

# GOING TO KINDERGARTEN AND SCHOOL IN HUNGARY

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO THE HUNGARIAN  
EDUCATION SYSTEM



## INTRODUCTION



## DEAR PARENTS AND STUDENTS,

The brochure you are holding has been published as part of the “Inclusive Kindergartens and Schools” project of Menedék Association. In this program, we help foreign children and their families to find their place in Hungary, and especially the children to succeed in public education. This brochure explains the Hungarian public education system and helps orientation in the everyday life of kindergartens and schools. It covers the right to education and the rules of compulsory education, introduces the Hungarian school system, and in general discusses the operation of Hungarian schools and kindergartens, and everyday life in these institutions.

We wish you successful school years in Hungary!

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"Our Association helps foreigners arriving in Hungary to find a new home here. Pursuant to Act LXXVI of 2017, Menedék is considered an organisation receiving foreign funds. Our most important supporters are the nearly 400 thousand foreigners who have chosen Hungary as their home country in recent decades."

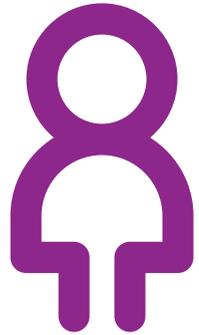
Budapest, 2017



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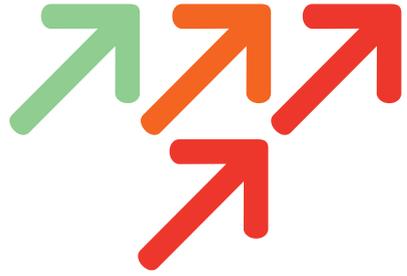


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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	INTRODUCTION	3
1.	THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION	8
2.	COMPULSORY KINDERGARTEN AND SCHOOL EDUCATION	8
	Attendance	9
3.	RIGHT TO EQUAL TREATMENT	10
4.	FOREIGN CHILDREN AND STUDENTS IN HUNGARIAN EDUCATION	10
5.	CHILDREN AND STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS	10
6.	SCHOOL SYSTEM IN HUNGARY	11
	6.1 Stages of education	11
	6.2 Educational institutions	12
	6.3 Types of schools	13
7.	FREEDOM OF CHOICE REGARDING KINDERGARTENS AND SCHOOLS	14
8.	GENERAL OPERATION OF KINDERGARTENS AND SCHOOLS	14
	8.1 Enrolment	14
	8.2 Kindergarten and school employees	15
	8.3 School term and holiday dates	16
	8.4 Holidays and important dates in kindergartens and schools	18
	8.5 Cafeteria in the kindergarten or school	19
	8.6 Appraisal at school	20
	8.7 Student Card	21
	8.8 Rights and responsibilities of children, students and parents	21
9.	NURSERY	22
10.	KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION	22
	10.1 About kindergarten education in general	22
	10.2 Choosing a kindergarten	22
	10.3 Everyday life at the kindergarten	23
11.	EDUCATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS	24
	11.1 About primary school education in general	24
	11.2 Choosing a school	24
	11.3 Assigning students to classes	25
	11.4 Everyday life at school	26
	11.5 Further education in secondary schools	27



- 12. **SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION** 28
  - 12.1 About secondary school education in general 28
  - 12.2 Choosing a school and enrolment 28
  - 12.3 Assigning students to classes 29
  - 12.4 Everyday life at school 30
  - 12.5 Secondary school leaving examination 31
  - 12.6 Further education 31
- 13. **HIGHER EDUCATION** 32
  - 13.1 Programmes and institutions 32
  - 13.2 Application and admission 32
  - 13.3 Tuition fee and student loans 33
- 14. **SUBSIDIES RELATED TO EDUCATION** 34
- 15. **OTHER INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTING CHILDREN, STUDENTS AND FAMILIES** 35



## 1. THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

In Hungary, all children have the right to study and the right to education. Primary and secondary education is free and compulsory. Higher education is available for those who are admitted on account of their skills and achievements.

The Hungarian state provides various financial aids and support services for those enrolled in education.

The right to education for foreign children:

Children who are not Hungarian citizens have the right to attend kindergarten and school with the same conditions as Hungarians, if:

- they are asylum seekers (starting from the submission of the application) or if they are under international protection (refugee status, beneficiary of subsidiary protection, or under temporary protection);
- they have right of free movement and residence in Hungary (that is, if they are citizens of an EEA country, or are relatives of a Hungarian citizen);
- they are non-EU citizens, but they have acquired permanent residency or hold a residency permit.

## 2. COMPULSORY KINDERGARTEN AND SCHOOL EDUCATION

In Hungary, kindergarten education is compulsory for all children above the age of 3, and all children between the ages of 6 and 16 must attend school. Compulsory attendance is fulfilled by attending a kindergarten or school, or (in rare and justified cases) studying as a private student. (Instead of attending school, private students take exams to demonstrate their knowledge.)

Parents will be held responsible if the child or teenager does not attend kindergarten or school for longer periods of time.



Compulsory education for foreign children:  
Compulsory education applies to foreign children without Hungarian citizenship as well. Parents will also be held responsible if compulsory attendance is neglected.

*Your child must be registered at a kindergarten or school within three months after your arrival. Please contact and ask for assistance your local kindergarten or school, local family support service, child welfare centre, or the official education service of your district.*

## ATTENDANCE

If a child or student is absent from kindergarten or school, he or she will have to certify the absence. An absence is considered certified if the child has been excused in advance, or if they have been ill and this is certified by a physician, or if they had other, compelling reasons for the absence. If an absence is not certified, the child will have an uncertified absence. Kindergartens and schools are obligated to notify the parent about uncertified absences. If it is a recurring event, the child welfare service along with the school will contact the parent. In case of a considerable number of absences, the notary will also be notified. Parents may certify 3 days of absence in each semester for their child (in the information booklet or at the e-report website).

Parents may face a fine up to HUF 50,000 in case of absence, and family benefits may also be revoked. In serious cases (for ongoing absence from kindergarten on school, despite warnings), the child may be removed from its home.

In case a student misses more than 250 classes in a school year – even if such absences are certified –, or if they miss more than 20% of classes from any subject and do not have the sufficient number of marks, they will not receive a mark at the end of the year and will have to repeat the year.

*Please note that being late for class can also result in absences. If a student is late for a class, the reason needs to be certified. The time missed from each class will be added up, and if it exceeds the duration of a class, it will be considered an uncertified absence. However, students showing up late for class may not be excluded from the class.*

### 3. RIGHT TO EQUAL TREATMENT

Foreign children and students studying in Hungarian kindergartens and schools have rights and obligations equal to those of Hungarian citizens, and they are entitled to equal treatment. It is forbidden to discriminate against foreign children, especially on grounds of the colour of their skin, their religious or ideological beliefs, nationality, ethnicity, or gender.

*If you believe that your child is a victim of discrimination at school, please notify the school principal or other school representatives! In case the issue is not resolved within the school, please contact an aid organisation, the commissioner for educational rights, or the Equal Treatment Authority with your complaint.*

### 4. FOREIGN CHILDREN AND STUDENTS IN HUNGARIAN EDUCATION

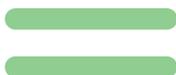
More than ten thousand foreign children and students take part in Hungarian public education by attending a kindergarten or a school. Most of them attend classes or groups at a Hungarian state institution along with Hungarian children, under identical conditions, studying subjects in Hungarian. There are institutions (for example, in districts of Budapest frequented by foreign residents) where foreign children and students attend in higher numbers, but most kindergartens and schools only have a few foreign students.

