

Studying in Hungary

Information leaflet for foreign parents and young adults living in Hungary

Written by Medjesi Anna Consultant: Erdélyi Zsuzsanna

Photos: Hernád Géza and Rónai Gergely

Graphic design: Profigram Kft - fortin&Bras Studio

Print by Profilm DTP Kft.

© Menedék - Migránsokat Segítő Egyesület www.menedek.hu

Budapest, 2010

Dear Young Adults and Parents!

In Hungary, as in most countries, children, foreigners included, have both the right and obligation to participate in preschool and school education. As a foreign parent or young adult, it is difficult to understand the Hungarian school system and find the most appropriate preschool or school. The aim of this information leaflet is to assist you in this process. It will present the structure and general characteristics of the Hungarian system of education, describe the different levels of education and the types of institutions and also provide practical information regarding everyday life in Hungarian preschools and schools. The leaflet will call your attention to your obligations and the consequences of not fulfilling them, including participation in compulsory education, and it will also present possible forms of aid, support and assistance that may help with your child's development. Our information leaflet covers many subjects, but only briefly, providing basic information on each one.

If you wish to know more about any of the subjects covered here, we recommend that you ask your chosen educational institution for further information.





GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE HUNGARIAN SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

- Education takes place except for preschool education in schools, where the students are assigned to forms of 20 to 30 children and divided into years given ascending numbers based on their age.
- · Boys and girls study together in classes.
- Participation in education at state schools is free with a few exceptions it is financed by the Hungarian government.
- Students are not required to wear uniforms to school and their behaviour along with that of parents and teachers is regulated by the school's policy
- Physical punishment is not allowed in Hungarian schools.
- Schools are responsible for children while they are at school, while their parents are responsible for them at all other times.

Foreign children attending preschools and schools are entitled to the same treatment as Hungarian citizens.

All forms of discrimination are illegal. Discrimination on any grounds, especially on the grounds of the colour, gender, religion, nationality, ethnicity, social or financial status of the child or parents is against Hungarian law.

Freedom of religion and conscience

Parents have the right to provide their children – respecting their opinion – with education in accordance with their religion, beliefs and conscience.

If you feel that you or your child has been subject to discrimination and you cannot solve this within the school, you can file a formal complaint at the Equal Treatment Authority or the Commissioner for Educational Rights..

Compulsory education

In Hungary all minors must attend school and their parents are obligated to ensure that their child receives education

Compulsory education of non-Hungarian citizens' children

In Hungary the act on public education states that education is compulsory for foreign children if they:

- are asylum-seekers, refugees or recipients of temporary or subsidiary protection;
- are registered in Hungary as someone with the freedom of movement and residence:
- are holders of immigration, permanent residence or residence permits;
- reside in Hungary for over a year. (For residences shorter than one year compulsory education can be applied for by the parent.)

You must enrol your child to school or preschool as soon after your arrival as possible. Your child may remain away from educational institutions for a maximum of three months. You will have to verify the legal grounds your residence at the time of enrolment.

Duration of compulsory education

Your child is required to attend compulsory education when they achieve the level of development required to start school. This can be earliest in the calendar year when your child becomes six and latest in the calendar year when he or she becomes eight. (Starting from the year when your child becomes five, they must attend at least four hours of preschool education daily.)

Education is compulsory until the end of the school year in which your child becomes eighteen.

Failure to attend compulsory education

Children of compulsory school age are registered. If you do not fulfil your obligation to enrol your child in a preschool or a school, you will be prosecuted. In the case of failure to attend compulsory education the parent is punishable with a fine and, if all other measures prove ineffective, the child may be removed from the family and relocated in an institution of child protection.

Absence from school

If you have registered your child at a school or preschool but he or she does not attend, this absence will have consequences. Absences are registered and can be authorised or unauthorised.

Authorised absence

All absences must be authorised, with written authorisation from either a doctor in case of illness or the parent. As a parent you are allowed to authorise a maximum of three days of absence a year on familiar grounds.

If you plan to take your child out of school for a sustained period of time (e.g. trip abroad) you must ask for permission to do so from the headmaster of the school.

Unauthorised absence

If your child is absent without proper authorisation, the school will contact you. After ten hours of unauthorised absence the school's headmaster will contact the local authority.

It is important to know that repeatedly arriving to school late may also result in unauthorised absences. Make sure that your child arrives to school punctually.

Further consequences of absence

If your child is absent for more than 250 hours over the course of a school year, or misses over 30% of any given subject's classes, than he or she may not receive grades like other students but must pass exams for the subject(s) in question to be allowed to start the next year.

