



Schloss Heessen
Privatschule und Internat



That's us.
For you.

Encouraging individuality. Developing character.

www.Schloss-Heessen.de





Jürgen Heimühle*

>> As Head of School, I was delighted to work in such a remarkable historic setting with its outstanding potential. The castle and its extensive grounds provide exceptional opportunities for both school life and the everyday experience of boarding.

Children need space to move and explore. With direct access to the river Lippe, a wide range of sports facilities, and our own tennis courts, our campus offers countless opportunities to stay active and enjoy the outdoors.

* Head of School at Schloss Heessen from 2004 to 2023, since then a member of the governing association.



This brochure is also available in **German and Chinese**. It can be found at www.Schloss-Heessen.de/Download or at direct link via the QR code.





One community. For nearly 70 years.

Discipline, integrity, punctuality and respect for order have shaped life at Schloss Heessen since Arthur Theodor Gruelich founded the private boarding school on 2 May 1957. These values continue to define our community today. For nearly seven decades, Schloss Heessen has been far more than a place to study - it has been a home away from home, where students receive outstanding academic support, grow as individuals, and work towards all German secondary school qualifications, including the Abitur, the German university entrance qualification.



Breakfast together in the courtyard with
students and staff
summer, 1960s

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Editorial #07

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Encouraging individuality. Developing character.

For almost seven decades, we have guided children and young people throughout their educational journey. Then as now, we believe that education is about far more than academic success. Alongside outstanding teaching, we place the greatest emphasis on nurturing character, building confidence and helping every student grow into a responsible, independent individual.



Community.

We are a community that supports and empowers you — today and for your future.



Education.

We combine academic excellence with character development while nurturing your individual talents.



Perspektive.

We accompany you on your journey — with heart, experience, and vision.

On the following pages, we would like to give you a glimpse of what awaits you at our school and what everyday life in our school and boarding community is like.

Our approach is built not only on our long history and the traditions that shape who we are, but equally on purposeful innovation and, above all, on your active contribution.

What truly defines us is our school community — a community that embraces the challenges of a changing world together with its students. **Here, you learn with us and from us. And we learn with you and from you.**

We hope this brochure gives you a first impression of how we can support your personal development and accompany you on your journey towards the Abitur, Germany's university entrance qualification.

We would be delighted to meet with you and your parents or guardians to discuss how our educational programme can best be tailored to your individual strengths, goals and aspirations.

Welcome to the world of Schloss Heessen!

Renke Reichler
Administration and Finance Management

Stephanie Soller
Educational Leader





School is far more than a place of learning. It is a place where young people grow, discover their strengths, and develop into confident, responsible individuals. As the governing body of Schloss Heessen, we believe that education is about much more than academic achievement. It is the combination of knowledge, values and a strong sense of community that prepares students for life.

For almost 70 years, we have supported young people on their journey towards successful school qualifications. What makes Schloss Heessen truly unique is the close connection between our private school and boarding community. Together, they create an environment where individual support, personal development and a genuine sense of belonging go hand in hand.

Small class sizes, personal guidance and a well-structured school day enable every student to discover and develop their talents. At the same time, boarding life provides the ideal setting for growing independence, taking responsibility and building lifelong friendships.

In a world of constant change, young people need stability, guidance and the confidence to find their own path. We are committed to supporting them every step of the way—with dedication, experience and a genuine appreciation of each student's individual strengths.

We warmly invite you to discover Schloss Heessen: a place where learning and living belong together, and where young people are given the best possible foundation for a successful and fulfilling future.

Georg Garbrecht

Chairman of the Board of Landschulheim Schloss Heessen e.V.,
the governing organisation of Schloss Heessen | Private School & Boarding School

Character and Personal Growth



Unknown year



The boarding school shall be a home for its students.

Alongside providing an excellent academic education, its foremost purpose is the development of character and personality.

We strive to instil discipline, integrity, punctuality, and a sense of order, helping young people develop an inner strength that may begin with outward habits but gradually becomes an enduring part of who they are.

Arthur Theodor Gruelich (1906 - 1967)

Author, values-based educational reformer, and founder of today's private grammar school with its integrated boarding school.



A Home Away from Home.

At our boarding school and in our classrooms, you'll find a community where you feel safe, take responsibility, and grow both personally and academically.



Values that last.

Respect, responsibility, kindness, open-mindedness, and commitment are not just words—they are part of our everyday life together.



Guidance instead of Pressure.

Form tutors, learning support, and regular one-to-one conversations help you discover your own path—both academically and personally.



Growing together with a global perspective.

At Schloss Heessen, you'll learn alongside students from many different countries and cultures. Openness, respect, and tolerance are simply part of who we are.

In a world that is changing faster than ever, **strong character and self confidence** provide the best foundation for a successful and fulfilling life.

From your very first day, we are here to support you on that journey. Together, we ensure a smooth and well-supported transition from your previous school—whether you join us directly after primary school or later during your middle or upper school years.

If you choose Schloss Heessen from Year 5 onwards, you will be welcomed not only by your form tutor but also by our dedicated student support team (see page 36). **Small class sizes, typically with 10 to 15 students**, ensure that you receive individual attention and have the time and space to settle into your new environment, build confidence, and feel at home.

Helping young people thrive requires more than excellent teaching. It depends on a respectful community built on shared values. That is why our entire school community has reflected on what makes life at Schloss Heessen so special. The result is our shared Code of Values.

Responsibility, commitment, kindness, open-mindedness, and respect are the principles that guide everything we do. They shape our daily life together and provide the foundation on which we support you in your personal growth and academic success.



**THAT'S US.
FOR YOU.**



Personally supported

We take the time to get to know you. Dedicated mentors, small class sizes, and personalised support help you discover your strengths, overcome challenges, and confidently shape your own path—step by step, whether you live in our boarding school or join us as a day student.



Growing together

Whether in the classroom, in boarding life, or through projects and activities, teamwork is at the heart of everything we do. We learn together, support one another, and inspire each other to achieve our full potential. That's how school becomes a place where lasting friendships are made and successes are celebrated together.



More Opportunities

A strong academic education, international experiences, and a wide range of enrichment opportunities open new doors for your future. Whether you continue to university, begin vocational training, or start your career after your school-leaving qualifications, we'll help you build the confidence, skills, and independence to shape your own future.



If you'd like to find out more about life at Schloss Heessen throughout the year, be sure to visit our **website**.

In the **download section**, you'll find our **Schloss Reports**, filled with stories, highlights, and insights into everyday life at our school and boarding community.



It's more than smaller classes. It's our DNA. It's what sets us apart.

At Schloss Heessen, you are at the heart of everything we do. Our goal is to support you throughout your personal development and give you everything you need to achieve a successful Abitur and confidently embark on the next chapter of your life. **Small classes and courses provide the ideal conditions for this.** They are just as much part of our DNA as the many other distinctive features that, together, define the unique profile of Schloss Heessen.