### 5. CHILDREN AND STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

In accordance with Hungary's Act on Public Education, there are children and students who require special attention.

Children or students with special education needs ("SNI") are students who are handicapped or have perceptual or mental deficiencies; students with difficulties in integration, learning or behaviour ("BTM") are those who perform considerably below their biological age.

Whether a child or student should be classified as SNI or BTM is decided by a committee of experts. These students may receive special treatment and



various support options and benefits. They attend separate classes with education experts, are exempt from studying or being evaluated in certain subjects, and their parents may receive extra financial benefits.

*If your child is relegated to either of these groups, please contact the school, the family support service, or aid organisations to learn about your options.*

## 6. SCHOOL SYSTEM IN HUNGARY

### 6.1 STAGES OF EDUCATION

Schooling and education in Hungary is divided into stages. Within the stages, students are assigned to years (grades) with increasing numbers. Children begin their school education in Grade 1, and by the time they graduate from secondary school, they are in Grade 11 or 12.

EDUCATIONAL STAGE	INSTITUTION	AGE	GRADES AND MARKS
PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION	KINDERGARTEN	3 TO 6 (IN SOME CASES 7)	NONE
PRIMARY EDUCATION	PRIMARY SCHOOL	6 TO 14	GRADES 1 TO 8: LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL (GRADES 1 TO 4) AND UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL (GRADES 5 TO 8)
SECONDARY EDUCATION	SECONDARY SCHOOL (EITHER GRAMMAR SCHOOL, VOCATIONAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, VOCATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL, OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL)	14 TO 18 (IN SOME CASES 19)	GRADES 9 TO 11 OR 9 TO 12: - THERE ARE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS WITH GRADES FROM 5 TO 12 OR 7 TO 12, WHERE STUDENTS ENROL AFTER YEAR 4 OR 6. SOME SECONDARY SCHOOLS HAVE A GRADE 0, MAKING THEM A 5-YEAR SCHOOL.
HIGHER EDUCATION	UNIVERSITY	ABOVE 18	SEVERAL SUCCESSIVE DEGREES (BA, MA, PHD)

## 6.2 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Educational institutions in Hungary are operated by the state, or by religious or private institutions (e.g., foundations). Most schools are run by the state. The regulations applicable to religious and private institutions may differ slightly. Parents usually enrol their children in these institutions to receive a certain religious or ideological education, or an approach that differs from that of the state.

<i>INSTITUTION</i>	<i>STAGE</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>
KINDERGARTEN		Cares for children from age 3 to school age.
PRIMARY SCHOOL	PRIMARY	Usually has 8 grades.
GRAMMAR SCHOOL (HIGH SCHOOL)	SECONDARY	Can have 8, 6, or 4 (sometimes 5) grades. Prepares students for the secondary school leaving exam and for higher education (university).
VOCATIONAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL	SECONDARY	Can have or 4 (sometimes 5) grades. Apart from a generic curriculum, it also has vocational training where students can learn a vocation. It prepares students for general and vocational secondary school leaving exams, meaning that it prepares for higher education and for a job in the chosen vocation.
VOCATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL	SECONDARY	It has 3 grades, and prepares students for a vocation and a vocational exam, after which they can enter the workforce. Students may apply for a secondary school leaving exam after two years of preparational training.
VOCATIONAL SCHOOL	SECONDARY	Provides special needs students with a vocation.



## OTHER SPECIALISED INSTITUTIONS ARE:

<i>INSTITUTION</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>
ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL	Applies educational methods and principles that differ from standard methods.
PRIMARY ART SCHOOL	Children can pursue education in the areas of musical art, fine and applied arts, puppet and drama art, and the art of dance.
SPECIAL AND CONDUCTIVE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION	For children with severe and multiple disabilities between the ages of 5 and 16.
HALL OF RESIDENCE	Provides boarding for students who study far from their residence or live under dire circumstances at home. It can also function as a specialised hall of residence for students with outstanding talent.
PEDAGOGICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE	It operates outside the school and is available for everyone with a specific need for support or help from a psychologist. Its services include counselling, developmental education, speech therapeutic care (speech development), and further study counselling.

## 6.3 TYPES OF SCHOOLS

Some schools fulfil specific education purposes, such as:

<i>INSTITUTION</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>
SPECIALISED SCHOOL	Students have a higher number of classes in some subjects (e.g., music, physical education, mathematics, or foreign languages).
BILINGUAL SCHOOL	Some subjects are taught in a foreign language (primarily in English, German, French, occasionally in Spanish or Italian).
NATIONALITY SCHOOL	Students of a national minority living in Hungary are entitled to study in their own language, and to acquaint themselves with the history, culture and traditions of their nationality. (There are 13 officially recognizes nationalities in Hungary, the largest being the Roma. Other nationalities include Germans, Serbs, Slovaks and Ukrainians).
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL	Foreign school: provides foreign diplomas. Education follows the schools of the country of origin. The language of education is the language of the country of origin. Most students are foreigners. These schools require a tuition fee, which is usually quite high.

## 7. FREEDOM OF CHOICE REGARDING KINDERGARTENS AND SCHOOLS

In Hungary, parents have the freedom of choice in selecting a kindergarten, school or hall of residence for their children. Choices are mainly influenced by the student's skills, fields of interest, or the family's religious and ideological affiliation. Children older than 14 may be included in the decision and choose their school together with the parents. However, the selected kindergarten, school or hall of residence is not obligated to accept all applications from prospective students. This is a decision made by the institution after consideration of various aspects (e.g., an entrance examination for secondary schools). Freedom of choice, therefore, does not mean that the child will necessarily be enrolled in the kindergarten or school of choice.

At the same time, all children and students of appropriate schooling age must be accepted by at least one kindergarten or school. In such cases, these will be the kindergartens and schools providing mandatory enrolling (that is, the district kindergarten or school).

*District kindergartens and schools:*

*These are institutions to which children and students belong according to their registered address (and actual place of residence). Such institutions are designated by the local council, and are usually the kindergartens or schools located nearest to the place of residence.*

## 8. GENERAL OPERATION OF KINDERGARTENS AND SCHOOLS

### 8.1 ENROLMENT

Enrolment in kindergartens and schools is usually held in April or May, and usually in June for secondary schools. The date is published by the institutions on their websites at least 30 days prior to enrolment and is also displayed at the entrance.

*Students arriving in Hungary mid-year can of course also enrol in an educational institution. Please contact your kindergarten or school of choice for more information.*



### *Documents you will need for enrolment: :*

- filled-in application form (this is for schools and are usually submitted mid-year on an ongoing basis);
- the child's extract from the register of births (along with a certified Hungarian translation);
- identity cards verifying the child's identity and place of residence;
- the child's social security card;
- identity cards verifying the parent's identity and place of residence (if the child is under 18);
- documents verifying the legal title for residency in Hungary for non-Hungarian citizens.