Teachers

Educational institutions are led by headmasters. The children are taught and educated by teachers. Apart from the teachers assigned to teach different subjects, form groups in all levels of schools are assigned a form teacher for the duration of their education at the school in question. Teachers are required to have a specific qualification to teach, which they can acquire over the course of four to six years of higher education.

Language of education

The language of education in Hungary is Hungarian, but there are bilingual schools and even schools where the sole language of education is a foreign language.

Curriculum

Education follows the guidelines laid out in the school curriculum. Schools prepare their own curriculum and plan their courses locally based on the National Curriculum.

Textbooks, course books

Most classes are usually accompanied by a course book. In Hungary the schools determine which books shall be used and these are to be bought by the parents at the beginning of each school year.

Evaluation of students

Pupils' knowledge is evaluated based on oral and written examinations during the year. Evaluation is given the form of a written evaluation in lower years and grades ranging from one to five later on. Five is the highest grade and one is the lowest. The average of the grades received in subjects studied during the year and other information is recorded in a report card at the middle and end of every school year.

School days

In most educational institutions, school begins at eight in the morning. Lessons and breaks follow each other throughout the day. Lessons usually last for 45 minutes, while breaks are 10-15 minutes long. The sequence of lessons can be found in the timetable which usually remains unchanged throughout the semester.

School year

A school year consists of approximately 185 days with five school days every week and traditionally starts at the beginning of September and lasts till the second half of June. There are several longer school breaks during the school year in autumn, winter, spring and summer.

Holidays

School is closed on the following national, state and religious holidays:

- March 15, start of the Hungarian Revolution of 1848
- May I, Labour Day
- August 20, St. Stephen's Day commemorating Hungary's founder
- October 23, National Day, start of the Revolution of 1956 and proclamation of Republic of Hungary in 1989
- · Easter and spring break
- Pentecost
- All Saint's Day (November I) and autumn break
- Christmas (December 25-26) and winter break
- New Year's (January I)

At school ceremonies wearing a white top, dark trousers or skirt and dark shoes is usually compulsory.

Student identification card

In Hungary all students receive student identification cards containing their photographs, personal data and stating the fact that they are enrolled in a school. This card must be applied for upon registration at the school. The student's card entitles its holder to different reductions, e.g. 50% reduction for travel by train, long-distance coaches and local transportation, a wide range of reductions in museums, cinemas, theatres, libraries and many shops and restaurants.

Certificate of school attendance

When renewing your residence permit or other permit of residence you may be required to present a certificate of school attendance for your child of compulsory school age. The certificate attests that your child attends school, and may be acquired from the school's or preschool's secretary.

TAJ-card and health insurance

In order to receive free medical treatment in the case of an emergency or illness, your child must be insured under the national health insurance scheme.

- All minors having a permanent place of residence in Hungary are, by that fact, insured.
- If your child only has a temporary residence registered in Hungary, and you are staying for less than a year, you may apply for a voluntary contract with the Health Insurance Fund.
- If your child only has temporary residence in Hungary, after one year of residence they become obligated to pay a health insurance service fee and become insured through that.

Both the voluntary contract with the Health Insurance Fund and the health insurance service fee must be applied and paid for by the parent at their regional office of the Health Insurance Fund.



Child care, nurseries

If you are working during the day and cannot provide proper care for your child of 20 weeks to 3 years of age during that time, he or she may be registered at a nursery. It is not compulsory to go to nurseries and thus it is possible that your child will not be taken if there is a lack of capacity. In the case of public nurseries refugees, recipients of subsidiary protection, stateless persons, holders of immigration or permanent residence permits and EEA citizens need only pay for meals. Foreigners staying in Hungary with any other status may have to pay the nursery a higher fee for its services.

Family day care

Family day care services provide age-appropriate care, supervision, meals and activities for children aged between 20 weeks and 14 years. In these institutions the conditions are usually flexible; it is equally possible to attend them regularly for a longer period of time or just sporadically when needed. Children of compulsory school age may stay at a family day centre after regular school hours. The services of these centres are usually provided for a fee.

