

Transition from the Grundschule to the weiterführende Schule

- After attending the Grundschule my child goes to a secondary school, a **weiterführende Schule**. During the transition from the Grundschule to the weiterführende Schule, the child requires the support of its parents.
- **The parents decide** which kind of weiterführende Schule (secondary school) the child will attend. The decision is made on the basis of what my child knows and can do at the end of the 4th year. Parents make this decision in the interest of their child.
- Parents select the right school for their child from the **different types of school**: Hauptschule/Werkrealschule, Realschule, Gemeinschaftsschule, Gymnasium.
- **At the beginning of the year 4**, the parents receive **information** about the transition from the Grundschule to the weiterführende Schule. The parents receive this information at the Grundschule. It is important that you as parents use this opportunity to get information about the transition. During the 4th year, parents make the decision about which weiterführende Schule the child will attend from year 5 onwards.
- This is followed by a personal **information and consultation meeting** with the teacher. After the meeting, the teacher writes a recommendation which states which type of secondary school the child can attend. This is known as the **Grundschulempfehlung**. Parents receive the Grundschulempfehlung (recommendation from the primary school) in writing from the school by 1st March at the latest, in the year that the 4th year is completed by the child.
- Then the **parents register their child at one of the weiterführende Schulen**. There are fixed dates for registering your child. When you register your child at a school in Baden-Württemberg, you hand in the Grundschulempfehlung.
- Some parents are unsure which weiterführende Schule their child should attend. Sometimes the parents do not agree with the Grundschulempfehlung. You have the opportunity to take part in a **special consultation procedure**. You need to register in good time for this consultation procedure. But it is important nevertheless to register your child at a school in good time. Your Grundschule will know the dates for this.
- **Many different subjects** are taught at the weiterführende Schulen. Some of these are **optional subjects** that can be selected by the child. The weiterführende Schulen have different specialisms.
- Pupils receive a **general education** at the weiterführende Schulen and learn what they **need to know to start an apprenticeship, vocational training or higher education studies**.
- There are many opportunities to find out **information at the weiterführende Schulen**: Info events, open days, etc. There parents and their children can ask questions and get to know the school.

- The **decision** on what weiterführende Schule your child will attend **is important**. As a parent you should therefore get information and think carefully, together with your child.