

The journey to starting school

German School Kuala Lumpur

Information for parents about
school entry at DSKL





Welcome to the German School Kuala Lumpur

Dear parents,

Your child will soon be starting at the German School Kuala Lumpur. We would already like to extend a very warm welcome to you as a “new” family.

Starting school marks a new chapter in your child’s life. We have put together this brochure to help us embark on this journey together, with confidence and plenty of excitement.

Here you will find information about the admissions process, how our preschool prepares your child, the school entry celebration and the first few days at school. We will also invite you to parent information evenings and individual meetings at the preschool and primary school.

You will receive separate information about parent information evenings and activities in due course.

We wish you and your child a continued preschool experience built on trust and a good start to this new chapter! We hope this brochure will answer your most important questions.

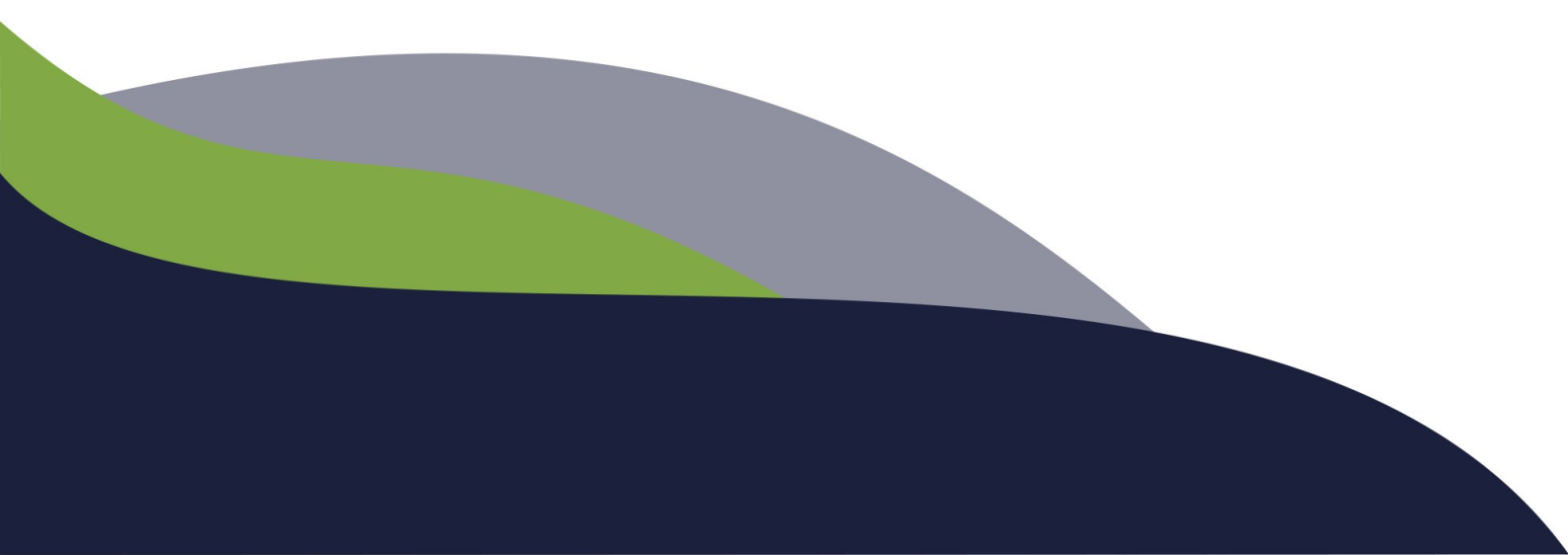
Kind regards,

Christine Torschmied and Gerrit Yamaguchi

General information

We admit all children who turn six on or before 1 August of the current year and have a basic knowledge of German to our primary school.

A child's school entry may be deferred at the parents' request.



Cut-off date for compulsory school entry

Under our school's cut-off-date policy, all children who turn six on or before 1 August of the current calendar year are required to start school. These children enter school at the beginning of the school year in August.

Unfortunately, we cannot take account of different rules in your home federal state in Germany.



Deferring entry for children of compulsory school age

As a general rule, all children should start school when they are due to do so.

Deferring entry and starting school at a later date is possible in exceptional, justified cases.

Following a thorough consultation with you as the child's parents or guardians and the responsible preschool educators, the school leadership will decide whether your child's entry should be deferred.



