort to arrange a school placement for your child as quickly as possible. However, after primary school, this can take up to four weeks depending on the registration situation.



## Office for Schools and Education

### City of Heidelberg

Neugasse 4-6  
69117 Heidelberg

Phone 06221 58-32000

Fax 06221 58-4632000

[amt-fuer-schule-und-bildung@heidelberg.de](mailto:amt-fuer-schule-und-bildung@heidelberg.de)

[www.heidelberg.de](http://www.heidelberg.de)