

To:
Parents and Guardians of children currently at primary
School or will be of compulsory school age at the beginning
of the school year in summer 2011 in the rural district of
Hameln-Pyrmont

Hameln, 30.09.2010

Survey of Parents' and Guardians' Interest in Comprehensive Schools (IGS)

Dear Parents,

During our forthcoming debate on the development of schools of general education in Hameln, we will also discuss the opening of a new comprehensive school (IGS). We are conducting this survey to obtain the opinion of parents and guardians on a comprehensive school in Hameln as an additional education possibility to those already existing.

This survey covers the entire area of the rural district of Hameln-Pyrmont and the results will help us in planning the future development of schools. The results will also be a major prerequisite for the Lower Saxony Education Authority to make a decision on opening a comprehensive school (IGS) in Hameln.

The rural district council would also like to know whether there is a requirement for a comprehensive school (IGS) outside the town area. Please let us know your interest in a comprehensive school (IGS) in the rural area of Hameln without specifying a particular location. For this purpose we are forwarding you a questionnaire with which you can reply to these questions.

Depending on the outcome of the survey and the parents' and guardians' interest, a comprehensive school could be opened for the school year 2011/2012 (commencing summer 2011) or for the school year 2012/2013 (commencing summer 2012). This survey is aimed at parents and guardians whose children are currently at a primary school (forms 1 to 4) or whose children will be of compulsory school age for the school year commencing summer 2011.

The enclosed information leaflet provides initial information on comprehensive schools. More detailed information can be obtained at the

Comprehensive School Information Evening

to be staged in the

**Assembly Hall, Pestalozzi-Schule, Pestalozzistr. 1, 31785 Hameln
on 7th October, 2010 at 7 pm**

You are cordially invited to attend this meeting. During the survey period, information and advice can be obtained from the town council education department on telephone 05151 2027070.

Please complete the questionnaire and return it in the enclosed stamped and addressed envelope by 15.10.2010.

Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Sincerely yours,

Susanne Lippmann
Lord Mayor

Rüdiger Butte
District Administrator

Data Collection Sheet

For determining parents' interest in comprehensive schools (IGS)

Please Note: Response to this questionnaire is completely voluntary.

Your reply will be used for statistical purposes only and is subject to the data protection laws of Lower Saxony. It will only be used for determining interest in comprehensive schools. Any personal data will be treated strictly confidential and destroyed after evaluation.

Your response to this questionnaire is not a definite commitment to enrol or send your child to a particular school. Your details will, however, be taken as a serious expression of interest and serve as a basis for further decisions.

My / our child (please print forename and surname)

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> | Currently visits the (please tick the appropriate circle) ○ 1st form ○ 2nd form ○ 3rd form ○ 4th form At the primary school (please enter the name and location of the primary school) |
| <input type="radio"/> | Does not yet go to primary school but will reach compulsory school age by the beginning of the school year in summer 2011. |

| | |
|---|--|
| I / we would like to enrol my/our child in one of the following schools after leaving the primary school: <i>Only tick <u>one</u> circle please</i> | |
|---|--|

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> | IGS – Comprehensive School in Hameln | <input type="radio"/> | Secondary General, Secondary Intermediate, Grammar School, Cooperative Comprehensive School or other schools |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|---|

Sincere thanks for your co-operation.
Please return the completed data collection sheet to the town council of Hameln in the stamped envelope by 15.10.2010.

IGS

What is an IGS?

In the Integrierte Gesamtschule (IGS) spans the grades 5 to 12; it can also be run without the grades 11 and 12. The IGS accepts students **with different levels of performance and aptitudes**.

The IGS is normally run as an all-day school and

- imparts a basic, advanced or broad and deep general education,
- allows for individual focus according to students' performance capabilities and aptitudes,
- strengthens basic skills, independent learning and also provides an introduction to academic study methods,
- allows students to continue with their vocational or academic education because of the different possible graduation qualifications.

Educational standards for the sixth form at an IGS are the same as those for a Gymnasium. Grades 5 to 10 at an IGS are taught by teachers with different teaching qualifications for Hauptschule, Realschule and Gymnasium, and also for the special educational needs school if necessary; grades 11 to 13 are normally taught by teachers with a Gymnasium qualification.

How are students taught at an IGS?

The basic principle of the IGS, **integration**, is manifested in:

- the integration of students with different performance capabilities in one school,
- the shared curriculum,
- the collective classes in a number of subjects,
- the common school life,
- one staff for the entire school.