#01



Individual Support

Smaller classes, needs-based course sizes and personal guidance create an environment where you are seen, can develop your strengths and have the space to grow.



Smaller Classes and Courses.
More attention to you and your individual needs.



No Cancelled Lessons in Lower Secondary.
Reliable learning time to ensure you are thoroughly prepared.



Support for Dyslexia and Dyscalculia.
Targeted support for reading and spelling difficulties as well as learning challenges in mathematics.

#02



Learning with Structure and Focus

Study skills training, teamwork and clear learning structures strengthen your independence and your ability to work effectively with others in class or in your course.



Study Skills Training.
Learning strategies for your long-term success.



Teamwork Training.
This is where you develop important social skills.



No Homework!
More time to relax and pursue your personal interests.

#03



International Perspectives.

Language qualifications, student exchanges and intercultural experiences broaden your horizons far beyond the classroom.



Certified Language Qualifications.
Internationally recognized and valuable for your future beyond school.



Exchange Programmes.
Get out into the world — with our exchange programme in England or spend a year abroad during your introductory year (EF).

#04



“The Early Bird...” Ready for University and Career

From university taster programs to our own careers fair, you'll gain real insights into different study and career paths.



**Business Administration
Course with Real ECTS credits**
Gain your first university
experience while still at school.



**Student Enterprise & Careers
Fair**
Practical guidance for your
future studies and career.



Altheessen Alumni Network
Our Alumni as your mentors!

#05



The Best Possible Path to Your Graduation

Personalized career guidance, targeted support in areas where you need it most, and advanced core subjects support your individual educational journey towards the Abitur.



Individual Academic Guidance
Support and guidance all the
way to the Abitur — and
beyond.



Targeted Learning Support
Targeted support to close
learning gaps.



**The Best Possible
Qualifications**
We support you with your
individual goals in mind.



At Schloss Heessen, you'll currently find yourself in classes of around **14 students on average in Lower Secondary School (Sek I)**. In the Upper School, classes are even smaller, with an average of just 11.8 students per basic course.



Providing Structure. Inspiring Success.

The Flexible All-Day Schooling at Schloss Heessen

To help you feel confident and well organised throughout the day, life at Schloss Heessen follows a clear daily structure built around a carefully designed double-lesson timetable.

This gives you more time to focus on each subject, explore topics in greater depth, and enjoy a more engaging and effective learning experience.

	Assessment years [Years 5+7]	Middle school [Years 8-10]	Upper school [Years 11-13]		Single lesson [incl. time window]
08:00				1	08:00 - 08:45
09:00	Double lesson	Double lesson	Double lesson	2	08:45 - 09:30
10:00	first break [09:30 - 09:50]				
11:00	Double lesson	Double lesson	Double lesson	3	09:50 - 10:35
12:00				4	10:35 - 11:20
13:00	second break [11:20 - 11:35]				
14:00	Single lesson	Single lesson	Single lesson	5	11:35 - 12:20
15:00	Lunch break [12:20 - 13:20]	Single lesson*	Single lesson	6	12:25 - 13:10
16:00	Single lesson	Lunch break* [13:10 - 14:05]	Single lesson	7	13:15 - 14:00 [Sek II] 13:20 - 14:05 [Sek I]
17:00	Doppelstunde Tuesday + Friday optional [Club / Study Time / Learning Support]	Double lesson Tuesday + Friday optional [Club / Study Time / Learning Support]	Lunch break [14:00 - 15:00]	8	14:10 - 14:55 [Sek I]
18:00			Double lesson	9	15:00 - 15:45 [Sek II] 14:55 - 15:40 [Sek I]
19:00				10	15:45 - 16:30
20:00			Single lesson	11	16:35 - 17:20

*Tuesday and Friday follow a modified timetable. [*Pink sections indicate breaks.]

At Schloss Heessen, your school day follows a **clear and reliable schedule** - from 8:00 a.m. to 3:40 p.m. in the Lower and Middle School, and until 3:45 p.m. in the Upper School.

Alongside the familiar subjects, which are taught primarily in double lessons, your timetable includes an **additional lesson each week in every core subject**. These enrichment lessons provide time for **personalised learning**: closing knowledge gaps, deepening understanding, or exploring topics that match your interests and academic progress.

Homework is completed during our dedicated study time, which takes place three times a week under the guidance of a teacher. This means that, apart from revising vocabulary or preparing for tests and examinations, your schoolwork is largely finished by the end of the school day - **leaving your afternoons free** for sports, hobbies, friends, or simply time to relax.

Your textbooks and learning materials are kept in your own shelf compartment in the classroom, so everything you need is always close at hand.

At regular mealtimes, you'll enjoy a freshly prepared buffet lunch (see page 24). Afterwards, you can relax during the lunch break on our beautiful castle grounds. One of our students' favourite places is the island - a small wooded retreat accessible only from the school campus, featuring playground equipment, our school garden, and plenty of space to play, unwind, or simply enjoy nature.

One thing you can always rely on at Schloss Heessen is continuity. If a teacher is absent, lessons are covered by another member of staff. Teaching and student supervision continue as planned, ensuring that you receive consistent support every day.

On special occasions - such as parent-teacher conferences, the graduation ball, or on the last day before school holidays - the school day ends earlier than usual. Families are informed well in advance through our annual school calendar, which is distributed at the beginning of each academic year and includes all important dates and events. This allows you and your family to plan the year with confidence.



**CURIOUS? TURN THE PAGE AND DISCOVER
WHAT MAKES SCHLOSS HEESSEN SPECIAL
- AND HOW WE CAN HELP YOU DEVELOP
OUR TALENTS, PURSUE YOUR INTERESTS,
AND ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS.**



**Because meaningful breaks
and shared experiences
help you grow.**







Starting secondary school is an exciting milestone, but it can also be a challenging time for both children and their families. Many students wonder whether they will be able to meet the increased academic expectations, while parents often ask themselves how their child will adapt to a new environment. Moving from being one of the oldest pupils in primary school to one of the youngest in secondary school is a significant step, and we understand the uncertainty that can come with it.

At Schloss Heessen, we make this transition as smooth and supportive as possible. Our small class sizes allow teachers to recognize individual needs early and provide targeted support whenever it is needed. Every student is known personally, enabling us to build on individual strengths while responding to different learning styles and abilities.

Additional lessons in the core subjects give students more time to practice, consolidate their knowledge and prepare confidently for assessments. At the same time, we encourage them to become increasingly independent learners, helping them develop confidence in their own abilities.

Our team of social educators is always available to provide professional guidance whenever challenges arise, ensuring that every child feels supported both academically and personally.

A structured daily routine, including dedicated study periods and shared mealtimes with classmates, helps new students quickly develop a sense of security and belonging. One of the highlights of the day is often the lunch break on our Adventure Island, where children can play, explore and enjoy a welcome break in the fresh air before returning to class.

Start your journey together - in your Lower School class!

