

# **Determine language skills before starting school**

In Bremen, all children have to take a language test one year before they start school and, if necessary, take part in support. You can find out more about this here.

### **Competent Department**

• Institut für Qualitätsentwicklung im Land Bremen (IQHB)

#### **Contact Person**

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### **Basic information**

In order to learn successfully at school, it is important to be able to speak and understand German well for your age.

In Bremen, all children take part in a language test one year before they start school. The so-called language assessment is used to check language development. If children need support, they receive language support in the year before they start school. The costs for the language test and language support are covered by the municipality of Bremen.

### **Requirements**

• All children who live and are registered in the state of Bremen and who will start school in the following year (compulsory children) or can start school (optional children) are invited to take the test.

# Procedure

The parents of children who have to attend the language assessment usually receive an information letter by post in January with the opportunity for individual feedback. This is usually followed in April by an invitation to a test appointment for the beginning of May.

The appointment usually takes place at the nearest elementary school. At the appointment, the PRIMO test is carried out either on a PC or iPad and is explained to the child as a kind of computer game. The test consists of three parts and takes most children around 25 to 30 minutes to complete.

Parallel to the PRIMO test, an assessment of active language is obtained from the daycare center.

Both together (PRIMO test and assessment of active language) are then evaluated and the language level is determined. Parents are usually informed of the result at the beginning of the summer vacation.

## Legal bases

• § 36 Absatz 1 Bremer Schulgesetz (BremSchulG)

### More information

Further information and answers to frequently asked questions can be found on the website of the Senator for Children and Education. You will find the link under "Further information" - "Where can I find out more?".

## What deadlines must be paid attention to?

The legal guardians do not have to meet any deadlines.

## How long does it take to process

Parents are usually informed of the result at the beginning of the summer vacation.

## What are the costs?

None.