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

Preschools, kindergartens

Preschools provide daytime care and activities for children aged 3 to six years. Preschool registration is possible in May, but those arriving during the year can enrol their child after their arrival if he or she is at least 3 years old. Documents establishing legal residence of parents and child as well as the child's birth certificate and TAJ card will be needed for registration at a preschool. Preschools may refuse your registration due to lack of capacity, but since the last year of preschool (after 5 years of age) is part of compulsory education your local preschool is obligated to admit your child for that year. If the preschool's lack of capacity cannot be overcome it will ensure that another preschool admits your child. Preschools are open from 7 a.m. till 5 p.m.; children are cared for and educated by qualified preschool teachers during that time. Services of preschools are free except for meals, which must be paid for. Some preschools organise separate activities that may also require a fee.

PRIMARY FDUCATION

The goal of primary education is to develop basic skills such as literacy and numeracy and provide fundamental knowledge in subjects such as natural sciences, social sciences and the arts. Primary school is divided into two parts. Junior years includes years I to 4 and provide activities and education fitting the need of the children, usually with a form teacher teaching most classes. Senior years include years 5 to 8, where most classes are taught by specialised teachers.

Choosing a school

Choice of school is free in Hungary. Your local district school is obligated to admit your child, but you have the possibility of applying for registration at any school of your choice, though in this case your application may be refused if it lacks free capacity.

If you register your child at a school other than his or her local district school, ask for a certificate of admittance from the school and present it to the local district school in order to remove your child from the registry there.

Enrolment in the first year of school

All children that come of compulsory school age must be enrolled in the first year of school between March I and April 30. The exact dates of enrolment are selected by the local notary public between thee dates and can be found at the school's entrance, on the website of your locality or your local newspaper.

Pay attention to the dates of enrolment as there will be only two days to fulfil this obligation.

Upon enrolment, you must present the:

- documents supporting the legal residence of the parent/guardian and the child;
- document showing your address/permanent residence;
- birth certificate of the child and its official Hungarian translation;
- certificate attesting that the child's level of development is sufficient.

If the child is supervised by someone other than the parent during his or her stay in Hungary, the parent must declare this before a notary public.

There are no entry exams at primary schools; admittance is decided by the head-master of the educational institution.

If your child's application has been refused, you have the right to appeal against the decision. Your appeal must be submitted at the school in question, but addressed to the notary of the local mayor's office.

Enrolment during the school year

You may also register your child at a school during the school year. If your child has already attended school abroad or in Hungary, you will have to present school report cards certifying his or her studies so far and their official Hungarian translations.

In the case of refugees, recipients of temporary or subsidiary protection and asylum-seekers, the school must accept incomplete documentation and cannot obligate the parent to obtain the missing documents.

Transferral to another school

You may transfer your child to another school throughout the school year. You will be required to present the same documents for the transfer as for enrolment. Admittance is decided by the headmaster of the new school.

Remember to inform the previous school of the transfer and submit the certificate of admittance from the new school otherwise you risk being prosecuted due to unauthorised absence.



Determining which year your child is enrolled in

The headmaster – taking into account several factors – may decide which year your child will be attending upon enrolment. Different practices for determining the year have evolved in Hungary:

- The child regardless of age is placed in the first year if he or she cannot read or write with the Latin alphabet and is gradually placed into higher years.
- Children who cannot speak Hungarian are placed one or two years lower than their age.
- Children are placed in the year corresponding to their age and assisted with their development through separate activities.

When selecting a school and at registration be sure to ask for information on the practice used at the school in question to determine which year your child is enrolled in . Your and your child's consent is needed if your child is enrolled in a year that is not in correspondence with his or her age.

School life in primary schools

Schedule of a school day

Schools are usually open from 7 a.m. with classes starting at 8 o'clock. Schools are open until 5:30 p.m. latest. During classes students may only leave the school with written parental permission. If your child falls ill the teacher will contact you as soon as possible.

School equipment

Different equipment may be needed for classes. Most classes require a separate textbook and exercise book but other equipment (e.g. scissors, coloured pencils, compasses, rulers) may also be necessary. Physical education classes require a change of clothes as determined by the school. This equipment has to be bought by the parents.

School meals

You may ask the school to provide three meals a day for your child. This includes a light meal in the morning, a warm meal for lunch and another light meal in the afternoon, all served in the school's lunchroom. Meals must be paid for monthly in advance. If your child is absent from school, you can cancel their meals for the days in question two days in advance. If you choose not to order meals for your child from the school, you are obligated to ensure in another way that your child has three meals a day. Please note that warm food cannot be brought to schools.

If your child requires a special diet due to health or religious reasons, please ask the school whether they can provide appropriate meals.