- ✓ AN AVERAGE OF 14 STUDENTS PER CLASS
- ✓ 1 ADDITIONAL HOUR PER WEEK FOR EACH CORE SUBJECT
- ✓ DEDICATED STUDY TIME INSTEAD OF HOMEWORK
- ✓ DEDICATED SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE
- ✓ TEAM TRAINING FROM DAY ONE

The transition to secondary school is exciting. It's good to start somewhere where you're not simply new — but where you're genuinely welcome. Here, you'll be supported every step of the way in a close-knit community with a strong sense of family, where you can quickly feel at home. That's why, right after the summer holidays, we start by focusing on one thing: settling in.



Your new Class

Your class has around 14 students on average, so it won't take long for everyone to get to know each other really well.

To help you settle in, you can meet your new classmates at our welcome afternoon before the summer holidays.

That way, on your first day of school, you won't be on your own — you'll already recognize a few friendly faces.

As a new member of the Schloss community, you'll be celebrated as a new „Schlossgeist“. And during our class orientation days, you'll get to know the school and find your way around even faster.



Team Training

During team training with the "Wipfelstürmer" (tree-top climber), you'll grow even closer as a group — whether you're climbing, trying your hand at archery, or taking on an adventure on our Adventure Island.

You'll also have a weekly class meeting where you can share your thoughts and talk about anything that's on your mind.



No cancelled Lessons

Of course, teachers can be absent sometimes. When that happens, another teacher steps in.

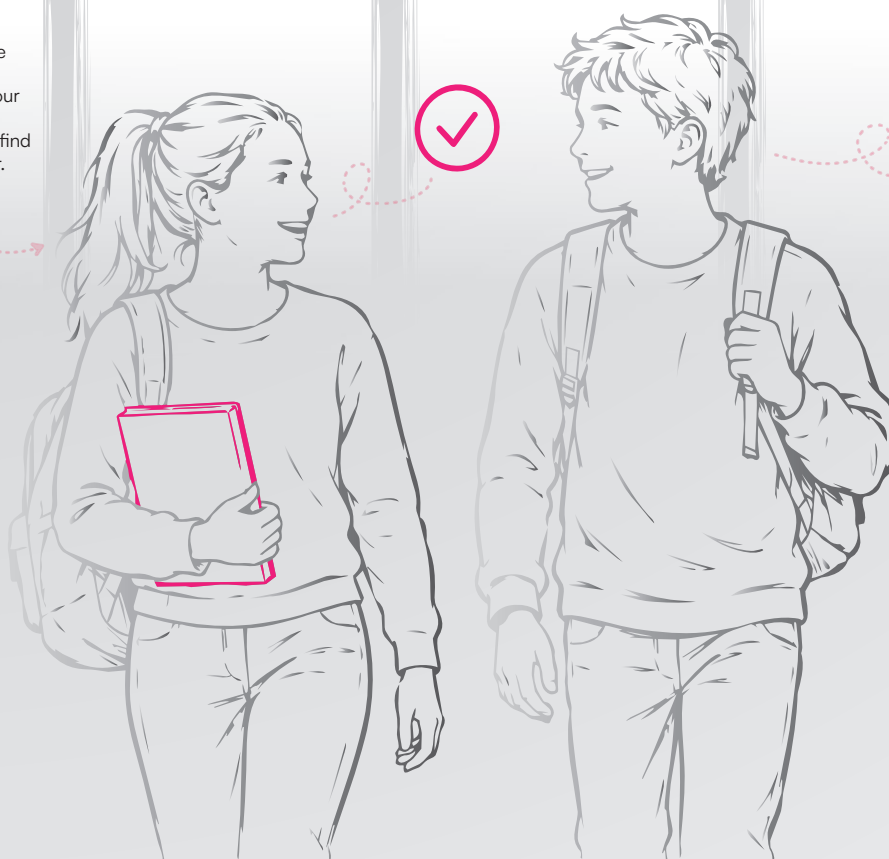
This means no lessons are cancelled, so you can stay on track and achieve your learning goals.



What about Homework?

At our school, you'll usually do your homework during study time at school. That means you have time for yourself at home — for sports, friends, or simply relaxing. This is really important to us.

That's why, every six months, you and your parents can choose whether you'd like to make use of our full-day program three, four, or five days a week.



A photograph of four young girls standing in a lush green forest. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The girl in the center is wearing a light grey sweater, while the others are in darker clothing. The background is filled with dense green foliage and trees.

Viktoria (day student)



Schloss Heessen is more than just a school to me - it's a family tradition and a place where I truly feel at home.

My brother had a wonderful experience here before me, and I received just as warm a welcome. I quickly made friends and felt like part of the school community from the very beginning.

The teachers also take the time to support every student as an individual. That personal attention made my transition to secondary school a smooth and positive experience.

Supporting You Every Step of the Way

- ✓ STUDY SKILLS TRAINING FOR SUCCESSFUL LEARNING
- ✓ READING & SPELLING SUPPORT
- ✓ SOCIAL PEDAGOGICAL SUPPORT TEAM
- ✓ CAREERS FAIR
- ✓ ALUMNI NETWORK

Sometimes, all you need is the right place to show what you're truly capable of. In our Middle Years, you'll receive intensive support — both personally and academically. It's a place where you can make a fresh start and build confidence. We support you as an individual: with your learning, with organizing your school day, and with believing in yourself.



Stronger together.

If you're dealing with worries or conflicts, our social education support team and school nurse are here to help.

Whether you have specific needs or simply questions, you'll always find a listening ear and practical support at our school.



Making Learning Easier.

Study skills training, individual learning strategies, certified reading and spelling support, and dyscalculia support help you learn with greater confidence and success.

If needed, older students can act as learning mentors.



More Than School.

Sports, extracurricular activities, fresh and healthy meals, exercise, and shared experiences are just as much a part of life at our school as lessons.

