

# School Life in Koblenz

## Information for Migrants

### Helpful Information at a glance



### Welcome!

Dear parents

In the near future your daughter or your son respectively will attend school Koblenz. Education is key to participating in our society and decisive for individual live opportunities. It is therefore important to us that your child familiarizes herself or himself quickly at the new school and can profit from the best educational opportunities there.

With this flyer we would like to explain the educational system in Rhineland-Palatine, so that you have an insight into the manifold alternatives regarding the school system for your child. In addition we will sum up a few important facts around the ordinary school day that may be important for you.

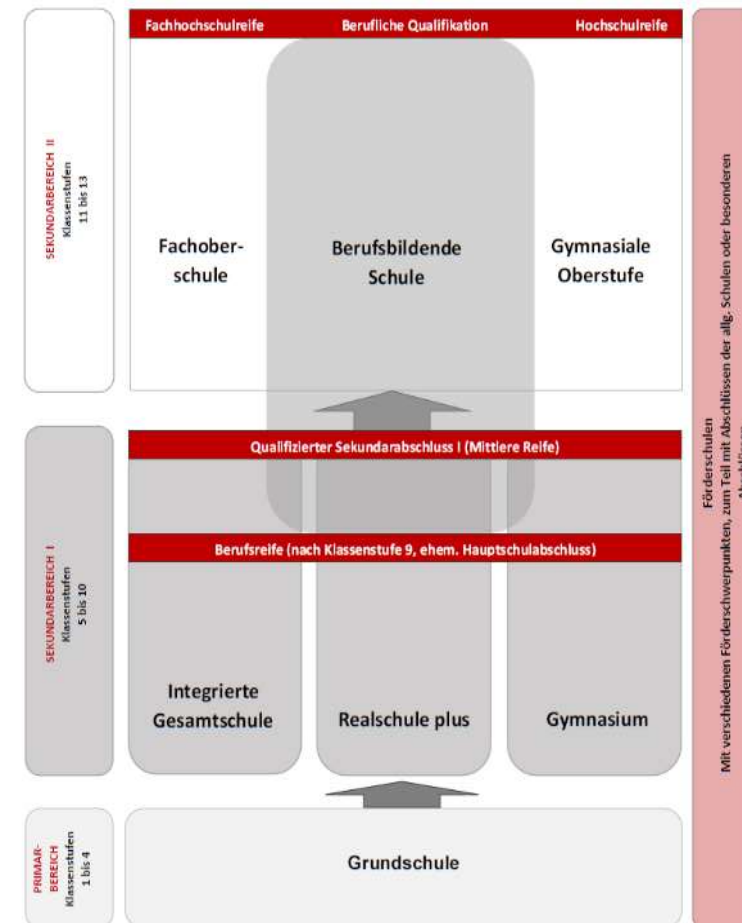
In case you have any further question regarding your child's school attendance, we love to help. Please contact us!

**We wish that your daughter or son has a wonderful start at her or his school here in Koblenz!**

### The School System in Rhineland-Palatine

All children and young people between the age of 6 and 18 years **may and must** attend school in Germany. This is called **compulsory education** (§57 School Act for Rhineland-Palatine - SchulG).

In school the children learn the German language, reading, writing and calculating. This is important, so that after school they can learn a profession and find work.



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## Elementary School

Forms the basis of all further education. The children learn calculating, reading and writing, among other things.

- ❖ Grade 1-4 (afterwards secondary schools such as "Realschule plus" (secondary school leading to intermediate qualification, Integrated Comprehensive School or Grammar School)
- ❖ As a rule children start school by the age of 6 years

## "Realschule plus"

The students receive a solid general education and the possibility for professional orientation.

- ❖ Leaving school after grade 9 (vocational maturity)
  - Followed by a vocational training program
- ❖ Graduation after grade 10 (intermediate qualification, secondary level I)
  - Followed by a vocational training program
  - Possibility to transfer to an ICS or grammar school after graduation secondary level I

## Integrated Comprehensive School (ICS)

The students receive an extended general education, which may serve as the entry point for a profession or university studies.