Homework club, afterschool club

Upon your written request your child may stay in the school after classes in order to study. Afterschool clubs for students in junior years are supervised by teachers who assist in their homework and organise activities. Pupils in senior years in the homework clubs prepare their homework independently, but in the presence of a supervisor.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

After finishing their primary education, students must continue their studies in secondary schools. There are several types of institutions providing secondary education and you and your child (with information and assistance from the primary school) will have to decide which one to choose. Teachers assigned as careeradvisors and career and vocational advice centres may also assist with your choice.

Enrolment in a secondary school

You must apply for your chosen school on a centrally-issued application form. On this form you may indicate several schools in order of priority. If the applicant is a minor, both parents' signature is needed on the form. The form has to be submitted at the student's primary school.

Common entry exams

Most secondary schools require that applicants complete a common entry exam with standard requirements and tests. In some schools this is followed by an oral exam or other form of admission test. The schools will notify you concerning the results of the exams and you will also have an opportunity to inspect the corrected and marked exam. The rules governing the further oral and other exams are established by the schools themselves. If your child did not have an opportunity to take the admission exams your local district school is still obligated to admit them without further admission requirements.

Those foreign children whom the schools cannot (due to their lack of knowledge of Hungarian) prepare for the common admission exams are usually required to repeat the eighth year.

For registration during the school year the same rules apply as to primary schools, discussed above.

Types of secondary educational institutions

High school

High schools provide general education in academic and practical subjects and are designed to prepare the pupils for acquiring a general certificate of education at the end of year 12 and to continue studying at institutions of higher education or start to work. High schools usually consist of years 9 to 12, but there are also high schools that start at year 8, year 7 and even year 5. The level of knowledge attainable at the different types of high schools is similar, the only difference being which year the education starts.

Technical college

Technical colleges incorporate most of the academic subjects taught at high schools but also teach vocational subjects. After year 12 students have the possibility to acquire either a vocational qualification or a general certificate of education, or both

Trade school

In trade schools only a small number of academic subjects are taught and the focus is more on practical education, career planning and vocational and trade training. In trade schools you may not acquire a general certificate of education as the school ends with the possibility of acquiring vocational qualifications.

General certificate of education

At the end of their studies in high schools or technical colleges students have the opportunity to acquire a general certificate of education based on a common, centrally-issued exam. The exams include tests and exercises from five different subjects at an ordinary or advanced level, based on the pupil's choice. The subjects of the exam are: Hungarian language and literature, mathematics, history, one modern foreign language and a fifth subject chosen freely. The exam includes written and oral parts and acquiring a general certificate of education is required to continue one's education at universities and other institutions of higher education.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Studies pursued at institutions of higher education represent the highest level education attainable in any given subject. Institutions of higher education are the only educational institutions allowed to award academic degrees and professional certifications.

Institutions of higher education

The three levels of education and corresponding academic degrees attainable at institutions of higher education are bachelors, master's degree and doctorate. Institutions of higher education may also provide high-level professional or vocational training and further education for adults. A bachelor's programme usually lasts 3 to 4 years, master's programmes last 1 to 2 years more and doctoral programmes take at least a further 3 years to complete. You may find the complete list of institutions of higher education in Hungary and all the different bachelors, masters and doctoral programmes they have planned for the next year in the Information booklet on Admission (Felvételi tájékoztató) published each December and also on the internet.

Admission criteria for institutions of higher education

To enrol in an academic programme you will need a Hungarian general certificate of education or a similar document attesting you have concluded secondary education abroad. Admission depends on your scholastic record and other factors such as further training or language studies. Some institutions require an entrance exam.

Applying for admission to an institution of higher education

The deadline for application to all programmes starting in September is around February 15 every year. It is possible to apply by a supplementary deadline in August, but then you will only be able to apply for one programme. To apply you must submit the centrally-issued application form (attainable at the National Centre for Information on Higher Education or your school) with all the required appendices and pay the fee that is calculated based on the number of institutions you apply to. After you apply, the score needed for admission is calculated based on the number of applicants and then published by the institutions. Based on this, you will be able to determine whether you have been admitted or not.

Tuition fees

Most academic programmes are launched in both state-funded (free) and privately-funded (paid) versions. Your status residing in Hungary and your score when applying determines which one you will be admitted to. Those with the right to free movement and residence, refugees, recipients of temporary or subsidiary protection, holders of immigration or permanent residence permits and those studying here based on an international treaty may apply to both free and paid programmes. Foreigners staying in Hungary with any other status may only apply to the paid programmes.