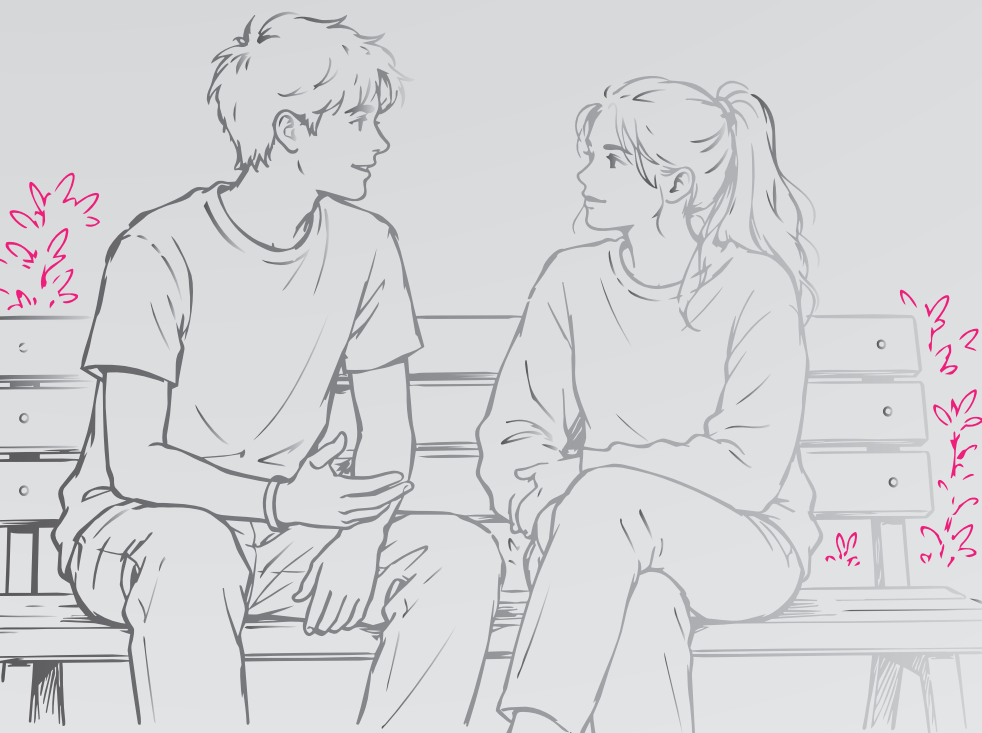
Here, you can develop your strengths — at school and beyond.



Perspectives.

Our England Exchange, Careers Fair, and Altheessen Alumni Network open up new perspectives and opportunities.

This way, you can gain valuable experience, connections, and guidance for your future while you're still at school.



Schloss Heessen in 114 seconds?
Let's go! Discover what makes our school special in our new image film.





Anna (Day student)

»» "At our school, everyone knows one another, and that makes learning a truly personal and supportive experience. You feel seen, your voice is heard, and the teachers take the time to support each student individually. That encouragement helps all of us grow—both academically and personally."

The Final Stretch - Show Us What You're Made Of!

- ✓ INDIVIDUAL ACADEMIC PATHWAY PLANNING
- ✓ LEARNING AS EQUALS
- ✓ NOTICEABLY BETTER ABITUR RESULTS
- ✓ ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR UNIVERSITY & CAREER
- ✓ LANGUAGE CERTIFICATES & UNIVERSITY INSIGHTS

At Schloss Heessen, we support you personally, individually, and with close guidance throughout the final stage of your school journey towards the Abitur. We identify opportunities for improvement and learning challenges at an early stage and discuss them with you personally. Your year-group coordinator knows your individual strengths and potential and works with you to create the best possible learning conditions for you - while encouraging you to have the confidence to forge your own path.



Digital (but Deliberate)

Digital media are part of your everyday life — which is why we teach you how to use them safely, creatively, and responsibly.

Our goal is for you not just to consume digital content, but to understand it, question it, and use it purposefully to achieve your own goals.

In our modern, well-equipped specialist classrooms, you'll work with up-to-date technology and receive a comprehensive software package free of charge.

To keep learning and leisure in balance, our supervised study sessions and the Forum provide quiet spaces for focused work.

This means you can get many things done at school — and then truly enjoy your free time afterwards.



Noticeably Better Results

Small class sizes are a key feature of our Upper School, too. This means you receive personal attention, are taken seriously, and we can identify early on where you may need support — allowing us to work together to find solutions that help you achieve the best possible academic results.

From this stage onwards, your lessons take place just outside the main Schloss campus, in a modern Upper School Centre nestled in the green surroundings of the castle. It offers state-of-the-art specialist classrooms and a welcoming Upper School Café.



The Abitur in Sight

We support you closely and as equals all the way to your Abitur.

Together, we plan not only your academic pathway, but also identify your strengths and opportunities for development at an early stage.

This enables us to help you achieve your personal goals with confidence and unlock your full potential step by step.



Shaping Your Future Together

With certified language courses, international trips, a Business Administration faster course, and other additional opportunities, you'll develop skills that prepare you for university, vocational training, and your future career. This way, you'll gain orientation, discover new perspectives, and start life after the Abitur with a real head start.





Lena (Day Student)

I enjoy not only the fun of learning here, but also the healthy balance between challenge and relaxation.

At Schloss Heessen, I've been able to develop my academic skills while also making valuable friendships.

Freshly Prepared Meals – With Consideration for (Almost) All Allergies.

For many years, Schloss Heessen had a tradition of enjoying lunch together in a family-style setting: large serving bowls on long rows of tables, with each class seated together. As dietary preferences and expectations have changed — along with allergies and the daily routines of school life — so has our approach. Since 2019, the Schloss kitchen has been serving meals buffet-style, giving everyone more choice and flexibility.

Especially if you're used to a traditional German breakfast, you'll notice something different at Schloss Heessen. As early as 7:00 a.m., you'll find not only pancakes and bacon, but also meat skewers, chicken wings, and vegetarian pastries on the breakfast buffet. This reflects our wonderfully diverse student community (see page 38), where a warm breakfast is simply part of the culture for many students.

Even so, our kitchen places great emphasis on a balanced diet and **plenty of choice** from the very start of the day – including a wide selection of cereals, breads, fruit, and vegetables, as well as a variety of toppings. There's something for everyone.

Any allergies and dietary requirements are discussed when you register for school or boarding, and the arrangements are coordinated with our kitchen team.

To make things as easy as possible, **all dishes on the buffet are clearly labelled**. This means you can see at a glance what's suitable for you and make your choices with confidence – without having to ask every time.

The same applies to school trips, class trips, and restaurant visits. Your personal mentors are, of course, informed and will be happy to help if you have any questions.



What's on the Menu for You



Breakfast

Hot and cold breakfast buffet with fresh bread rolls, cereals, fruit, cold cuts, vegan alternatives, and a changing selection of hot dishes such as scrambled eggs, pancakes, or bacon.

(boarding students + optional for day students)



Lunch

Three different main dishes each day, freshly prepared in our own kitchen, always including a vegan or vegetarian option. Plus a variety of side dishes a large salad bar and dessert.

(For all students)



Dinner

A varied hot and cold buffet for a healthy and nourishing end to the day.

(Boarding students)



Something for everyone!

Vegetarian, vegan, and allergy-conscious options are a given for us. And if you have a special request, our kitchen team is always happy to hear your suggestions!



For us, it's not just about what's on your plate – it's about everyone coming together around the table.



Switch Off from Everyday Life. Give Your Mind a Break.

In our flexible full-day school model, you spend a good part of your day on the Schloss grounds and in the classroom. That's why your mind needs a break from time to time.

Once a week, the afternoon is all about your personal interests.