Was ist eine IGS?

In der Integrierten Gesamtschule (IGS) werden Schülerinnen und Schüler des 5. bis 13. Schuljahrgangs unterrichtet, die IGS kann auch ohne gymnasiale Oberstufe geführt werden. Die IGS nimmt Schülerinnen und Schüler mit **unterschiedlichen Leistungen und Begabungen** auf. Die IGS wird in der Regel als Ganztagschule geführt und

- vermittelt ihren Schülerinnen und Schülern eine grundlegende, erweiterte oder breite und vertiefte Allgemeinbildung,
- ermöglicht ihnen eine individuelle Schwerpunktbildung entsprechend ihrer Leistungsfähigkeit und ihren Neigungen,
- stärkt Grundfertigkeiten, selbstständiges Lernen und auch wissenschaftliches Arbeiten,
- befähigt ihre Schülerinnen und Schüler durch unterschiedliche Abschlüsse, ihren Bildungsweg berufs- oder studienbezogen fortzusetzen.

Für die Arbeit in der gymnasialen Oberstufe gelten dieselben fachbezogenen Vorgaben wie für das Gymnasium. Im 5. bis 10. Schuljahrgang der IGS unterrichten Lehrkräfte mit den verschiedenen Lehrämtern für die Hauptschule, Realschule und das Gymnasium, ggf. für die Förderschule; im 11. bis 13. Schuljahrgang unterrichten im Regelfall nur Lehrkräfte mit dem Lehramt am Gymnasium.

Wie wird an der IGS unterrichtet?

Das für die IGS charakteristische Prinzip der **Integration** wird deutlich durch:

- die Zusammenfassung von Schülerinnen und Schülern mit unterschiedlichem Leistungsvermögen in einer Schule,
- einen gemeinsamen Lehrplan,
- gemeinsamen Unterricht in mehreren Fächern,
- gemeinsames Schulleben,
- ein Kollegium für die gesamte Schule.



IGS

The IGS is also a **differentiating** type of school: an external differentiation of expertise is implemented through subject-specific specialised courses on two levels:

- Mathematics and English from the 7th grade
- German from the 8th grade
- in natural sciences no later than the 9th grade.

The classes in grades 5 to 10 consist of obligatory lessons, optional obligatory lessons and optional lessons.

What kind of graduation qualifications can be acquired?

At the end of secondary school I, the IGS offers the same graduation diploma as the Hauptschule, the Realschule and, if applicable, the Gymnasium: final Hauptschule qualification (at the end of 9th grade); Secondary School Diploma I – final Hauptschule qualification; Secondary School Diploma I – final Realschule qualification and Advanced Secondary School Diploma I.

The acquisition of a diploma requires successful participation in graduation exams in the final year.

Acquisition of the Advanced Secondary School Diploma I qualifies the student to attend the introductory phase of the upper classes of a comprehensive Gymnasium or the specialized vocational Gymnasium. The General Qualification for University Entrance will be acquired after 13 school years.

Die IGS ist aber auch eine **differenzierende** Schulform: Eine äußere Fachleistungsdifferenzierung durch Fachleistungskurse auf mindestens zwei Anspruchsebenen wird in

- Mathematik und Englisch ab Kl. 7,
- Deutsch ab Kl. 8,
- in den Naturwissenschaften spätestens ab Kl. 9 durchgeführt.

Der Unterricht in den Schuljahrgängen 5 bis 10 umfasst Pflichtunterricht, Wahlpflichtunterricht und wahlfreien Unterricht.

Welche Abschlüsse können erreicht werden?

Die IGS führt am Ende des Sekundarbereichs I zu Abschlüssen, die auch an der Hauptschule, der Realschule und ggf. dem Gymnasium vergeben werden: Hauptschulabschluss (Ende 9. Schuljahrgang), Sekundarabschluss I – Hauptschulabschluss, Sekundarabschluss I – Realschulabschluss und Erweiterter Sekundarabschluss I. Der Erwerb eines Abschlusses setzt die erfolgreiche Teilnahme an einer Abschlussprüfung im Abschlussjahrgang voraus.

Der Erwerb des Erweiterten Sekundarabschlusses I berechtigt zum Übergang in die Einführungsphase der gymnasialen Oberstufe oder des Fachgymnasiums. Die allgemeine Hochschulreife wird nach dreizehn Schuljahren erworben.