Student loans

To alleviate the financial burdens of those pursuing higher education student loans are available with simplified terms and subsidised instalment plans. Refugees, holders of immigration or permanent residence permits and EEA citizens employed in Hungary and their family members and the family members of employed Hungarian citizens may apply for student loans, but only if they have a permanent registered address in Hungary and are studying at an institution of higher education.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Activities and events

Extracurricular activities in the school

Students may participate in afterschool clubs, special preparatory classes for higher education or the general certificate of education and other activities organised by the school. Some of these activities are free-of-charge but others may require a fee. You may receive information on current activities and special classes from your child's form teacher, the teachers organising the activities, from the school's website or bulletin board or at parents' evening.

School outings, field trips and residential trips

Almost all schools organise outings for the students. These can be one-day trips or multi-day residential outings and usually must be paid for by the parents.

If you are not capable of paying for your child's outing, do not hesitate to contact his or her form teacher. Most schools attempt to resolve similar financial issues.

Parents' evening

The form teacher organises a parents' evening a few times each year for the parents of all the children in his or her form. Parents' evenings provide an opportunity to discuss current issues and gather general information. Parents may also share their thoughts and opinions with one another.

Consulting hours

Parents may also call upon the teachers of all the subjects during that teacher's designated consulting hours. Here you can discuss your child's academic development and other issues. The time of parents' evenings and consulting hours is always announced in advance.

If you do not speak Hungarian adequately it is important that you take a translator or someone who can translate the information heard and your remarks.

Information booklet ("ellenőrző")

Every student receives an information booklet that contains his or her grades and evaluation and information, messages or notifications of the school and the parents. All important information from teachers and parents alike must be written into this book and must be signed upon reading.

Child and youth protection officer

All schools employ a youth protection officer. Their task is on the one hand to assist those children who get into trouble in either the school or their families. On the other hand they inform the children about their rights and who they may turn to for assistance. The youth protection officer constantly cooperates and consults with the teachers, parents and other child protection agencies.

Health

School doctor

Children in primary schools are regularly taken to medical check ups and screening in order to follow their physical development. Height and weight is measured along with hearing and sight examinations. Students receive their compulsory inoculations during these visits.

Compulsory inoculations

In Hungary different inoculations are compulsory at different ages. Reception of these shots is registered in each child's individual inoculation booklet. You must present this booklet upon enrolment to school. If you do not want your child to receive his or her compulsory inoculations in the school, you must inform the school doctor of this fact and present certification of shots received elsewhere.

School dentistry

If your child has a TAJ card certifying that he or she is insured under national health insurance he or she will be taken once a year to the school's dentist who examines their teeth and recommends further treatment. Further treatment will not be organised by the school, it must be arranged individually.

Further information

Mobile phone usage

Most schools only allow turned-off mobile phones during the day.

Prohibitions

- The sale of alcohol and tobacco to minors is prohibited!
- Minors are not allowed into casinos, not even accompanied by adults!
- Many clubs have age limits.
- Drug use is strictly prohibited in Hungary!

OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Special education institutions

There are separate educational institutions to assist blind, deaf or disabled children, or children with learning or mental disabilities. Children may only be admitted to these institutions after the expert opinion of a rehabilitation committee and an expert on learning abilities.

Dormitories

Dormitories mainly provide accommodation for students pursuing secondary and higher education away from their usual place of residence. One must apply for a dormitory room and upon admission a regular (usually relatively low) fee must be paid for the accommodation. In boarding schools students are placed in rooms with 2 or more beds and are provided with meals as well as common rooms for study



and leisure. Boarding schools also employ tutors to assist with studies. House rules regulate life in dormitories and breaching these rules may result in expulsion.

Minority schools

Ethnic and national minorities in Hungary (e.g. German, Romanian, Slovenian, Serbian and Croatian) have separate educational institutions. These schools use their own native language as the main or as a second language of education during primary and secondary education. Foreign students may also apply to minority schools.

Bilingual schools

In bilingual schools part of the subjects are taught in Hungarian and part are taught in a foreign language. The second language varies from school to school, but the most common languages are English, German and French. Budapest also has the only Chinese-Hungarian bilingual school in Europe.

Specialised primary schools

It is possible to study a given subject in a higher number of lessons in several primary schools. The subject in focus can be chosen from a wide variety, e.g. mathematics, foreign languages, physical education.

Primary art schools

Primary art schools teach different arts (music, dance, etc.), supplementing regular education elsewhere. Studies at primary art school do not count as compulsory education and are usually subject to a fee. Most primary art schools are music schools where children may study music theory and learn to play diverse instruments.