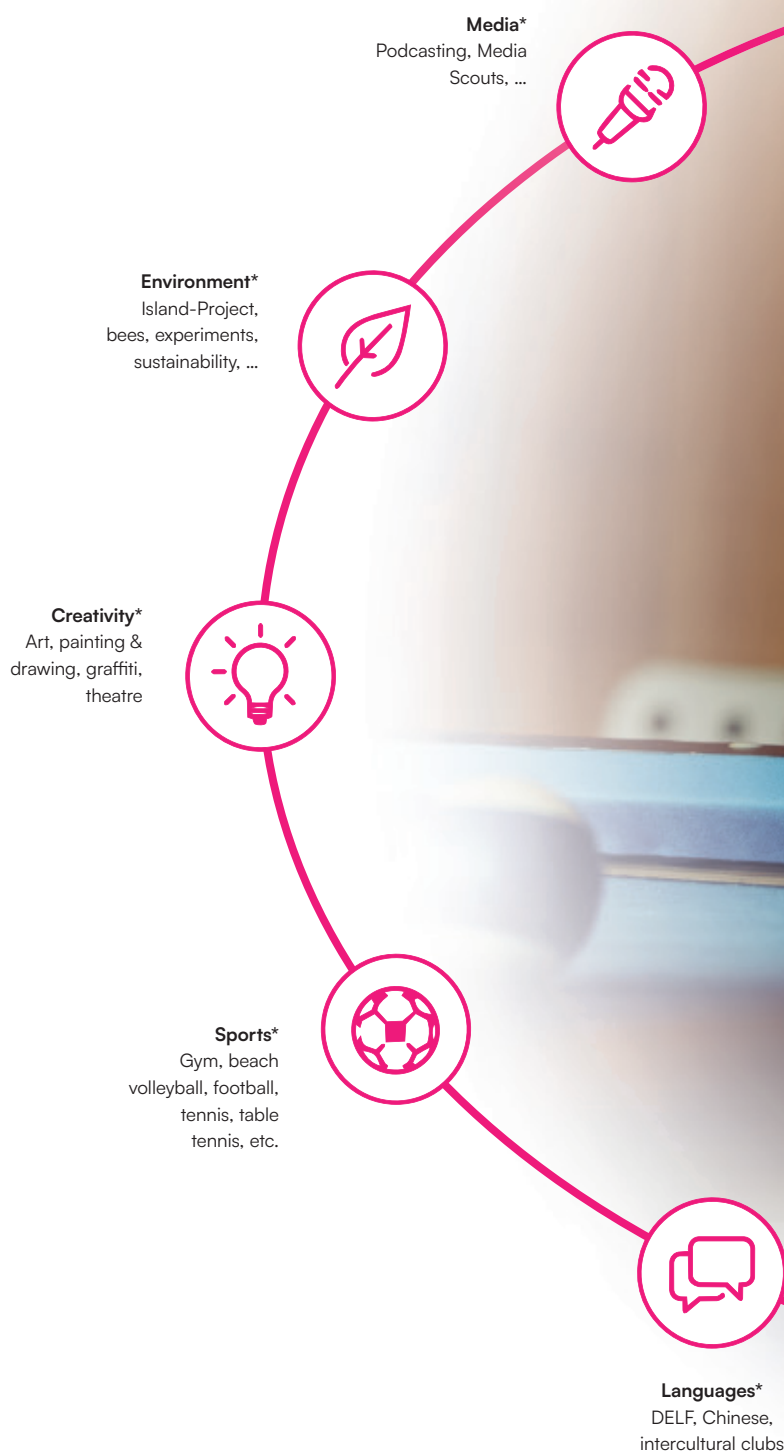
Whether you enjoy crafting, getting active, or exploring your creative side, the choice is yours. Our activities change regularly, giving you the opportunity to try new things, discover hidden talents, and broaden your horizons.

And if you have an idea of your own, you can even work with a teacher to create and launch your very own activity on the Schloss campus. Whether it's a new sport, a creative project, a club, or simply something you've always wanted to try — we give you the space and support to turn your idea into reality.

Why Do We Give This Concept So Much Space?

- You discover new interests and hidden talents.
- You develop skills that often don't get enough attention in the classroom.
- You build confidence, initiative, and a sense of responsibility.
- You find a healthy balance to the school day and recharge your batteries.
- You develop team spirit and strong communication skills.
- You actively shape your school experience and take responsibility for your own projects.

For us, education means more than lessons. An afternoon at Schloss Heessen is time to recharge, discover new interests, and grow.





A healthy balance gives you new energy – and space to grow.



Communication*
Peer mediators,
student council,
etc.



Society*
Clubs exploring the
history of Schloss
Heessen and world
cultures.



