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PHORMS CONCEPT

Local Schools, Global Education

We teach children and young people to understand the world in all its cultural and linguistic diversity, local characteristics and global contexts.

We allow each child to be different. We foster individual talents and interests to enable our students to remain self-confident and inquisitive.

We are a community. We learn together and show one another respect and do so within a whole-day school environment.



For A Better Understanding Of The World

Bilingual Education

Learning languages is a living process. For this reason, German and English enjoy equal status at Phorms schools both as working languages in the classroom and for everyday communication around the school. This enables our students to use both languages in a completely natural way whilst also developing an understanding for other lifestyles and value systems.

Two Languages For Double Competency: Teaching In German And English

German and English speaking teaching staff take care of the children from nursery school onwards. Most of the teaching at primary school takes place in English. This enables the students to develop their language skills within the specific situations in which they find themselves. At secondary school, German and English are used more or less equally as teaching media. This allows the students to acquire the relevant specialist vocabulary in both languages.

Making Sense: Teaching According To The Immersion Method

Our staff teach English using the immersion method. This involves using all the children's senses to enable them to access the language. Our English speaking teachers also deploy facial mimicry, gestures, pictures and symbols to back up the spoken word. This means that the students learn English more quickly, more easily and more intensively.

Living Their Language: Native Speaker Teachers

Being bilingual involves more than simply speaking two languages. It also means an ability to think and feel in both tongues. The students learn how to do this from our native speaker teaching staff. They experience English as part of their own lives during class, on the school playground, at lunch, at festivals and celebrations and on excursions.

Two Languages Are Only The Beginning: Further Languages

Depending on location, we also offer Spanish, French and Latin as further languages. We try to secure the services of native speakers to teach French and Spanish.



No Two Children Are The Same: Differentiated Learning

Each child is an individual. Our teachers keep a close eye on every single student so that they can offer the best possible support. The additional time we gain from our all-day care is used to work more intensively with the children and in a more target-oriented manner than would usually be the case. Our students learn more effectively in terms of trusting their own skills and abilities and developing respect for the strengths and weaknesses of others.

Diversity Instead Of Frontal Teaching: Differentiation And Team Work

We provide differentiation within the teaching process via methodological diversity. Our students work in teams depending on their own individual learner types. These teams may also extend beyond subject and class boundaries, and this gives an opportunity to make use of a range of different techniques to gain understanding of a topic. The students read, hold presentations, conduct experiments, do written exercises and construct models. This enables them to develop their own topics whilst also discovering their own talents, interests and preferred learning methods.

Making Sure All Students Are Stretched: Individual Support

Support staff regularly work with small groups of students who are achieving learning out-comes either much more quickly or much more slowly than the rest of the class. This technique is particularly used in the primary school. The fact that the support staff are familiar with the children's strengths and weaknesses means that they are able to vary topics according to learning type and pace of learning and teach the material in an interesting way.

For The Best Possible Teaching: Sensible Class Sizes

Our aim is to provide an optimum standard of care by keeping class size low. At the moment, our class maximum for Primary School is 22 students per class, at Secondary School 24 students per class. The leadership team may adjust this standard due to educational needs. A pool of support staff assist the class teacher in the Primary School.



Motivation Is Infectious: Enthusing Teachers

Only by displaying motivation oneself is it possible to inspire others. Our teaching staff bring the necessary enthusiasm to the fore and come from all parts of the world. They enjoy working as part of a team, are open to innovation and adopt a child-centric and parent-oriented approach. The commitment they show ensures that our students enjoy attending school.

Because Only The Best Is Good Enough: International Teacher Recruitment

We take great care in the way we select our teachers and nursery school educators and place a high value on good subject knowledge and a high degree of pedagogical skill. Our teachers are familiar with the latest educational methods and base their teaching on German and international standards.



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education

Because Even The Best Can Become Better: Continuing Teacher Training

Regular quality checks and teaching observations improve the didactic and methodological expertise of our teaching staff on an ongoing basis. We also provide training in the form of national and international training courses and conferences.



**Place To Learn Rather Than A Teaching Institution:
Whole-Day Community**

Our school is much more than a place where learning takes place. Our students, parents and teachers enjoy the living environment we provide. In order to achieve this, we work closely together in a spirit of mutual trust. Our students learn to live within the school community, to share, to assert their interests and to prove themselves.

No Half Measures: Our Whole-Day Programme

The fact that we house our nursery school, primary school and secondary school under one roof enables us to achieve well coordinated transitions from one stage of education to the next. The whole-day care we provide is an important element in this. Phorms schools are open all day. Arrangements are in place to enable our students to learn together—during teaching, at meal times and during the afternoon programme.

Offering That Little Bit More: Our Additional Programmes

Additional time creates the scope for experimentation and research and also offers us a chance to get to know one another and provide support. Our teachers and qualified course leaders construct an afternoon programme which offers a wide range of cultural, artistic and sporting activities.

Modern Equipment For Modern Learning

Our schools offer sufficient space and the very latest equipment for science, sport and music. During lessons, teachers use an interactive Smart Board with Internet connection and every student has access to a computer.

Always In Good Hands: Our Holiday Programme

Our qualified teaching staff are also able to provide whole-day care during the holidays. Children take part in a whole range of exciting and challenging projects which provide them with an opportunity to make music, go on excursions, do handicrafts or learn about new sports.



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Future Is Built On Heritage: Local Roots

The education we provide is closely tied in with the world of a child's experience. We explore the immediate surroundings with the children and young people at our schools and provide them with an understanding and genuine sense of their local environment whilst also offering a broader perspective which extends beyond national boundaries. All of this means that our students are able to learn to feel at home in the globalised world without losing sight of their roots.

Established Foundation: Federal State Curricula

The education we provide is always based on the federal state curricula. This means that students may transfer from or to the state system at any time. The highest qualification we offer is the Upper Secondary School Leaving Certificate.

Global Perspective: International Orientation

We supplement our curriculum with internationally recognised teaching programmes. Our primary schools use the Cambridge International Primary Programme. Additionally to the German Abitur, we want to offer an international diploma at all Secondary Schools which enables admission to international universities.

Regional Commitment: Local Partnerships

At our locations, we cooperate with social institutions and associations, companies, local government authorities and universities. With our local network we want to present our idea of education to the outside world whilst also offering our students a greater understanding of their environment.



Discovering New Horizons: Embracing Diversity

Our students embrace the diversity our community offers. This includes the mix of different cultural, religious and social backgrounds. This very much leaves its mark. Phorms students respect the views of their fellow human beings and are able to deal with the attitudes of others in a constructive way.

Opportunities For The Many: Income-Related Fees

The solidarity principle on which we operate is based on income-related fees in order to offer access to Phorms schools to children from different income groups.

Seeing Beyond Outward Appearances: Our School Uniform

Our school uniform creates a learning and social environment in which the main focus is on the community. This means that the children are able to develop independently of social origins and fashion trends.