Talent schools

The supplementary education in talent schools aims to give gifted children an opportunity to develop their talents through educating them with special methods and providing an open, nurturing environment.

Private schools

There are several private schools maintained by foundations, associations, churches and private entities in Hungary. These can offer education free-of-charge or in a paid form and frequently use modern, alternative techniques for education.

International schools

The international schools in Hungary are either maintained based on an agreement between Hungary and another state or are private schools with fees.

The curriculum and educational system of international schools is usually different and independent from the Hungarian national curriculum, and the main language of education is often a foreign language. Further information on international schools is available on the internet.

Schools of diplomatic missions

Diplomatic missions often maintain preschools and primary schools for the family of their staff. These are funded by the country of the mission and their goal is to teach the students' native language and culture in order to assist with their reintegration upon return to their country.

ADVICE ON CHOOSING A SCHOOL

Choosing a school for your child is a very important task requiring prudence and foresight. To gather information on different schools, ask your friends, your embassy or your country's cultural institute. Take into account the quality of education, the location of the school and also whether the school appears to be open and tolerant. At the school, gather information on:

- the possibility to study Hungarian as a foreign language,
- · other languages taught,
- available free or paid services,
- extracurricular activities organised by the school,
- · whether there are other foreign students,
- who would be your child's form teacher.

If you visit a school, be sure to take someone with you who speaks sufficient Hungarian.

Most schools hold open days around the time of enrolment. Here you will have an opportunity to view the school's life, meet the future form teachers and attend classes.

SUPPORT AND SERVICES

Available financial subsidies

Depending on the legal status of your residence in Hungary you or your child may be eligible for several types of subsidies. We will only list the most important ones.

To determine which subsidies you are eligible for and to understand the process of applying for them please ask at your school, your local mayor's office, child protection agencies or assisting organisations.

Family subsidy

Family subsidy is a regular, monthly subsidy that is based on the number of your children and is independent from your income.

Regular and extraordinary child protection support

Based on your income you may be eligible for regular child protection support or, on occasion, for extraordinary child protection support. Once a year you may ask your local mayor's office for a schooling subsidy, a form of extraordinary child protection support.

Schooling support

- Your employer may offer you some form of schooling support as a non-wage benefit in kind.
- Refugees and recipients of subsidiary protection who are of compulsory school age are eligible for schooling support once a year. To receive this you must submit a request to the notary at your local mayor's office.

Textbook subsidies

A tankönyvek ingyenesen járnak a három- vagy többgyermekes családnak, a tartósan beteg gyermeknek, a rendszeres gyermekvédelmi támogatásban részesülő családnak, valamint a sajátos nevelési igényű gyermeknek.

Meal subsidies

Families with three or more children are eligible for a 50% reduction of the fee for school meals. Families receiving regular child protection support are provided with school meals free-of-charge.

In order to receive these subsidies, your local notary must certify your eligibility.

Further services

Educational advisory institutes

Educational advisors provide assistance to children between 3 and 18 years of age and their families in issues concerning learning difficulties, challenges in school or crises in the family. Psychologists, psychiatrists and teacher work together to determine the root cause of the difficulties and plan the steps towards development. Educational advisors also function as the office to examine whether your child has achieved the level of development needed to enter school. Their free-of-charge services and offices can be found in every city or, in Budapest, in every district.

Logopedic treatment

Logopedic centres provide treatment of speech defects and communication disorders. Their services are free-of-charge upon the recommendation and the expert opinion of an educational advisor.

Career advisor

The career advisor examines your child and based upon his or her talents, interests and strengths gives you both advice on their further education. Their services are also free of charge.

Preventive and corrective physical education

Due to illness, composure irregularities etc. your child may be in need of preventive or corrective physical education. These services are also free of charge upon referral from a doctor. Most schools organise groups for preventive and corrective physical education.

Family care services and child welfare centres

The role of this network of service providers is to assist children and families endangered through social, financial or mental health issues.

Their main tasks include assistance with education and the protection of children. These services are voluntary, free-of-charge and can be found in the network's offices in every city and every district of Budapest.

Equal Treatment Authority

The Equal Treatment Authority can determine and sanction incidents of discrimination based on race, colour, nationality, ethnicity, language or any other grounds on which you or your child may have become victims.

Websites with useful information concerning education:

www.magyarorszag.hu www.sulinet.hu www.okm.gov.hu www.felvi.hu







Készült az Európai Unió **Európai** Integrációs Alapjának támogatásával.