- ❖ Leaving school after grade 9 (vocational maturity)
  - Followed by a vocational training program
- ❖ Graduation after grade 10 (intermediate qualification, secondary level I)
  - Followed by a vocational training program
- ❖ Graduation after grade 13 (school-leaving exam)
  - Admission to university studies

## Grammar School

The students receive a profound education preparing them for university studies.

- ❖ Leaving school after grade 9 (vocational maturity)
  - Followed by a vocational training program
- ❖ Graduation after grade 10 (intermediate qualification, secondary level I)
  - Followed by a vocational training program
- ❖ Graduation after grade 13 (school-leaving exam)
  - Admission to university studies

## Special-Needs Schools

Students with special (pedagogic) needs receive respective support through specially trained teachers and education specialists.

- ❖ Usually grade 1 - 9
- ❖ Special needs schools are usually all-day schools
- ❖ Leaving school after grade 9 vocational maturity or special form of vocational maturity)
  - Followed by a vocational training program
- ❖ Sometimes graduation after grade 10 possible (special form of vocational maturity, graduation with focus on comprehensive development)
  - Followed by a vocational training program

## Vocational Schools

After attending secondary school up to grade 9 or 10 young people continue on vocational schools. Here, they can complete a vocational training program, among other things.

- ❖ Grades 10-13
- ❖ All forms of graduation possible (certificate of vocational maturity, vocational training, university entrance qualifications), so that the young people can follow their own educational path.

## School Life 101

### General

- ❖ You need to register your child at a school.
- ❖ School attendance is free of charge.
- ❖ You do not need to buy schoolbooks. You can borrow them, meaning the students may use them for a year and give them back afterwards. You will receive the form for borrowing books at your school or the city's homepage.
- ❖ Exchange between school and family is extremely important for educational success. Benefit from contacts such as parents-teacher conferences, school evenings, festivities and events.

### A regular school day

- ❖ Your child must attend school Monday to Friday. School includes excursions and trips as well as school parties, concerts, theatre, sports and swimming. Here to, the obligation to attendance applies.
- ❖ Punctuality is important. Your child must arrive at school on time every day in order to be able to follow the lessons. If lessons start at 8:00 a.m., your daughter or son should be there a few minutes before that.
- ❖ There is a study plan. This plan states the regular school day. Please make sure your child has everything with him or her that they need for that day (This may, for example, include: books, exercise books, breakfast, sport attire). If you are unsure what is required, please contact the class teacher.
- ❖ After school homework needs to be done. They are important, so that your child can repeat and deepen his or her understanding of the educational contents.
- ❖ If your child attends an all-day school, he or she will stay at the school after the lessons (in the afternoon). For a fee, they will receive lunch, so that they receive a warm meal Monday to Thursday. The fee may be reduced upon request. It must be submitted in time. You can find the forms at your school or on the homepage of the city of Koblenz.

## Way to School

- ❖ Some students have a long way to school. If that way is longer than 4 km (in case of elementary schools or special-needs schools further than 2 km or especially dangerous in terms of traffic) your child may use the bus or train to get to school. You find a form for requesting a bus or train ticket at the school or on the homepage of the city of Koblenz. It must be submitted to the school on time.

## Illness

- ❖ If your child is ill, please call the school before start of the lessons or write an email to the student's secretary, stating that your daughter or son is sick and cannot attend school. That is important, so that the school knows that your child is safe and does not worry. Please talk to the class teacher to find out the exact procedures in case your child falls ill.

## Holidays and bank holidays

- ❖ You may not plan any holidays during school is in session. This is what the school holidays are for. Please check what those are with your school (sometimes the holidays are stated in a letter to the parents at the beginning of each term or you find them on the school's homepage).
- ❖ For your child to be excused at special holidays (bank holidays where school would usually take place) please talk to your child's class teacher.

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## Stadt Koblenz Kultur- und Schulverwaltungsamt

### Bildungsbüro Koblenz

Communal coordination of education for newly migrated citizens  
- focus children and young people

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✉ bildungsbuero@stadt.koblenz.de

🌐 [www.koblenz.de](http://www.koblenz.de)

You find more information regarding schools in Koblenz and service points at the **Koblenzer Schulwegweiser**:  
(<https://www.koblenz.de/leben-in-koblenz/bildung/bildungsbuero>)