Other*
Chess, student
enterprise

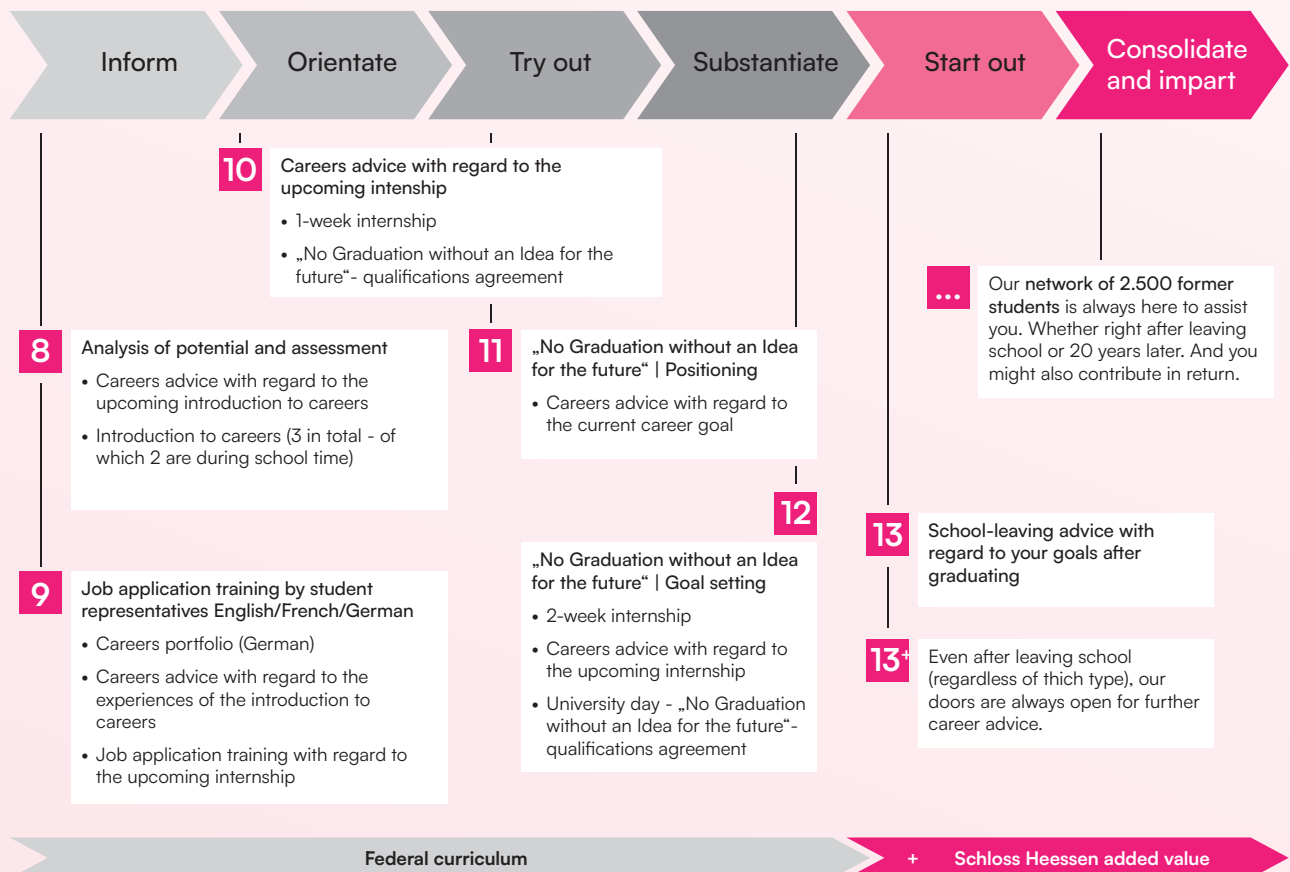
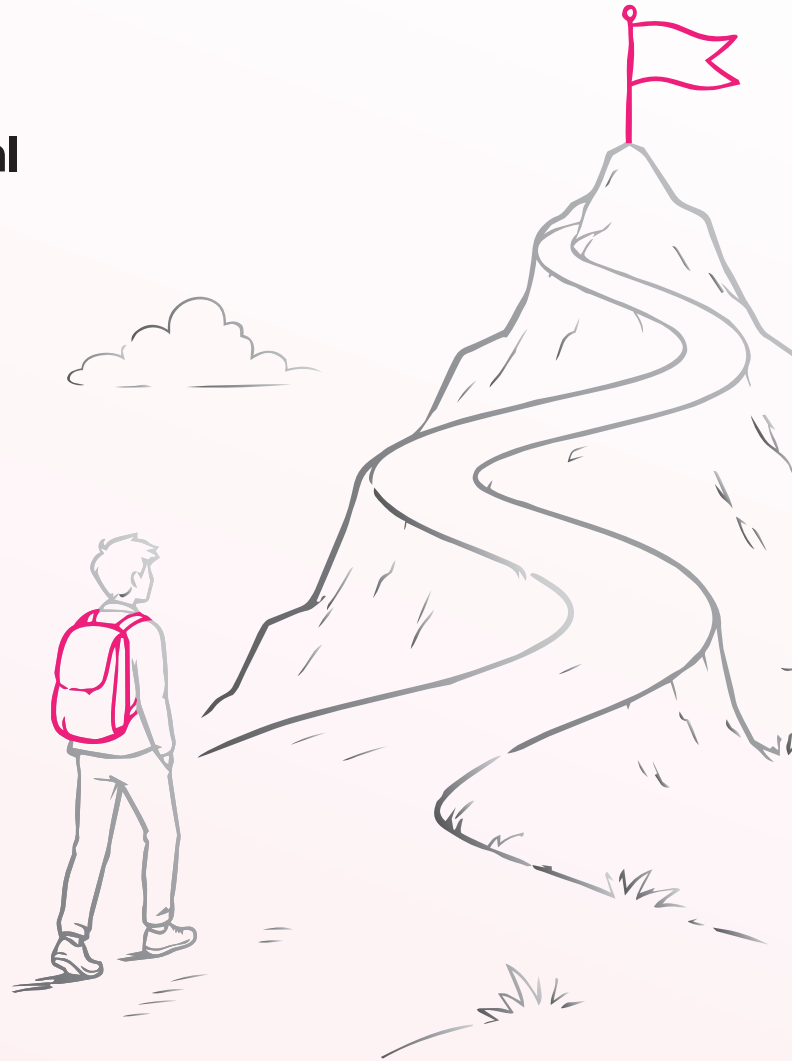
*Activities vary depending on
demand and availability.

More than just Vocational Training or University

Since the 2016/17 school year, the state initiative “No Graduation without an Idea for the future” has been supporting students on their journey towards their professional future.

Career exploration, practical insights and individual guidance help you discover your strengths and find the right path for you — whether that means vocational training or university.

For us, that's not enough. We provide individual guidance, help you turn your goals into reality and support you with a strong network. Competent, personal and reliable.



Perhaps the time after school still seems a long way off. But it is precisely now that you are laying the foundations for your future. That is why we support you from an early stage in **discovering your talents, exploring your interests** and finding the direction that is truly right for you.

Through career aptitude assessments, career exploration programmes, internships, workshops and individual guidance, you gain valuable experience step by step and **develop the confidence you need to make informed decisions**. This is exactly the aim of the state initiative "Kein Abschluss ohne Anschluss" (KAoA): to ensure that every student is well prepared to pursue their individual path into vocational training or higher education, without unnecessary detours.

At Schloss Heessen, we deliberately take this approach one step further. Our study and career guidance does not end with the programme's mandatory components. **Through close partnerships with companies, universities and other institutions, as well as our strong alumni network of more than 2,500 former students, we provide you with valuable insights, personal connections and genuine opportunities for your future.** We support you not only on your journey towards your Abitur, but also as you take the next step into vocational training, higher education and the world of work.

Our Advantages – for you!



Personal Support

Individual guidance from our university and career coordinators, continuing well beyond your school graduation.



A Strong Network

More than 2,500 „Altheessener“ (former students) from a wide range of industries and fields form a strong network to support your goals.



Internships & Apprenticeships

Access to internship and apprenticeship opportunities, plus direct connections to our partner universities.



Workshops & Trainings

In exciting workshops and training sessions, you'll learn what really matters — and build the foundation for your future.



Stay Connected

Our support doesn't end with your graduation. We'll be there for you every step of the way — today, tomorrow and 20 years from now.

DO YOU HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR
UNIVERSITY AND CAREER
GUIDANCE PROGRAMME?



You can find the direct
contact details for our
coordinators here:







The boarding school is much more than a place to live. It is a living environment where young people grow, take responsibility and find their own path.

With a multiprofessional team, we support them along the way and create an environment in which every young person is seen and valued — both in the boarding school and throughout their everyday school life.

Our concept is based on reliable, needs-based support. Students live in shared twin rooms, learning to be considerate of others and to build lasting friendships. Separate accommodation for girls and boys provides structure, while shared activities encourage a natural sense of community. Through our cooperation with the SPZ and our in-house medical service, we can involve additional professional support whenever needed.**

A special part of our concept is our independent living group. Here, students gradually learn to take greater responsibility for themselves and receive support with everyday skills such as managing a household, nutrition and career orientation.

As a team, we are always attentive to the changing needs of “our” students. Our leisure activities, for example, are constantly evolving — and there is always something new for us to discover, too.

At the same time, as a “family away from home”, we are there when things get difficult: when students feel homesick, face challenging situations or are finding their feet in a new environment. In this way, we create a place where young people feel safe, discover their strengths and are well prepared for the future.

