

Childcare

Kita (day nursery)

Kita is a term for day-care centre. From the age of about 1 year until school attendance, your child can attend a day care centre. Some day care centres also have places for school children. In the Kita, your child is looked after by early childhood experts and learns many important things. The fees for the day care centre or day care are usually paid by the city or the district. For this purpose you must submit an application to the Jugendamt.

💡 At the Kita your child can learn the German language and discover new things. There it also finds contact to other children and gets to know friends and the German culture. Use the opportunity, it is important for the future of your child. Attending a day care centre also helps to prepare for school.

💡 Unfortunately, there are not always enough places in the immediate vicinity of your apartment or accommodation. To find a place, ask the youth welfare office or your accommodation service.

Kreisausschuss des Schwalm-Eder-Kreises FB 51 - Jugend und Familie

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Day nursery (Krippe)

The day nursery is a facility for children from 1 to 3 years. In the day nursery, specially trained staff encourage the children in their development in small groups. Attention and care by the caregivers are especially important here.

Kindergarten

The kindergarten is a facility for children from 3 years of age until they start school. In the kindergarten the children can play, paint, do handicrafts and learn with other children. Especially in the last year of kindergarten, the children are encouraged in their language skills and prepared for school enrolment. There are private and public kindergartens. Attendance of a kindergarten in the morning is free of charge for children from 3 years of age.

(primary) school children up to 12 years

There are also after-school care options for school children aged 6 to 12. Most of the time this takes place at school. There are different childcare models such as lunchtime childcare or all-day school. Some daycare centres also have places for school children (after-school care). In all models the children are supported in doing their homework. Moreover, leisure activities are offered.

Your primary school or Jugendamt will tell you which care model for (primary) school children exists in your place of residence.

Child day care (Kindertagespflege)

Child day care is provided by a childminder in their own homes or in rented rooms. Mainly children from 1 to 3 years are looked after there in small groups of up to 5 children. Day care offers a very flexible form of care for parents. The childminder are constant caregivers for the children and give them a lot of attention and care.

Through contact with the other children the linguistic and social development is promoted. There is a close educational partnership between the childminder and the parents.

💡 For children from 1 there is a legal entitlement to day care. This also applies if the parents are not working.

💡 If you take part in a language course or work and need care for your child for more than 25 hours, you must present a certificate of employment or training certificate to the Jugendamt.

💡 If you still need childcare for your child after kindergarten because of your work, your child can go to a childminder. Some day care workers also look after older children before or after kindergarten and school.

Cost sharing by the child's parents

A monthly parental contribution is charged depending on the hours of childcare. If the payment is unreasonable due to a low income, the costs of day care can be waived in whole or in part upon application.

Placement of a day care person

The experts of the Working Group 51.10 - Early Childhood Education (Frühkindliche Förderung) will be happy to support and advise you in your search for a qualified childminder.

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