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Handout for initial orientation

Englisch

Attending a day care center

In Saxony-Anhalt all children have the right to attend **pre-school or kindergarten (Kindertageseinrichtung | Kita)** or be taken care of by a **day child care professional**. This way children have the opportunity to play and learn together with other children. They will be supported according to their age, learn from and with each other. The trained educational professionals design individual assistance and education programmes to foster and strengthen the development and individual abilities of the children and thereby ensure that all children have the same prerequisites to start school successfully.

Many children attend day-care facilities even before the age of three. The facilities host different groups. The **nursery school** takes care of children from **0 to 3 years** old, older children between **3 and 7 years** are taken care of in **kindergarten**. Usually, the days follow a certain routine: first there is the common breakfast, then a story telling circle, free playing, educational offers as well as space for moving and playing outside. The common lunch is followed by an afternoon nap, a little afternoon snack and free indoor and outdoor playtime until the children are picked up by their parents. Structure and routine offer stability and orientation. The children learn to co-organise their days, take over little tasks and gain important social experiences in dealing with other children and grown-ups. There are also some highlights in the day-care centres: On special occasions the staff and the parents organise little festivals and celebrations together.

Many day care centres are open between 6 am and 5 pm. Parents can choose whether to have their children looked after for **five, six, seven or eight hours a day**. This way, parents can go about their work, study in language courses or complete training with peace of mind. If parents need day care for up to ten hours a day because of work or for family reasons, the request is reviewed in each individual case by the Youth Welfare Office (Jugendamt).

A child can be registered for day care centre, day nursery or after-school care centre either directly at the desired day care centre (please note office hours) or online via the parents portal (ElternPortal). If parents wish to have their child looked after in one of those facilities, they need a **child ID (Kind-ID)** for their child. If parents are looking for a childcare place for the first time, they can obtain the child ID by registering in the **parents portal (ElternPortal)** at: <https://kitaplatz.magdeburg.de>

If parents do **not** have access to the internet, the **day care centre counselling service of the Youth Welfare Office of the state capital Magdeburg (Kita-Beratung des Jugendamtes)** can provide support during office hours on Tuesdays from 2 to 5.30 p.m. and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Parents need an **appointment**, which they can make by phone, email or online at www.magdeburg.de/Kinderbetreuung.

Youth Welfare Office of the State Capital Magdeburg (Jugendamt) | Kita-Beratung | Wilhelm-Höpfner-Ring 1 | 39116 Magdeburg | Contact person: Ms Reichenauer | Room 223 | Telephone 0391 5403131 | kitaberatung@jga.magdeburg.de

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Besides further handouts the Migrationswegweiser Magdeburg offers information on various information, consultation and assistance services.

www.willkommen-in-magdeburg.de



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