*For children who are asylum seekers, refugees, or beneficiaries of subsidiary protection, the kindergarten or school must accept incomplete documents, and the parent cannot be obligated to acquire the missing documents.*

## 8.2 KINDERGARTEN AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

<i>WHO?</i>	<i>WHAT DOES HE/SHE DO?</i>
KINDERGARTEN OR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL	He or she makes all important decisions concerning the institution and the children/ students. The principal can be contacted in all significant matters about the students.
KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS (MALE OR FEMALE)	They are responsible for the nurture and development of children at the kindergarten. They are the points of contact for parents with whom everyday issues concerning their children can be discussed.
KINDERGARTEN NURSE	They help the work of kindergarten teachers in taking care of and looking after the children.
SPEECH THERAPIST	Works at a kindergarten or school. He or she helps children overcome speech-related abnormalities (e.g., stuttering, cluttering, speech sound disorders), but is not responsible for teaching Hungarian.
TEACHERS (MALE OR FEMALE)	Lower primary school has primary teachers who teach most of the subjects. Upper primary school and secondary school have specialised teachers who teach one or two subjects.
FORM TEACHER	The person responsible for the children in his or her class. Parents can contact the form teacher with any questions they have about the school. He or she documents children's affairs (e.g., absences), conducts homeroom classes, and organises various events (e.g., class excursions).
PEDAGOGICAL ASSISTANT	Supports the work of teachers in and outside of classes.
SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHER	Develops special needs children individually or in small groups.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST, PRE-SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST	Provides individual or group sessions for students with psychological or life skill difficulties, and with parents if needed.
NURSE	Supervises vaccination records for children and conducts head lice inspections.
PHYSICIAN	Works at a school. Oversees the adequate development of children, for example by examining their vision, hearing, and also administers mandatory vaccination.
TECHNICAL PERSONNEL	Takes part in operating kindergartens and schools (e.g., kitchen hand, cleaner, maintenance crew).

### 8.3 SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES

The teaching year in kindergartens lasts from the beginning of September until the end of August in the following year. Most kindergartens close for 4 to 6 weeks in summer: in the meantime, children whose parents are not available during working hours can attend a nearby kindergarten. For the remaining duration of the summer, groups are combined.

The teaching year in primary and secondary schools lasts from the beginning of September until mid-June of the following year. These approximately 180 school days are divided into two terms, with Term 1 ending around the end of January. Schools are closed for the summer holiday.

During the teaching year, kindergartens have one winter holiday (about 1.5 weeks at the end of December), while schools also have two longer holidays apart from the winter holiday: an autumn holiday in early November, and a spring holiday in April for a few days.

**Certain national holidays and days with religious significance are public holidays in Hungary. Most people do not work on these days, and kindergartens and schools are also closed.**

Public holidays are the following:

<i>WHEN?</i>	<i>WHAT?</i>
1 JANUARY (NEW YEAR'S DAY)	first day of the new year
15 MARCH	Hungarian national holiday
GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER MONDAY (with varying dates, usually in March or April)	religious holidays with Christian origin
1 MAY	Labour Day

WHIT MONDAY (with varying dates, usually in May or June)	religious holiday with Christian origin
20 AUGUST	national holiday for the foundation of the Hungarian State
23 OCTOBER	Hungarian national holiday
1 NOVEMBER (ALL SAINTS' DAY)	religious holiday with Christian origin
25 TO 26 DECEMBER (CHRISTMAS)	religious holiday with Christian origin

***Term and holiday dates and dates of important events are announced at the start of the school year. Please contact your kindergarten or school for more information.***

There are occasions during the school year when parents and teachers meet in the kindergarten or school. These are parent-teacher conferences, parent-teacher interviews, and open days. Teachers are happy to see the parents and also expect their attendance, because it is a good opportunity to discuss important matters concerning the child.

*Kindergartens, primary schools and secondary schools all have parent-teacher conferences 2 or 3 times a year. The kindergarten teacher or form teacher invites the parents of children attending a class or group. They discuss the most important aspects of the school year, rules and regulations, programs, and the education of the children.*

*Parent-teacher interviews are one-on-one meetings between the parent and the kindergarten or school teacher (specialist teacher) on the child's performance and conduct.*

*Open days are usually held once a year, when schools open their doors to parents to visit sessions, classes, and witness the participation of their children in class. (Days when prospective students can visit a primary or secondary school and attend lectures or programs are also called open days.)*

*Home visits are when a teacher visits the family, and has the opportunity to get to know the student's living conditions more closely. Not all institutions have home visits, and recently it is not very common.*

***If you don't speak Hungarian, please take an interpreter with you to the parent-teacher conference or interview, or ask another parent to translate for you.***

## 8.4 HOLIDAYS AND IMPORTANT DATES IN KINDERGARTENS AND SCHOOLS



At holidays and other important dates (opening and closing the school year, graduation ceremony, etc.) children are required to wear formal attire. This usually means a white blouse/shirt, dark skirt/trousers, and black shoes. Some schools have uniforms mandatory for such events.

The most important holidays and noteworthy school days are the following:

<i>WHICH CELEBRATION?</i>	<i>WHAT DO WE CELEBRATE?</i>	<i>KINDERGARTEN</i>	<i>PRIMARY SCHOOL</i>	<i>SECONDARY SCHOOL</i>
OPENING THE SCHOOL YEAR	Usually held on 1 September at a common ceremony.		x	x
23 OCTOBER	Hungarian national holiday in remembrance of the historic event of the 1956 revolution.		x	x
ADVENT, CHRISTMAS	One of the most important Christian holidays, the birth of Jesus. Advent means the days of preparation for the holiday.	x	x	
CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	Children put on costumes; costume contests and dances are often held.	x	x	
15 MARCH	National holiday. A common ceremony in remembrance of the 1848 revolution.	x	x	x
EASTER	One of the most important Christian holidays, the resurrection of Jesus. It is also a spring waiting holiday with various folk traditions (e.g., dyeing eggs, sprinkling).	x	x	
MOTHER'S DAY	The first Sunday in May. Children usually prepare gifts and a presentation to which mothers and grandmothers are invited.	x	x	
CHILDREN'S DAY	The last Sunday in May. Programmes are organised for children throughout the country. It is also celebrated in kindergartens.	x		






CLOSING THE SCHOOL YEAR	Common celebration. Students receive their report cards on this day.	(x)	x	x
GRADUATION CEREMONY	A farewell ceremony is held for students in their senior year at a kindergarten or school. This is also an important family event in Hungary for students in 8th grade or graduating from a secondary school.	(x)	x	x
NATURE SCHOOL	Students and classes go on a field trip with teacher supervisors to a camping site at a forest to observe nature, study, and for team building.		x	x
CLASS FIELD TRIP, SUMMER CAMP	Classes go on a field trip with teacher supervisors for 2 or 3 days and organise programs there. Many schools also organise summer camps, usually for a fee.		x	x
PROM	A celebration is held at the end of Term 1 for senior classes in secondary schools, where the school's ribbon is presented to senior students. Parents and relatives are also invited to the ball, and students prepare performances and dances.			x

Other celebrations depend on the specific school or kindergarten. Nearly all schools have their individual school day (usually related to the school's eponym), with colourful programs for children and students.

## 8.5 CAFETERIA IN THE KINDERGARTEN OR SCHOOL

Children are provided three meals a day in kindergartens and schools for a fee (that is, for payment): a hot lunch, and morning and afternoon tea. Families with financial difficulties may receive meals at a reduced fee or free of charge (see Chapter 14). Secondary schools usually offer a hot lunch as well. Meals must be paid one month in advance at the designated dates, by wire transfer or personally by cash. If the child or student is absent, the parent needs to cancel the meals (for free meals, too).

