Kindergarten - a chance for your child

Some parents think:
“School is important, but why should our child go to kindergarten? We’d rather educate our child at home.”

It’s true: family is very important for education and continues to be important for children, even if they go to kindergarten. Kindergarten supports and supplements education within the family. Children learn many things there, which they can’t learn as well within the family. Consequently, school will be easier for them and they will get on better in Germany. Whether in your native country or in other countries, your child will have a better future then.

What happens in kindergarten?

At first everything is strange and new for your child. But soon your child will make contact with his teacher and other children and he/she will get to know a new world.

In groups of mixed ages your child will learn more and more how to help himself/herself and to find solutions when something is difficult.

There are many other children in the group, and therefore your child will learn rules which are important for everyone, e.g. to fit in with a group, to share with other children or to make plans together.

He/she will make friends there - from other countries, as well. Your child will learn to get along with different people from all over the world. And he/she will make friends who will go to school with him/her.

Together with the teacher and the other children your child will learn German.

In Kindergarten your child will receive a wide variety of stimulation. The children are encouraged in many diverse areas, like speech, thought, dexterity and imagination. At the same time, they learn to concentrate on a task and to solve it. That way your child is being prepared for school through play.

The teachers respect the different cultures and religions of the families, and the children, will also learn to respect other cultures and religions.

Not just the children, but the parents, too, belong to the kindergarten. There they can talk to the teacher about their wishes or ask questions about education, e.g. how their child is developing. And you can get to know other parents. Parent co-operation also means electing parent representatives - mothers or fathers you trust, and who are especially involved in the kindergarten. Or you may even stand for election yourself!
Give your child this chance -
Kindergarten is the first step towards a good education.

Almost all children go to kindergarten. If your child stays at home it will be more difficult for him/her to be good in school and to make friends there. The other children will then have a head start, they will already have friends from kindergarten and will have learned a lot of what they need in school. Your child will then feel disadvantaged from the beginning and maybe lonely, too. Schoolteachers say over and over again: Children who have gone to kindergarten have an easier time in school, they can keep up more easily and can get along better in class.

Maybe kindergarten is too expensive for you?
Kindergarten is there for all children!

We want all children to have the same chance to get a good education. The fees for a place in kindergarten are comparatively low. Even parents with financial problems can register their child - they will receive subsidies. Your kindergarten will give you advice and information, or you can contact your local youth welfare office.

You can find further information on the internet under: www.stmas.bayern.de or direct under: www.stmas.bayern.de/familie/kinderbetreuung/gaerten.htm