Early school entry ("Kann-Kind" provision)

For all children who turn six after the cut-off date and on or before 31 December:

- An application to attend preschool may be submitted in the school year before school entry. Following a consultation with the educators and the Head of Kindergarten, the application will be approved if the child is expected to be able to participate successfully in lessons. In these cases, a school readiness assessment takes place in February before school entry. This forms the basis for deciding whether the child should start school or continue to attend preschool.
- An application for early school entry may also be submitted for a child who joins DSKL during the current preschool year. In these cases, a school readiness assessment takes place before school entry. This forms the basis for the admission decision.

In cases of doubt, the school leadership makes the decision.

Admissions process

If your child attends our preschool and is ready for school, you register your child for Grade 1.

If there is any uncertainty about a child's readiness for school, we will arrange discussions with you as the child's parents or guardians. The educators, Head of Kindergarten and primary school learning support teachers work closely with parents and guardians in this process.

If your child does not attend our preschool, we will discuss together whether our school entry criteria are met. If there is any uncertainty, a school readiness assessment and/or language proficiency assessments will be carried out.



Cooperation between preschool and primary school

The kindergarten and primary school work closely together.

During the preschool year, a range of joint activities with the primary school takes place. These allow your child to get to know the school and its pupils, helping to ensure as smooth a transition as possible to the next stage of schooling.

As part of this cooperation, we have established three key elements to support the transition from preschool to kindergarten in the children's best interests:

- Support for the preschool from our learning support teachers
- German language support for all children, as well as a small-group German immersion club ("Sprachbad-AG")
- Arrangements for the transition from preschool to primary school

Preparing for school – through our preschool programme

Our preschool programme aims to awaken children's willingness to learn through a holistic range of learning and play activities.

By introducing school-based approaches to learning and working closely with the primary school, we prepare children for the demands of primary school in an age-appropriate way.



To prepare for a successful transition from kindergarten to school, children work on the following key areas during this period:

- Language and speaking skills
- Understanding numbers and quantities
- Personal development and social skills
- Concentration and learning behaviour

- Perception, thinking and memory skills
- Gross and fine motor skills
- Understanding the world

The requirements your child should meet when entering Grade 1 are summarised in our school readiness profile. You are welcome to contact our Head of Primary School for further information about this profile.

Language support

German is the language of instruction at our primary school. Being able to express oneself sufficiently in German and to understand others accurately are important requirements for a good start at school.

Acquiring age-appropriate language skills before starting school is therefore particularly important.

To help every child make a successful start at school, we assess each child's language proficiency at regular intervals and begin language support measures as early as our kindergarten programme. This support continues in preschool and primary school.



Our language support focuses on developing and further strengthening language skills in the following areas:

- Encouraging a willingness to communicate and developing listening comprehension
- Expanding active vocabulary
- Clarifying and explaining facts and situations
- Practising grammatically correct speech
- Practising the correct pronunciation of sounds and sound combinations
- Developing a fluent rhythm and pace of speech

The school entry celebration

The school entry celebration traditionally takes place during the first week of school. We will email you details of the programme at the beginning of the summer holidays.

Then the big moment finally arrives: at a school entry celebration prepared by the primary school classes, with ceremonial speeches by the school leadership and the German Ambassador, we warmly welcome our new Grade 1 pupils into our school community.



While the new class enjoys its first lesson, parents have time to get to know one another over a buffet.

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The first week of school

The first week of school begins on the following Monday, with the school day running from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. according to the timetable. Please send your child with the required items listed on the materials list. Your child's class teacher will provide the list in good time.

Children in Grades 1 and 2 have breakfast between the first and second lessons. Please send your child with a water bottle and a lunchbox containing a healthy breakfast every day.

Please note that afternoon clubs start at a later date. Until the clubs begin, all Grade 1 pupils go home at 3:15 p.m. each day.

Experience has shown that everyday school life brings many new impressions for Grade 1 pupils and can be demanding, particularly during the first half of the school year. We therefore recommend limiting the number of clubs you sign your child up for.





From now on, please say goodbye to your child at the school gate if you or another trusted person brings them to school in person. Your child can make their own way to the classroom.

All pupils eat lunch under the supervision of the teachers. Lunch must be pre-ordered from the caterer. Pupils choose their own meal on site.

The first parent information evening will also take place during the first few weeks. Dates for these evenings and other important information are included in the DSKL newsletter, which is emailed to the school community at regular intervals.

Please always read the newsletter carefully.

Kindergarten contact



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For more about our kindergarten and primary school,
please visit our website: www.dskl.edu.my

Primary school contact

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Gerrit Yamaguchi

*Wishing your child
a wonderful start
to school.*

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