*Please contact your kindergarten or school for information on your eligibility for reduced fees or exemption from payment. Disadvantaged children and those receiving regular child welfare benefits are provided free meals by the local council during holidays as well.*

*Parents have the option to request special meals for the child due to health-related or religious reasons (e.g., meals containing no pork). Please contact your kindergarten or school for more information.*



## 8.6 APPRAISAL AT SCHOOL

Children receive appraisals for their performance at school throughout the year. Text assessments are given at the end of Terms 1 and 2 in the first school year, and at the end of Term 1 in the second year. In other grades, students receive marks as an appraisal of their knowledge, and they receive report cards at the end of both terms. Marks range from 1 to 5, with 1 being the worst and 5 the best.

### **MARKS AND GRADES:**



*When assessing the student's knowledge:*

*(5) excellent; (4) good; (3) satisfactory; (2) pass; (1) fail.*

*For conduct and diligence:*

*(5) exemplary; (4) good; (3) inconsistent; (2) bad/negligent.*

*Marks are recorded in the information booklet and must be signed by the parent, verifying that he or she is tracking the progress of the child. Apart from the information booklet, marks are also recorded in the e-report book, making it available for parents to review the marks through the internet.*

At the end of both terms, students are graded in all subjects based on their interim marks. Mid-year and end-of-year grades are recorded in the report card. The report card testifies that the student has successfully completed a school year. A student can progress to the next grade if he or she has not failed any of their subject, that is they have not received a '1' as an end-of-year grade. If a student fails at a subject, they must take a makeup exam of the curriculum of the given subject at the end of summer. If the student passes the exam, he or she may proceed to the next grade; in case of failure, the previous grade will have to be repeated. The parent may request a repeat year even if the student has passed all exams. It is also possible for students to complete two or more grades within the same teaching year.

#### Appraisal and grading of foreign students

The Hungarian education system does not differentiate between students whose mother tongue is Hungarian and whose mother tongue is not. Foreign students may request to be tested differently, but an exemption from appraisal cannot be granted just because the student doesn't speak Hungarian. However, the school principal may decide that in case the student needs to repeat a teaching year, he or she will only be required to attend remedial and language classes. Foreign students may be granted exemption from visiting the classes, but they still need to be appraised.



## 8.7 STUDENT CARD

Students attending a school receive a student card which provides discounts for most cultural and recreational institutions ranging from museums to cinemas and baths, and provide a 50% discount for public transportation.

*Foreign students are also eligible for a student card. Applying for and acquiring the card is a task for the parents. Please ask for help from your school to have the student card available for your child as soon as possible!*

## 8.8 RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHILDREN, STUDENTS AND PARENTS

All kindergartens and schools have rules and regulations containing the rights and responsibilities of the attending children and students and their parents, and containing important information on the institution's everyday operation and general rules.

It is the right of children and students to receive care and education befitting their age, and to have their human rights respected, as well as their religious or ideological affiliation and other beliefs, and nationality. It is the student's responsibility to adhere to the school's rules and regulations, to protect his or her physical health and those of other students, and to respect the human dignity of teachers, fellow students, and the employees working at the school.

If a student materially violates his or her obligations at school, a disciplinary action may be launched and he or she may receive disciplinary penalty. This may be in the form of reprimand, or the removal of certain discounts or benefits, or the student may be transferred to another class, banned from continuing the teaching year, or be expelled from school. It is the parent's right to regularly receive information on the child's development, conduct, and academic progress, and to receive advice and help on education from the teachers. It is the parent's right to get to know the operation of the kindergarten or school, and to use the pedagogical assistance service in case the child needs special help.

It is the parent's obligation to make sure that the child is attending school, and to track the child's academic progress. If the teachers involved in the child's education so recommend, the parent should take the child to the pedagogical assistance service for assessment, or to a psychologist or developmental activities.

## 9. NURSERY

Day care is available in Hungary for small children between the age of 20 weeks and 3 years in case the parent is working and is unable to look after the child. Institutions serving this purpose are called nurseries (“bölcsőde” or “bölcsi”). Attending a nursery is not compulsory, therefore the state is not obligated to provide nursery care for each child. Parents can apply for day care for their child at a nursery, but their child may get rejected due to a lack of availability. In such cases, private institutions (that is, small nurseries or nurseries maintained by the workplace or by a family) are still available for a fee (usually a considerable fee).

## 10. KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION

### 10.1 ABOUT KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION IN GENERAL

Kindergarten education is compulsory for all children past the age of 3, for 4 hours a day. (Children who will turn three within 6 months may also be admitted to a kindergarten, but this is subject to a decision by the kindergarten’s principal. If justified, the parent may request exemption from kindergarten education for the child up to age 5.) Compulsory kindergarten education lasts until the start of the school year in September (that is, all through the summer preceding the first school year, until the end of August). Kindergarten education is free and is available for everyone. Its precondition usually is that the child is potty-trained (meaning that the child does not need a nappy and is able to go to the toilet independently).

Boys and girls are assigned to mixed groups in kindergarten, usually made up of 20 to 30 children, or are divided according to age (“small kids”, “medium kids”, and “big kids” groups) or according to other aspects. Kindergarten education is conducted in Hungarian (except for nationality and international kindergartens). Corporal punishment is strictly forbidden.

Meals are provided in kindergartens three times a day.

### 10.2 CHOOSING A KINDERGARTEN

Parents have freedom of choice when choosing a kindergarten, but it is subject to the kindergarten principal’s decision whether the child is admitted to the parent’s kindergarten of choice (usually depending on whether there are available places left). However, the kindergarten designated for the district where the family resides is obligated to admit the child. (We covered this in Chapter 7.)

Kindergartens usually hold open days in spring: parents can get to know the kindergarten teachers and the educational work conducted at the kindergarten. This can help parents decide which kindergarten they wish to choose. The decision may depend on several factors: the distance of the kindergarten from home, the teachers, the availability of special education (e.g., religious studies or environmental protection), the programs offered to children, the building of the kindergarten, its equipment or garden.

*You may inquire online, or at the family support service, aid organisations, from acquaintances, and various other places about the kindergartens available and the reasons for choosing any one of them. Please also make inquiries whether the kindergarten is experienced in treating foreign children, whether there are any foreign children there, and the kind of help they receive.*

### 10.3 EVERYDAY LIFE AT THE KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten opening hours vary, but usually they open between 6 and 7 in the morning and close between 5 and 6 in the evening. They hold developmental activities and play in the morning, followed by morning tea, a nap after lunch, and play in the afternoon. Thematic activities (study groups) are available in many kindergartens, such as sports, folk dance, music, etc. These are available for a fee (except for religious studies).



## 11. EDUCATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

### 11.1 ABOUT PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION IN GENERAL

In the year when the child celebrates his or her 6th birthday by 31 August (but no later than in the next year), he or she reaches the age for compulsory school education. Primary school education is free and is available for everyone, meaning that every child is admitted. The language of education is Hungarian (except for bilingual schools, nationality schools, and international schools). Corporal punishment of children is forbidden. Children usually attend primary school up to Grade 8, but some children apply to a secondary school after Grade 4 or Grade 6. Primary school education is divided into lower primary (Grades 1 to 4) and upper primary (Grades 5 to 8) education. In lower primary schools, students have a class teacher (that is, most subjects are taught by the same teacher who is also responsible for the children). In upper primary schools, the form teacher is responsible for the students, and subjects are taught by different teachers. Some children or students do not attend school but study as private students.