Jan Leidag

Boarding School Educator, at Schloss Heessen since 2026

** see page 36

Providing Structure. Your Home Away from Home.

Boarding school life is something special. It's a little like an endless school trip. That's exciting - but it also means getting used to the routines of a "family away from home", which will certainly be different from life at home.

Much of what gives you structure and guidance at home will probably feel familiar to you here. We need exactly that to make living together as a large community work and to ensure that everyone gets the support they need at any given time. In other words, it's a little like being part of a family.



Your Family Away from Home.
Your "Quartier" is your home away from home — with reliable educational support and a dedicated member of the residential staff.



Living as a Community.
We are there for one another and grow together.



A Structured Everyday Life.
Clear routines and reliable structures give you a sense of security.



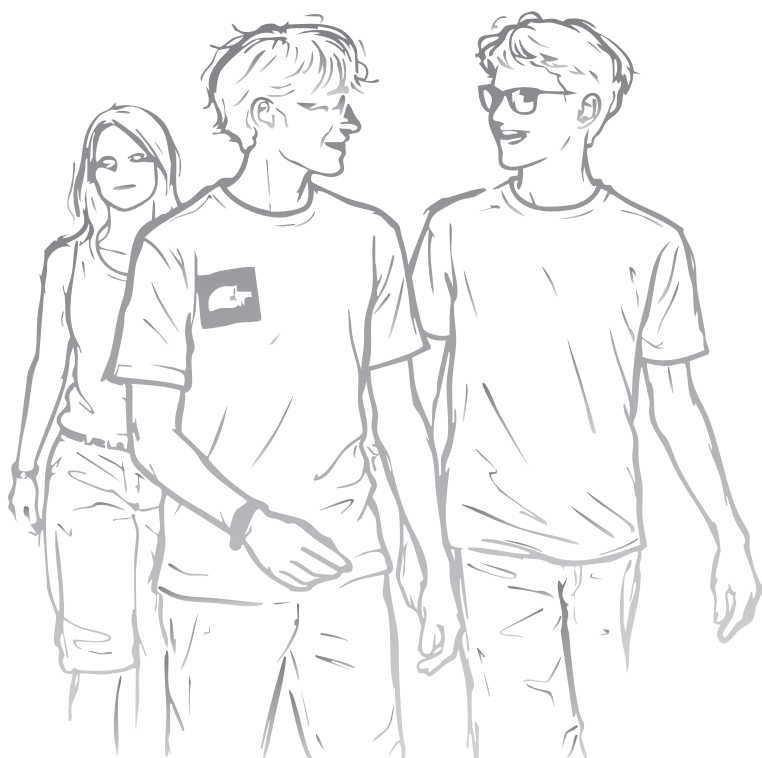
Building Strong Values.
A sense of responsibility, commitment, helpfulness, open-mindedness and respect.



Individuality.
You are you. And that's exactly how you should be able to grow — at your own pace, without limitations, but with structure.



Personalised Free Time.
Build connections through sport, creative art projects or simply relaxing on the castle island. You decide what's right for you.





**Structure provides stability,
community provides guidance.
Together, they create the space young
people need to grow, find their own path
and take responsibility for themselves and
others.**

To make sure everyone has a voice and their own space, we have established routines. These include **regular meetings with your “Quartier”**, your residential group, after lessons, as needed. This is where you find out what’s happening during the day, what has changed and what your study and support sessions in the evening will look like. But it’s not just about organization.

Not every day goes perfectly. Maybe a test didn’t go as well as you had hoped, you’ve had an argument with a friend, or there’s simply something on your mind. That’s when your **personal boarding school educators** are there for you. Often, a short conversation is all it takes to clear things up or find a solution together.

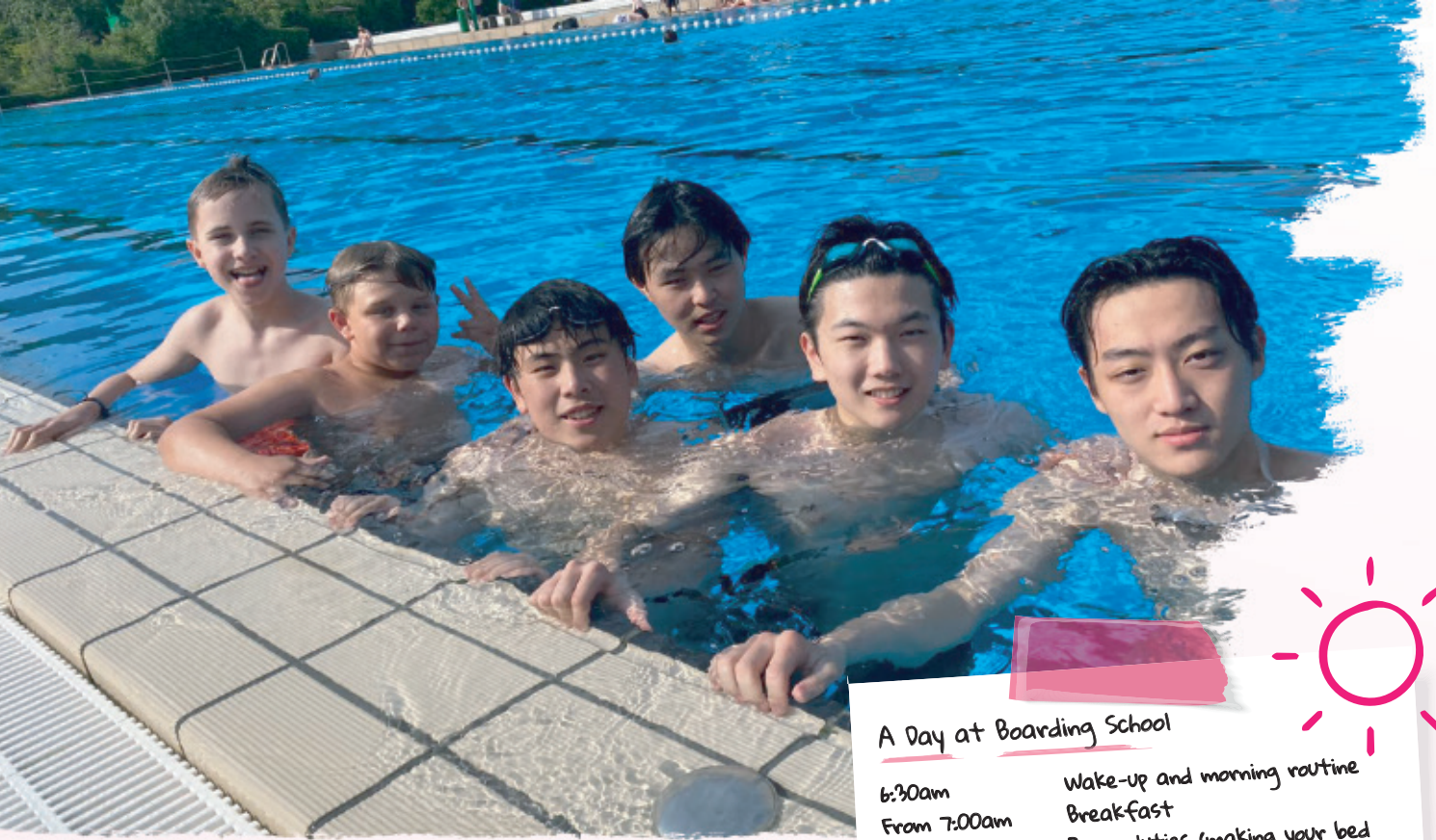
Room duties are also part of everyday life at the boarding school. If you leave your sports gear in your room, it won’t magically be there when you go to training — just like at home. We want you to take **responsibility** here, too: for

yourself, your surroundings and the people you live with. Because that’s what **living together** as a community is really about, isn’t it?



