



# The Education System in Basel

## Kindergarten

Compulsory education starts with two years of kindergarten.

- Places are allocated near home address
- Educational development through play
- Mon. – Fri., 8 – 12 hrs and one afternoon 14 – 16 hrs
- Yearly report and parent-teacher meeting
- After school care and lunchtime supervision available at additional cost

[www.volksschulen.bs.ch/kindergarten](http://www.volksschulen.bs.ch/kindergarten)

## Primary School

The kindergarten is followed by six years in primary school.

- Places are allocated near home address
- Holistic education in a wide range of subjects
- French is introduced from the 3rd primary year and English from the 5th
- Mon. – Fri., 8 – 12.15 hrs and one to three afternoons 14 – 15.45/16.30 hrs
- School reports from the 1st year, grades from the 5th year onwards
- After school care and lunchtime supervision available at additional cost

[www.volksschulen.bs.ch/primarschule](http://www.volksschulen.bs.ch/primarschule)

## German before Kindergarten

German support for children with insufficient knowledge of German prepares children for entry to school in the year before kindergarten.

- Compulsory attendance at a playgroup or other German speaking institution
- Minimum two half days per week, without charge
- Assessment of the language level through a questionnaire 1½ years before kindergarten entry

[www.deutsch-vor-dem-kindergarten.bs.ch](http://www.deutsch-vor-dem-kindergarten.bs.ch)

German before Kindergarten  
(Deutsch vor dem Kindergarten)

Kindergarten

Primary School  
(Primarschule)

Secondary School  
(Sekundarschule)

Three performance levels:  
A level  
E level  
P level

Vocational Education and Training  
(Berufliche Grundbildung)

Upper Secondary Commercial and IT School

Upper Secondary Specialised School (FMS)

Baccalaureate School (Gymnasium)

School years



Primary level

Secondary level I

Secondary level II

## Secondary School

Secondary school prepares young people for an apprenticeship or an upper secondary school.

- Placement to a school (preferences will be taken into consideration if possible)
- **Three performance levels:** **A** = general standard, **E** = advanced standard, **P** = high standard
- Allocated to a performance level according to grades in report
- Possibility of movement between performance levels
- Day school structure: possibility to remain at school/ have a meal at the school

[www.volksschulen.bs.ch/sekundarschulen](http://www.volksschulen.bs.ch/sekundarschulen)

Bridge-year prog.

## Baccalaureate Schools and Vocational Education

At the end of compulsory education young people either begin a vocational apprenticeship or change to an upper secondary school to continue their education.

- Vocational apprenticeship = combination of on-the-job training and vocational school (dual vocational training)
- Transfer to a baccalaureate school (upper secondary) on the basis of appropriate grades
- A federal vocational baccalaureate or an upper secondary level baccalaureate (Gymnasium, FMS) allows students to study at a University of Applied Science or university.
- Bridge-year programmes for young people without a follow-on solution

[www.mb.bs.ch](http://www.mb.bs.ch)

Information in Deutsch, Français, Italiano:

[www.ed.bs.ch/welcome](http://www.ed.bs.ch/welcome)



# Information and Contacts

## Information Events

Parents will be regularly invited to information events.

- Yearly information evenings about kindergarten, primary school, secondary school and after school care
- Further one-off events according to the individual schools or years
- Information is often available in different languages

[www.volksschulen.bs.ch](http://www.volksschulen.bs.ch)

[www.tagesstrukturen.bs.ch](http://www.tagesstrukturen.bs.ch)

[www.mb.bs.ch](http://www.mb.bs.ch) (Upper secondary schools and vocational education)

## School registration for children newly moved to the area

- **Kindergarten, Primary School and Secondary School:** Personal registration after making appointment by phone. Please contact the offices listed on the right.
- **FMS (Upper Secondary Specialised School) and Gymnasium (Baccalaureate Schools):** Register directly at the school (telephone first for appointment)

### Bring with you:

- Official identification document of the child and one parent
- Family book, if available
- Permanent residence permit or residence permit related to the parents and child
- School reports, if available



Information in Deutsch, Français, Italiano:  
[www.ed.bs.ch/welcome](http://www.ed.bs.ch/welcome)

### 0–4 years

(or until school-age)  
**Day-centres and Family day-care providers**

**Office for daycare-centres**  
Freie Strasse 35, Postfach, 4001 Basel  
061 267 46 14  
vermittlung.tagesbetreuung@bs.ch  
www.tagesbetreuung.bs.ch

**Office for family day-care providers**  
Freie Strasse 35, Postfach, 4001 Basel  
061 260 20 60, info@tagesfamilien.org  
www.tagesfamilien.org

**Contact point day-care Riehen**  
Wettsteinstrasse 1, 4125 Riehen  
061 646 82 56  
www.riehen.ch

### 2–4 years

**Playgroups**

**Contact Point for Playgroups Basel**  
Freie Strasse 35, 4001 Basel  
061 690 26 96, info@fks-bs.ch  
www.fks-bs.ch

**Contact Point Day-care Riehen**  
Wettsteinstrasse 1, 4125 Riehen  
061 646 82 56  
www.riehen.ch

### 4–6 years

**Kindergarten**  
Including after day care

**Compulsory Schools (Volksschulen)**  
Kohlenberg 27, 4001 Basel  
061 267 54 60, volksschulen@bs.ch  
www.volksschulen.bs.ch

**Local Schools Bettingen and Riehen**  
Erlensträsschen 10, 4125 Riehen  
061 208 60 00, leitunggemeindeschulen@riehen.ch  
www.riehen.ch

### 6–12 years

**Primary School**  
Including after day care

**Compulsory Schools (Volksschulen)**  
Kohlenberg 27, 4001 Basel  
061 267 54 60, volksschulen@bs.ch  
www.volksschulen.bs.ch

**Local Schools Bettingen and Riehen**  
Erlensträsschen 10, 4125 Riehen  
061 208 60 00, leitunggemeindeschulen@riehen.ch  
www.riehen.ch

### 12–15 years

**Secondary School**  
Including after day care

**Compulsory Schools (Volksschulen)**  
Kohlenberg 27, 4001 Basel  
061 267 54 60, volksschulen@bs.ch  
www.volksschulen.bs.ch

**Career Guidance (Berufsberatung)**  
Rosentalstrasse 17, 4058 Basel  
061 267 86 82, berufsberatung@bs.ch  
www.berufsberatung.bs.ch

### From 15 years

**Career Guidance (Berufsberatung)**  
Rosentalstrasse 17, 4058 Basel  
061 267 86 82, berufsberatung@bs.ch  
www.berufsberatung.bs.ch

**Upper Secondary Specialised School Basel (FMS)**  
Engelgasse 120, 4052 Basel  
061 208 60 80, fms@bs.ch  
www.fmsbasel.ch

**Vocational Education (Berufsbildung) Mittelschulen und Berufsbildung**  
Leimenstrasse 1, 4001 Basel  
061 267 84 07, mb@bs.ch  
www.berufsbildung.bs.ch

**Baccalaureate Schools (Gymnasien) Mittelschulen und Berufsbildung**  
Leimenstrasse 1, 4001 Basel  
061 267 62 94, mb@bs.ch  
www.gymnasium.bs.ch