#### **PRIVATE STUDENTS**



*Instead of attending school, private students are home-schooled. Becoming a private student is subject to a decision by an expert commission, unless requested by the parent. Private students receive their report cards after taking equivalency tests. The school must provide the means of preparation for the equivalency tests: they must compile a private educational curriculum and provide teachers to help prepare for the tests.*

*It is possible that foreign children and students are only admitted as a private student for their first year at school! In such cases, the school must help the student in their home schooling and preparations. Please discuss this with your school!*

### 11.2 CHOOSING A SCHOOL

Parents have freedom of choice when choosing a school, but it is subject to the school's decision whether the child is admitted to the school of choice. However, the school designated for the district where the family resides is obligated to admit the child. (We covered this in Chapter 7.) Schools usually hold open days in spring: parents can get to know the teachers, attend programs, and learn about and the educational work

conducted at the school. This can help parents decide which school they wish to choose. The decision may depend on several factors: the child's fields of interest and skills, as well as religious or ideological aspects, but also the distance of the school from home, the teachers, the programs offered to children, the building of the school, its equipment or garden.

*You may inquire online, or at the family support service, aid organisations, acquaintances, and various other places about the schools available and the reasons for choosing any one of them. Please also make inquiries whether the kindergarten is experienced in treating migrant children, whether Hungarian as a foreign language is taught at the school, and the kind of help foreign children receive. Your district school is obligated to admit the child under all circumstances. If you choose a different school, you will need to notify the district school.*

### 11.3 ASSIGNING STUDENTS TO CLASSES

Boys and girls at primary schools are assigned to mixed classes with 20 to 30 students. Certain schools (e.g., religious institutions) admit either girls or boys. Assignments to various classes is the decision of the principal, taking into account requests by parents and teachers. Classes stay together until the end of primary school.

#### Assigning foreign children to classes

When assigning foreign children to classes, the principal will consider the number of school years the student has already completed, their level of proficiency of Hungarian, but of course also the available places in each class and the composition of the community. Ideally, foreign students will be assigned to a class befitting their age. However, sometimes they may be assigned to a class one or two years their junior to give them the opportunity to learn Hungarian. In lower primary school, children may be assigned to Grade 1 to allow them to learn to read and write in Hungarian.

*Ask the school to assign your child to a class of his or her age, if possible. Refugee children and those under subsidiary protection are not obligated to submit or acquire documents verifying their level of education. However, please note that the principal may decide at will on the assignment, and he or she is not obligated to assign children according to their age or the education they had already completed.*

## 11.4 EVERYDAY LIFE AT SCHOOL

There are five school days per week in primary school, with Saturdays and Sundays being rest days. Classes usually start at 8.00 a.m., and students must arrive by 7.45 a.m. Activities finish at 4.00 p.m., and children are looked after until 5.00 p.m. Classes usually last for 45 minutes and breaks last for 10 to 15 minutes.

### **SUBJECTS TAUGHT AT PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN HUNGARY**

#### **IN LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL:**

*Hungarian grammar and literature, foreign language, mathematics, ethics or divinity and ethics, environmental studies, music, visual art (drawing), technology and lifestyle, and physical education;*

#### **IN UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL:**

*Hungarian grammar and literature, foreign language (usually English or German), mathematics, history, ethics or divinity and ethics, nature, biology, physics, chemistry, geography, music, visual art (drawing), informatics, physical education, and technology. Homeroom classes are also held each week.*

*Parents may choose whether their child studies ethics or divinity and ethics (meaning Bible class). The usual available religious studies are Catholic and Protestant, but the school may organise other religious classes upon request. The "Ethics" subject does not involve religious studies, it discusses general ethical issues.*

Children attend classes in the morning, and prepare their homework jointly in the afternoon, when playtime also takes place, along with various study groups and other activities. Classes and programs are conducted in line with the weekly schedule handed out at the beginning of the term. Parents may request that their child leave from school earlier in the afternoon if he or she has other activities. Physical education classes are held each day in primary school. Exemption may be granted for two of these classes each week if the child partakes in a sports club or tournament sports and a certificate of such activities is submitted. Joint programs for classes are held frequently, e.g. class trips, museum visits, theatres, forest schools. These programs are usually subject to a fee. Many classes have "class funds" where parents are required to pay a fee each month or each term, and these are used for covering the above programs and other expenses (class decoration, or purchasing paper handkerchiefs).

## 11.5 FURTHER EDUCATION IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Since education in Hungary is compulsory up to the age of 16, most students enrol in some kind of secondary school. (See Chapter 6 for the various types of schools.) Secondary schools are entitled to screen students for admission based on primary school results, or by a written entrance examination organised centrally and oral exams organised locally. Information on admissions is published at the secondary school websites at the start of the school year in each autumn. Primary schools inform their students on the rules of secondary school admissions and help them navigate the entire procedure. There are secondary schools obligated to admit students in their district without an entrance exam.

### ENTRANCE EXAMS



*Written entrance examinations are organised centrally and are identical all over the country. Unified entrance exams are conducted in mathematics and Hungarian grammar. Both exams last 45 minutes, and students need to solve 10 test items in each exam without using supplementary equipment. Exams are held each year at around 10 January. It is worth practicing for these exams: the tests from previous years are available online. Many schools have oral examinations organised locally in February or March, as described at the school websites.*

Non-Hungarian citizens are not exempt from the centrally organised entrance exams if they apply to schools where this is a requirement. However, they will be given more time (if verified appropriately) for their Hungarian language exams. Please ask the teachers at your primary school for more information.



## 12. SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

### 12.1 ABOUT SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION IN GENERAL

Secondary education is free and available to everyone, meaning that all students are admitted to a secondary school up to the age of 16. Similarly to primary schools, girls and boys are assigned to mixed classes, and the conditions for private students are also the same (We covered this in detail in Chapter 11.1.) The language of education remains to be Hungarian, and of course corporal punishment of students is forbidden. At the end of their secondary studies, students take a secondary school leaving examination (in grammar schools and vocational grammar schools) or a vocational examination (in vocational secondary schools – see the table in Chapter 6.2.)

### 12.2 CHOOSING A SCHOOL AND ENROLMENT

Due to freedom of choice, parents and students may choose a secondary school of their liking. There are various types of schools available (grammar school, vocational grammar school, vocational secondary school, vocational school – we covered the reasons for each choice under the section on “The Hungarian School System”). Whether the student is admitted to the school of his or her choice is subject to a decision made by the school.

Secondary schools and halls of residence are entitled to prescribe conditions for admission, meaning they can determine their rules of admission. Therefore, only students who comply with these requirements are admitted. If the secondary school prescribes an entrance exam, the decision on admission will be based on primary school results as well as on a written entrance examination organised centrally and oral exams organised locally.

Secondary schools publish their requirements for admission at their website at the start of the school year in autumn. In many secondary schools (especially grammar schools) only students who pass the central written exam with good results will be admitted. Many schools also organise local oral exams apart from the central written exam. (See Chapter 11.5 on entrance exams.)

