

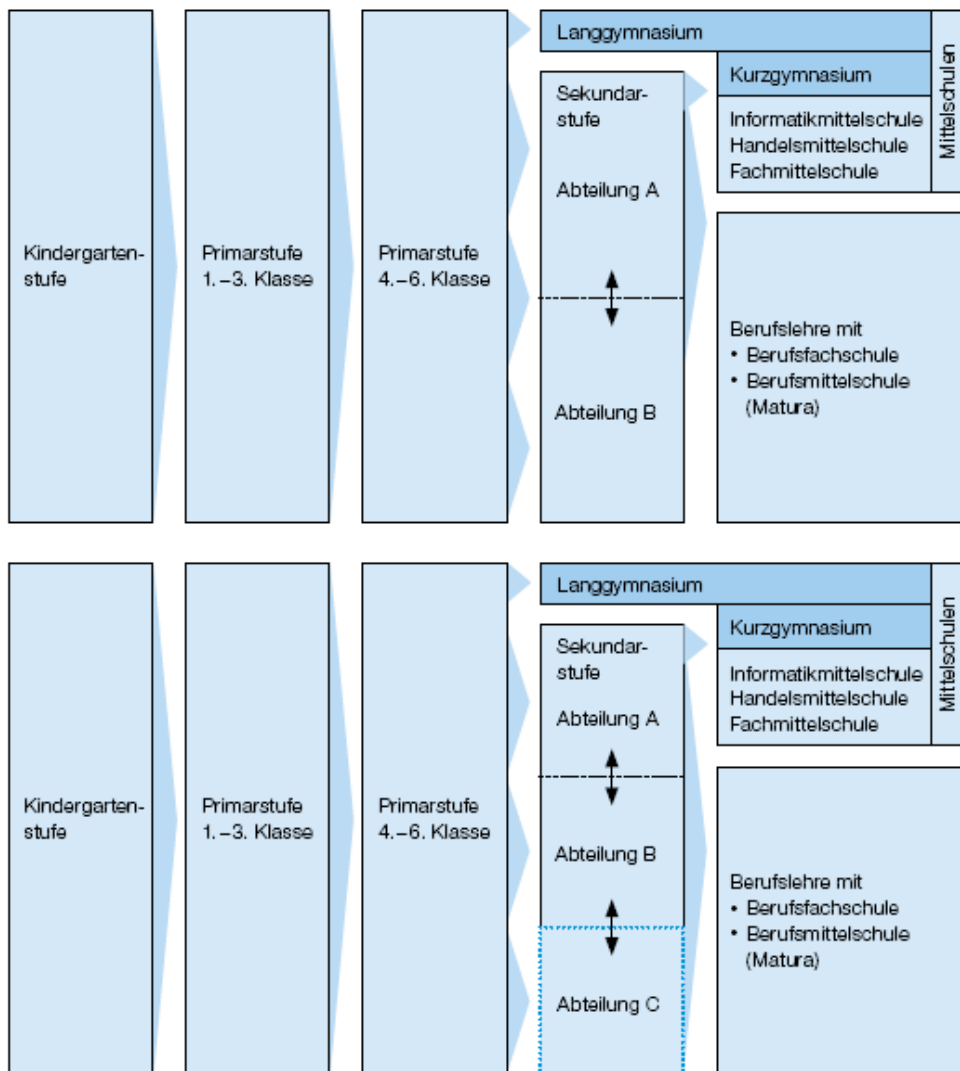


Primary to secondary school transfer

Information for parents

Primary to secondary school transfer

After primary year six, different school career routes are available to children. They can either continue elementary education or transfer to academic high school, and thus leave the elementary education system.



Secondary school

After primary year six, elementary education continues with different levels of secondary school offering learners varying degrees of challenge. Education authorities can have two or three levels, i.e. A and B, or A, B and C. A is the most cognitively demanding level.

Your child's teacher and parents reach a joint decision on which level your child should enter. In the case of a difference of opinion, the responsible school governing board decides.

Admission decisions are based on an overall assessment. This includes your child's academic achievement, his/her attitude to learning, conduct and stage of development.

In order to cater for children's different learning abilities in individual subjects, schools can create separate classes to challenge learners' competence in math, German, French and English – class I, II and III – with I being the most demanding. Placements depend on a child's overall achievement in the relevant subject.

Depending on your child's academic achievements and stage of development, transferring to another level (A,B,C), and class (I,II,III) is possible twice a year (three times a year in secondary year one). The teacher and parents reach a joint decision and in the case of disagreement, the school governing board decides.

In order to go on to do a demanding apprenticeship or enter higher education after compulsory education at secondary school, a young person should attend the most challenging level and class.

Possible timetable for the secondary school transfer procedure

Step	Time	Action
1	In the first quarter of primary year six	Your child's school provides parents with information regarding secondary school levels and the individual schools. It also informs you about information evenings at academic high schools.
2	By the end of January	Your child's teacher holds a discussion with parents regarding your child's future school career.
3	By mid-March	Parents receive a transfer/admissions recommendation from the teacher and discuss this together with the teacher in the absence of your child. If everyone agrees, the transfer/admission to secondary school is valid. Parents receive official confirmation in writing.
4	March/April	If there is disagreement, a second round of parent-teacher talks takes place between your child's teacher, a member of the school's management and a secondary school teacher. If everyone agrees, the transfer/admission to secondary school is valid. Parents receive official confirmation in writing. In the case of disagreement, your child's school records are sent to the secondary school's governing board, and there follows...
5	By May/June	...the school governing board's decision and definite transfer.

Academic high school (college)

Students with a proven academic ability can enter an academic high school, college, after primary year six. You must apply for your child to enter an academic high school by 15 March and your child must pass the entrance test. Your child's primary school grades are taken into account. Progress grades that count for primary year six students are the average grades in math and German.

The entrance test comprises the knowledge and skills a competent student can attain having completed six years of Zurich primary school.

Where can I find detailed information?

[Transfer to secondary school elementary education](#)

The elementary school website contains relevant information:

www.volksschulamt.zh.ch

→ Eltern → Die Zürcher Volksschule

Information about 'your' local education authority is important to parents. Schools also have their own website. You can find an overview on:

www.volksschulamt.zh.ch

→ Schulen im Kanton Zürich

→ Volksschulen

The most reliable contact person is most certainly your child's teacher.

Transfer to academic high school

Parents can find important information on Zurich's education department website:

www.bildungsdirektion.zh.ch

→ Schulstufen → Mittelschulen

This website includes information regarding the admissions procedure, and all the academic high school and other college websites in the county.