

Parents as educational partners

You can be involved in your child's school life by supporting your child's teachers with various activities as part of school projects.

You are also welcome to join the class on educational visits, participate in school trips, help organise school events and celebrations as well as oversee extracurricular activities.

Make use of parent meetings and contribute to decisions about your child's class. Other ways to participate at primary school are to serve as the parent class representative, on the parent committee or as an elected member of the school committee.

How to support your child



Practice the journey to school

Choose the safest way, even if it's not the shortest route..



Pay attention to bedtime

Your child shouldn't go to bed too late. Children need enough sleep to learn new things. Wake them up on time so that they arrive at school punctually.



Pack them a healthy meal

Make sure to include enough unsweetened drinks.



Look at their schoolbag together

Help your child to keep it organised and ensure that they have all their school supplies.



Talk to your child about the school day

Show that you are interested in what your child is learning and keep up with what's happening.



Stay in touch

Participate in parents' evenings and school events. Discuss your concerns with your child's class teacher.

Information

You can find more information on the homepage of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MBJS)
mbjs.brandenburg.de

Points of contact

Primary schools

You can find out the relevant primary school in your area from your local municipal administration. If you have any questions, the first points of contact are the teachers or head teachers of the relevant schools.

State school authorities

The schools inspectors of the state school authorities are also available for enquiries.

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Information for parents

**for a successful start
to school life**

Dear parents,

The time has come – your child is starting school! Finally, as I'm sure you've been looking forward to this day with your son or daughter. The pre-school days are over, and your child is now one of the "big kids". You're all feeling curious, excited and full of expectation.

The first day of school is a very special occasion that you will remember for a long time. It's a new beginning that will bring significant change to family life. Everyday life is different now; it has to be restructured and reorganised because your child is faced with a lot of new things in their school life. Having finished pre-school, they will now learn to read, write and do maths in a more structured way. The class community, the journey to school – your child will explore their new world independently. For this, they need support from familiar people who will motivate, encourage and also comfort them when things aren't going so well.

Now is the time that your child needs attention, appreciation and a good learning environment at home too. Maintaining a strong relationship with teaching staff provides the ideal foundation for supporting your child's interests and abilities. So stay in close contact with the teachers; discuss expectations, desires and ideas. Schools take this educational partnership very seriously.

Brandenburg's schools are both a place of living and learning. They impart knowledge, skills and values to children. Every child develops their own learning path, discovering interests and talents. The school encourages this development as much as possible.

Most children have attended pre-school until now and were lovingly supported in their growth and development. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all those who work there.

Parents, you have supported your child with love and care through the pre-school years. You'll now be needed in a new way for this next stage of their life. I encourage you to work with the school in order to give your child the best education and prospects. This flyer provides you with valuable tips for a successful start to school life. I wish you exciting and successful years ahead, and a happy and interesting time at school for your child.



Steffen Freiberg
Minister for Education, Youth and Sport
in the Federal State of Brandenburg

From pre-school to primary school



Many children have the opportunity to visit their future primary school in the last year of pre-school. This gives them security and makes starting school easier. This wonderful tradition is based on a cooperation between pre-schools and primary schools in Brandenburg.

In the year before enrolment, a school medical examination is performed by the child and adolescent health services of the local public health department. You will receive information about the appointment and location from the relevant primary school or public health department. During the time before enrolment, pre-schools are authorised or required to determine the speech level of the children they look after and to help arrange assistance with speech and language development, if necessary.

School registration

Any child who turns six by 30 September must be registered for school. Children who will turn six by 31 December can also be accepted at the parents' request. Register your child with the relevant local school before the announced deadline. You must attend registration in person with your child.

What you need for registration:

-  Your child's birth certificate
-  Confirmation of participation in a speech assessment prior to enrolment

Private schools (Schulen in freier Trägerschaft)

If parents want their child to attend a private school, the child must first be registered at the relevant primary school. Once a child has been allocated a place at private school, the parents should inform the relevant primary school as soon as possible.

Enrolment

Before school starts, schools hold the first parents' evening with the parents of the children starting school. This is when you get all the important information necessary for a successful start to school for your child. A school enrolment ceremony is generally arranged for the Saturday before the first day of school, information will be provided by the relevant primary school.

The start of teaching

The start of teaching is a very special, formative time for the children, full of expectation and curiosity. Pupils not only learn new daily routines and timings, but also get to know their classmates and form new friendships, while the class teaching staff become important people in the child's life.

Initial individual learning assessment (ILeA /ILeA plus)

So that all children are in a position to learn according to their performance, ability and inclination, teaching staff generally carry out an initial individual learning assessment during the first six weeks. The teachers use the results to identify the skills and existing knowledge that the child has when starting school. This helps teachers plan lessons more effectively and to develop individual support areas in coordination with parents.

Flexible initial phase (FLEX)

Some schools offer a special form of individual support with the flexible initial phase (FLEX) system. In the FLEX classes, pupils in Years 1 and 2 are taught together and at their own working pace at different levels. Depending on their individual learning development, pupils can spend one to three years in the FLEX class.

Performance assessment

Pupils do not receive any grades in the first year of school. Their efforts and learning progress are assessed in written form. A learning development discussion takes place with parents and children at the end of the first half of the school year. At the end of the first school year, pupils receive a report with written information on learning development, the level of skills developed as well as an overview of their level of knowledge in all subjects and learning areas.