Students under the age of 16 must be admitted to a secondary school even if their results do not comply with the requirements of admission at certain schools. There are schools designated to receive these students. Primary schools provide help to their 8th graders in acquiring information on further education, on secondary schools, admission rules, and on the process of applying and passing the entrance exams.



*Choosing a secondary school for a child can be a critical decision that is worth contemplating. Please inquire about the school of your choice, the percentage of their students admitted to university, or – in case of a vocational school – their success in landing a job. It is also important whether the school has experience in teaching migrant children, if they offer Hungarian as a foreign language, and the opportunities provided to foreign students. If you need more information or help, besides the school teachers you can also contact the family support service or various aid organisations.*

## 12.3 ASSIGNING STUDENTS TO CLASSES

Secondary school students are assigned to mixed classes for boys and girls with 20 to 30 students. (In some cases, for example at religious schools, the school may only accept either girls or boys.) Assigning students to classes is the decision of the school principal.

Assigning foreign students to classes

Assigning foreign students to classes is also the decision of the principal: he or she will consider the number of school years the student has already completed, their level of proficiency of Hungarian, but of course also the available places in each class and the composition of the community. Ideally, foreign students will be assigned to a class befitting their age and/or previous education. However, sometimes they may be assigned to a class one or two years their junior to give them the opportunity to learn Hungarian. Especially if the student is planning to take a secondary school leaving exam when graduating from the school.

*Ask the secondary school to assign your child to a class as high as possible considering his or her age and previous education, and realistically evaluating the student's goals (e.g., secondary school leaving examination in Hungarian). Refugee students and those under subsidiary protection are not obligated to submit or acquire documents verifying their level of education. However, admission to an institution of secondary education, just as for Hungarian students, is subject to the completion of primary education, and this will need to be verified. Please note that the principal may decide at will on the assignment, and he or she is not obligated to assign students according to their age or the education they had already completed.*

## 12.4 EVERYDAY LIFE AT SCHOOL

There are five school days per week in secondary school as well, with Saturdays and Sundays being rest days. Classes usually start at 8.00 a.m., and students are required to be ready for class in the appropriate room by that time. Classes usually last for 45 minutes and breaks last for 10 to 15 minutes. There are 6 to 8 classes each day, meaning that the school day ends at around 2.00 or 3.00 p.m.

### **SUBJECTS TAUGHT AT SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN HUNGARY ARE USUALLY THE FOLLOWING:**

*Hungarian grammar and literature, foreign language (usually two with English routinely being one of them), mathematics, history, civic studies, ethics, biology, physics, chemistry, geography, music, visual art (drawing), motion picture and media studies, drama and dance, informatics, physical education, technology, and lifestyle. Homeroom classes are held each week.*

Students are offered electable study groups and activities in the afternoon. Physical education classes are held each day in secondary school. Exemption may be granted for two of these classes each week if the child partakes in a sports club or tournament sports.

Joint programs for classes are held frequently, e.g. class trips, museum visits, theatres, forest schools. These programs are usually subject to a fee. Many classes have "class funds" where parents are required to pay a fee each month or each term, and these are used for covering the above programs and other expenses.

Students must complete fifty hours of community services while in secondary school, which is also a prerequisite of the secondary school leaving examination.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

*Voluntary work done by students in a field or organisation involved in social work, environmental protection, or for the benefit of a local community. The school helps organise these activities. Students may work individually or in groups at various locations, and they are helped by mentors.*



## 12.5 SECONDARY SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATION

Secondary school leaving examination is a unified exam organised each year for students graduating from grammar schools and vocational grammar schools. This is a prerequisite for admission to universities or to institutions of higher vocational education. Oftentimes, employment is subject to a secondary school leaving certificate (that is, only people who passed a secondary school leaving exam are employed at certain positions). A secondary school leaving examination must be taken in at least five subjects: Hungarian grammar and literature, history, mathematics, a foreign language, and a compulsory elective subject.

In vocational grammar schools, the elective subject must be the compulsory vocational subject taught at the school. Students may take the examination in more than five subjects if they so prefer. Secondary school leaving examinations include a written and an oral section, and are held from early May to mid-June. Students may choose between standard and advanced exams: it is up to the student to choose the level of difficulty for each subject. Many universities require their students to pass advance level school leaving exams, and these provide more points upon admission. The secondary school leaving examination is subject to the completion of 50 hours of community services. Students who pass the secondary school leaving examination receive a school leaving certificate.

Non-Hungarian citizen students and those who spent at least 3 out of 4 years outside of the Hungarian public education system preceding their secondary school leaving examination may take the examination in Hungarian as a foreign language instead of taking the Hungarian grammar and literature exam, which is usually a great alleviation. However, a precondition of this option is for these students to receive end-of-year marks in Hungarian grammar and literature. Please contact your school for more information.

## 12.6 FURTHER EDUCATION

After graduation from a secondary school, students may continue their studies in higher education (at a university) or in vocational training (the so-called OKJ courses). There are countless options that are worth investigating. Several occupations in Hungary, such as becoming a teacher, physician, architect, etc. require higher education, that is a university degree. Admission to an institute of higher education requires a secondary school leaving

certificate, and admission depends on the student's secondary school results, school leaving examination grades, language examinations, other academic and sports achievements, and an oral entrance tests. Institutions are entitled to determine their own requirements and priorities for admission. All related information is published in the latest Higher Education Information Leaflet and is also published at the website **FELVI.HU**.

**FELVI.HU**  
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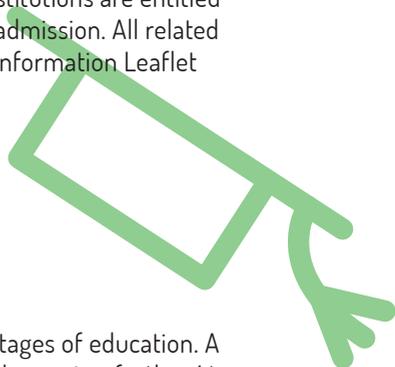
## 13. HIGHER EDUCATION

### 13.1 PROGRAMMES AND INSTITUTIONS

Higher education in Hungary offers several successive stages of education. A bachelor's degree usually takes 3 to 4 years, a master's degree is a further 1 to 2 years, and post-graduate doctoral programs take an additional 3 to 4 years. Students receive diplomas for various stages. More than 40 institutions of higher education operate in Hungary with countless faculties and programs, that is training opportunities. The institutions and their programs are listed at the website felvi.hu.

### 13.2 APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

Applications to universities can only be sent electronically through the website felvi.hu where detailed information is published about the application process. The application deadline is 15 February each year (applications can be submitted during the senior year of secondary school, before the school leaving examinations are held). Admission to an institute of higher education is based on a unified point system taking into account the student's secondary school results, school leaving examination grades, language examinations, other academic and sports achievements, and an oral entrance tests. The exact requirements are determined by the institution. Point limits and results are published at the end of July each year, and this is also when additional entrance admission opportunities are published (this means that students can apply again in the same year). All information concerning universities, educational opportunities, applications and admissions are available at felvi.hu.



### 13.3 TUITION FEES AND STUDENT LOANS

Programmes in higher education in Hungary can be state-funded or paid for by the students themselves. State funding for programs means that the given program is free for students, while self-funding means that students are required to pay tuition fees. Free higher education is available for a maximum duration of 12 semesters. The details of state-funded and tuition-based programs at various universities are also included in the application information materials.

Students with foreign citizenship may also study in state-funded programs, if such a student:

- has right of free movement and residence in Hungary (that is, if they are citizens of an EEA country, or are relatives of a Hungarian citizen);
- is a stateless person, refugee, beneficiary of subsidiary protection, or has immigrated to Hungary and has a place of residence in the country;
- is a non-EU citizen who holds a residency permit.

*To alleviate the financial burdens of students in higher education, student loans are available with favourable interest rates for the duration of the studies. Student Loan 1 can be spent on anything: for paying rent, purchasing a laptop, and even on everyday expenses. Student Loan 2 can be spent on tuition fees and its available sum is equal to the sum of the tuition fee. Students can apply for student loans for 11 semesters, for no more than 5 months in each semester. The loan does not have to be repaid during the studies; the first instalment is due in the fourth month after the student's legal relationship with the educational institution has ended. Mandatory instalments of repayment are adjusted according to the person's income: people earning less will have a lower sum for instalments.*

Students with foreign citizenship may also apply for student loans, if such a student:

- has right of free movement and residence in Hungary (that is, if they are citizens of an EEA country, or are relatives of a Hungarian citizen);
- is a stateless person, refugee, beneficiary of subsidiary protection;
- is a non-EU citizen who holds a residency permit or has immigrated to Hungary and has a place of residence in the country.

Please contact the Student Loan Centre ([www.diakhitel.hu](http://www.diakhitel.hu)) for more information.

## 14. SUBSIDIES RELATED TO EDUCATION

Parents and families may be eligible for various financial allowances and benefits for children and students partaking in education. (Students above the age of 18 receive the benefits themselves.) Most benefits are also available for foreign citizens.

### **SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT BENEFITS AND ALLOWANCES ARE:**

FAMILY BENEFITS (THAT IS, CARE ALLOWANCE OR EDUCATIONAL ALLOWANCE)	Regular monthly financial benefits. Care allowance is available from the child's birth up to reaching compulsory school age, and educational allowance is available while the child is attending school. Families may apply for the benefits by submitting a form, and receive payments from the date of submission.
REGULAR CHILD WELFARE ALLOWANCE	Regular monthly financial allowance for deprived families. Families are eligible in case of a low per-capita income (this is an exactly defined sum). Allowances may be claimed at the local council or at government windows, and are designated for one year. Families eligible for this allowance may also receive other benefits, such as free meals.
FINANCIAL AID FOR STARTING THE SCHOOL YEAR	A one-time aid paid once a year at the start of the school year. Families are eligible if they are also eligible for family benefits. It can be claimed by both parents. However, this aid is provided by the parents' employers and they are not obligated to grant it. It is not money but a voucher that can be used for purchasing educational tools, books, and clothes for the child.
MEAL ALLOWANCES	<p>A one-time aid paid once a year at the start of the school year. Families are eligible if they are also eligible for family benefits. It can be claimed by both parents. However, this aid is provided by the parents' employers and they are not obligated to grant it. It is not money but a voucher that can be used for purchasing educational tools, books, and clothes for the child.</p> <p>Kindergarten meals are free for those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- receive regular child welfare allowance;</li> <li>- are durably ill or severely disabled, or have a durably ill or severely disabled child in the family;</li> <li>- families with three or more children;</li> <li>- families with low per-capita income;</li> <li>- have been placed in foster care (removed from their own family);</li> </ul> <p>School meals are free for those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- receive regular child welfare allowance;</li> </ul> <p>Meals are available at a 50% discount for those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- are durably ill or severely disabled, or have a durably ill or severely disabled child in the family;</li> <li>- families with three or more children.</li> </ul> <p>Please submit your application for free meals at your kindergarten or school. Disadvantaged children and those receiving regular child welfare benefits are provided free meals by the local council during holidays as well.</p>
SCHOOL BOOK GRANT SCHEME	School books are free for all students in primary school and in Grade 9 of secondary school. Starting from Grade 10, books are free for those who are disadvantaged and receive regular child welfare allowance, have multiple disadvantages, are durably ill, and for families with three or more children.



Apart from the above benefits, families may be eligible for other benefits not related to education. These include child support allowance for parents with at least three minors, and family tax benefits.

*To find out whether you are eligible for benefits and allowances, and to learn about the application process, please contact the school, the local council, the family support service, or other aid organisations.*

## 15. OTHER INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTING CHILDREN, STUDENTS AND FAMILIES



There are several institutions and organisations that support families, children and students, for example through the education of children. We have listed a few of the more important ones below. The services of these organisations are available to foreign children and students in the same manner as for Hungarians.

### **FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE**

These institutions operate in all municipalities and districts. Their task is to help families facing difficulties. They help families in administration, in applying for allowances, they provide consultancy on children's education, they organise programs, and if required, children are assisted by education experts, developmental teachers, and psychologists.

*Family support services are available to everyone free of charge. Please inquire online about the family support service centre nearest to you.*

### **PEDAGOGICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE**

Its task is to assist the educational work of parents, besides kindergartens and schools. They provide educational guidance, special needs development, early development, speech therapeutic care, adapted physical education, psychology services, promotion of particularly talented children, and career counselling.

*Pedagogical assistance services are available to everyone free of charge. Please inquire online about the assistance service centre nearest to you.*

### **EQUAL TREATMENT AUTHORITY ("EBH")**

This is a state institution providing legal remedies to victims of discrimination. In Hungary, the law protects everyone from suffering discrimination on the basis of religious or ideological conviction, social origin, political opinion, gender, skin colour, ethnic origin, age, or any other status. Please contact the Authority for legal remedies if you feel that you have been treated unfavourably, for example in matters of education or in case of discrimination at school.

*Call the following toll-free number to contact the EBH: +36 80 203 939, or contact them at their landline number (+361-795-2975), by mail (HU-1539 Budapest, Pf. 672) or by email (ebh@egyenlobanasmod.hu). For more information, please visit the EBH website at: [www.egyenlobanasmod.hu](http://www.egyenlobanasmod.hu)*

### **MENEDÉK – HUNGARIAN ASSOCIATION FOR MIGRANTS**

Menedék – Hungarian Association for Migrants has been guiding the integration of foreigners living in Hungary for more than two decades. We help families that contact us with enrolling their children at school, with applications for benefits, and by organising various programs and activities for children, we assist them in studying and finding their place, and help them achieve their goals in education and in other fields of life.



## **MOCORGÓ KINDERGARTEN IN KÖBÁNYA**



**HU-1101 Budapest, Kőbányai út 30.**

**+36-1-431-7710**

**[hellomocorgoovoda@gmail.com](mailto:hellomocorgoovoda@gmail.com)**

**[www.mocorgoovoda.hu](http://www.mocorgoovoda.hu)**

Our kindergarten is situated at the border of the 10th district of Budapest, between Kőbányai út and Könyves Kálmán körút.

We have 5 groups on two floors in the building. Rooms have a cosy atmosphere and are abundant with toys and developmental tools. The gym, and the rooms for speech therapy, developmental education, and psychotherapy sessions provide children with the opportunity of individual and group development (prevention, correction, alignment, and nurturing talent).

Our “Cognition – Endurance – Reality” education program is rooted in the Hungarian kindergarten pedagogy, local kindergarten values, our expertise in methodology, our pedagogical aspirations, in culture, and in local characteristics. Our kindergarten education centres around the children, it is inclusive, and is based on respect and appreciation for the personality of children.

Priority fields of education are:

- education to a healthy lifestyle (exercise);
- playing freely;
- discovering the outside world;
- heritage preservation.

Our special tasks are:

- education of foreign students from Vietnam, Ukraine and Transylvania;
- we welcome special needs children.

Inclusion and integration through education. One of our important missions is to help the social and societal integration of children whose mother tongue is not Hungarian, and to help them use and understand Hungarian while they practice their own traditions and mother tongues and preserve their cultural heritages.

Our efficient work in education is aided by outside experts (speech therapists and travelling special needs teachers).

The kindergarten has a large backyard where a collection of ancient trees and plants ensure our daily outing. The yard provides a year-round opportunity for exercises, observations and experiences, and to directly witness natural phenomena. Children can practice their road traffic skills by foot, bike or scooter at the traffic training course next to the premises.

## **RECE-FICE KINDERGARTEN IN KŐBÁNYA**



**HU-1105 Budapest, Vaspálya u. 8-10.**

**+36-1-262-7681**

**[receficeovi@gmail.com](mailto:receficeovi@gmail.com)**

**[www.receficeovi.wixsite.com/receficeovi](http://www.receficeovi.wixsite.com/receficeovi)**

Our kindergarten, renovated in 2016, is a friendly green island in the centre of Kőbánya with its four groups.

We have a safe yard with outdoor play equipment where children can practice and exercise.

When designing our group rooms, our priority was safety, quality, and a pleasant appearance. High-quality equipment tools are available for children to make a range of discoveries and gain experiences, implementing our project-based methods of organising learning. Our primary goal in our education program is to ensure the harmonious development of personality, and to identify and support strengths and weaknesses. Wednesday is our day for workshops: we organise dextrous hands, textile and movement workshops, and a dance house. Fun, unrestricted movement, folk songs, and transferring the joy of crafts help us preserve the folk traditions of our immediate environment.

We respect the origin, cultures and individual skills of children in our educational work. We organise festivities with an open mind and by involving parents. Our approach to education is characterised by acceptance, consistency, and playfulness. We apply state-of-the-art teaching processes and innovative methods to organise the lives of children. We take on the role of initiators and help parents who contact us for advice.

We provide extracurricular activities in the afternoon (Bible class, swimming, rocky, aerobics, soccer, judo, and skating).

Our groups are mixed-age where we have more opportunities for individual treatment and differentiation of children.

## **BEM JÓZSEF PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**HU-1101 Bp. Hungária krt. 5-7.**

**+36-1-26-16-786**

**[iskola@bem.t-online.hu](mailto:iskola@bem.t-online.hu)**

**[www.bem-iskola.hu](http://www.bem-iskola.hu)**

We have 210 students guided by 20 teachers at our colourful, friendly and homely school, fitted with up-to-date equipment.

Our priority is the development of basic skills, foreign language skills (English and German), and education in environmental, natural and health protection.

Our students start learning German in first grade in one class per week, and from 4th grade in three classes per week. The forest school in the Austrian Alps provides an excellent opportunity to practice the language.

As an acknowledgment of our environmental protection work, we have been awarded the title of ETERNAL ECO SCHOOL.

A smooth transition for future first-graders into our school system is ensured by our experienced teachers who work with the children from Grade 1 to 4.

Classes are characterised by a focus on activities. A personal teacher-student relationship is an important aspect of our work, based on respect, love, trust and acceptance.

During the first four grades, students can learn the basics of folk dance and belly dancing as part of their everyday physical education classes. Afternoon programs consist of various activities for our students.

Our developmental work is aided by a speech therapist, a developmental teacher and a school psychologist.

An important venue for artistic education is the music school in Kőbánya, working within our premises, with its study groups for solmisation, violin, flute and piano.

The knowledge acquired at our school provides an adequate foundation for our students to pursue further education at the secondary school of their choice and to achieve success there.

Once a month in each school year, for a total of five occasions, we organise the BEMelegítő ("warming up") activities for our prospective students and hold open days for parents.

## **BVHSZC BÓKAY JÁNOS VOCATIONAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

**HU-1086 Budapest, Csobánc utca 1.**

**+36-1-313-10-67, +36-1-313-16-74**

**[bokay@vhszc.hu](mailto:bokay@vhszc.hu)**

**[www.bokay-eu.sulinet.hu](http://www.bokay-eu.sulinet.hu)**

We provide regular courses in Hungarian as a foreign language at our school. Foreign students are welcome to apply if they hold a residency permit and have completed their primary school education.

### **OUR PROGRAMS:**

Four-year vocational grammar school focusing on healthcare (0201)

- Qualifications acquired by a school leaving examination: 52 720 01 General Care and Healthcare Assistant

Five-year bilingual vocational grammar school focusing on healthcare (0202)

- Qualifications acquired by a school leaving examination (52 720 01) General Care and Healthcare Assistant + optionally an advanced level language examination

Four-year vocational grammar school focusing on sports organisation (0203)

- Qualifications acquired by a vocational school leaving examination: Regenerative Masseur in Balneotherapy

Four-year vocational grammar school focusing on pedagogy (0204)

- This program provides a qualification of kindergarten nurse.

Vocational secondary school of community care work (0205)

- The training period is 3 years, the offered qualification is community care worker and nurse (OKJ 34 762 01)

### **Classification of applicants:**

0201, 0203 and 0205: Based on points acquired from marks at the end of school year in Grades 6 and 7, and at the end of Term 1 in Grade 8.

0202 and 0204: Based on results at the end of school year in Grades 6 and 7, and at the end of Term 1 in Grade 8, calculated from points acquired in Hungarian grammar and literature, mathematics, history, and a foreign language, and from the central entrance exam and our personal interview.



## **MENEDÉK – MIGRÁNSOKAT SEGÍTŐ EGYESÜLET**



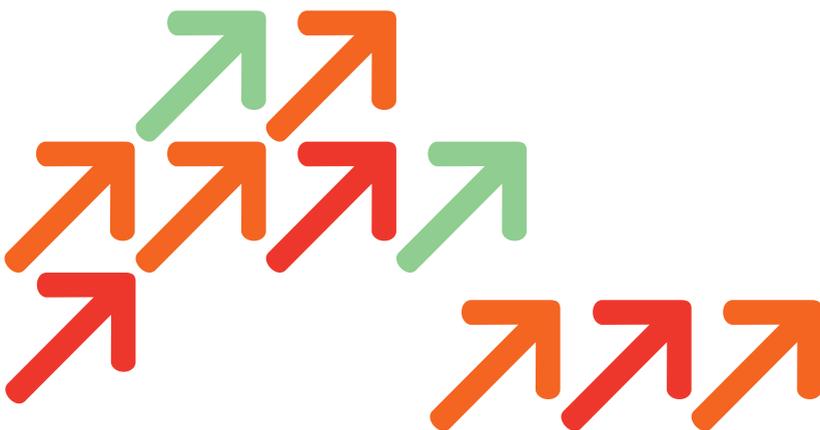
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MENEDÉK

MIGRÁNSOKAT  
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