Want to see more of everyday life at our school and boarding school and stay up to date? Then take a look at our Facebook or Instagram pages!





Your Day at Boarding School.

There's always something going on at boarding school. Studying together, playing sports, relaxing, planning trips or simply spending time together — so much of what you experience here is shared with others. That's what makes life at Schloss Heessen so special.

Your shared room is your personal retreat. Together, you can make the space your own and create a place where you both feel comfortable. When you want to spend time with others, our welcoming common rooms invite you to study, play, chat or simply relax together.

The **structured daily routine** gives you **guidance** and helps keep school, free time and relaxation in balance. At the same time, you have enough freedom to shape your everyday life and make your own choices.

Our boarding school educators are there to support you, always ready to listen and help — whether it's about school, living together or personal matters.

Over time, you **become more independent**, **take on responsibility** and learn how to organize your everyday life. These are valuable skills that will help you far beyond your school years.

The boarding school also stays open at weekends. You can look forward to a varied programme of sports, trips, creative activities and things to do together. Many ideas come directly from our students — so you can always contribute your own wishes and suggestions.

Schloss Heessen is more than a boarding school. It's a place where friendships grow, you discover what you're capable of, and shared school days become memories that last a lifetime.

A Day at Boarding School

6:30am	Wake-up and morning routine
From 7:00am	Break-fast
Afterwards	Room duties (making your bed and tidying up)
8:00am	School
Between 12:10pm and 3:00pm	Lunch and lunch break
4:00pm	Group meeting (and group discussion)
Afterwards	Free time activities
	Lessons
	Support and enrichment programmes
From 6:00pm	Dinner
Afterwards	Free time activities
	Evening study
From 8:30pm	Room duties and preparing school materials / sports equipment for the next day
From 8:45pm	Lights out



Want to see more of everyday life at school and boarding school and stay up to date? Then check out our Facebook or Instagram pages!



THE BOARDING SCHOOL COMMUNITY IS NOT AUTOMATIC - IT IS A PRIVILEGE. IT REQUIRES MATURITY, RELIABILITY, AND A WILLINGNESS TO TAKE ON RESPONSIBILITY.

Experiencing independence in Everyday life.

At our school, you'll learn step by step how to take responsibility — in everyday life for all residential students and, for older students, through a dedicated independent living project.



Building Independence in Everyday Life

Through everyday interactions, you'll gradually take on more responsibility — for yourself, for others and for life in the community.



For Yourself

Your room, your belongings, your time. You'll learn to organize and manage your everyday life independently and make it your own.



For the Community

Taking part in everyday life in the residential group, helping with shared responsibilities and following agreed rules. It makes life better for you — and for everyone around you.



For Everydy Life

Punctuality, reliability and taking initiative are all part of the deal — at school and in residential life.



For Others

Show consideration, offer support, listen — this is how you grow as part of a true community.

Building Independence in Your Own Living Space

From Year 12 onwards (or Year 11 in exceptional cases), you can become part of our unique residential project. You'll shape your shared living experience independently with more freedom and responsibility.



Taking Responsibility

You organize your everyday life independently — from planning your week to taking care of household tasks.



Community of Equals

You make decisions together, take responsibility and solve problems as a team.



Real Freedom

More independence — and the trust that you can handle it responsibly.

✓ IDEAL FOR YOUR TRANSITION TO UNIVERSITY OR VOCATIONAL TRAINING
✓ STRENGTHENS INDEPENDENCE AND DECISION-MAKING SKILLS
✓ PREPARES YOU SPECIFICALLY FOR LIFE AFTER BOARDING SCHOOL

Our SPZ – So the Little Worries Stay Little.



Making the most of your own resources works best when you feel happy and fulfilled.

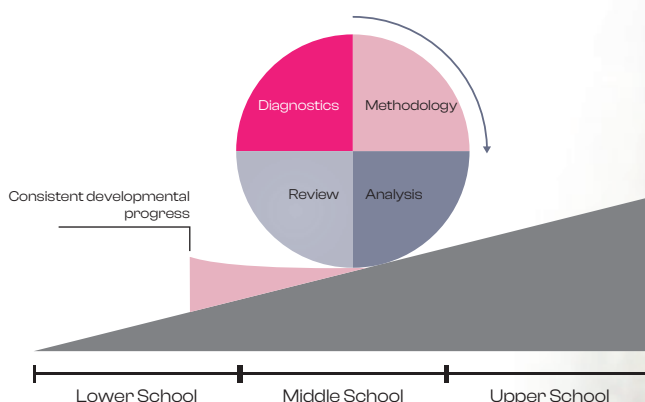
We support you with warmth and care, professional counselling, appreciative socio-educational guidance, and practical support.



SOCIAL
PEDAGOGICAL
CENTER
Schloss Heessen



DEVELOPMENT-
ORIENTED
DIAGNOSTICS
Schloss Heessen



Understanding

We listen and take your questions and concerns seriously.



Empower

Together, we discover your strengths and support you in using them to your advantage.



Support

We're by your side — confidential, reliable, and always with heart.



Shape Your Future

We help you find your path and achieve your goals!

Child and Youth Welfare at Schloss Heessen

For more than 20 years, youth welfare offices from across Germany have trusted Schloss Heessen to provide an environment where students with individual needs can benefit from small class sizes and a close-knit social setting.

Our multiprofessional team places particular emphasis on ensuring that these young people are well integrated into the school community. **This sensitive and supportive approach creates opportunities for social participation while helping all students develop tolerance, empathy, and social skills.**

A particular focus of our work is supporting children and young people with autism spectrum conditions, social withdrawal, anxiety, school avoidance and absenteeism, as well as ADHD/ADD. Alongside our academic and social-pedagogical support, the family-like atmosphere at Schloss Heessen makes attending school and boarding school easier for children and young people facing particular challenges.

We are supported by a local therapeutic network offering outpatient, day-patient, and inpatient services.

Over the years, this combination of support and a supportive community has helped many young people build new friendships, find their way back to school, and discover a happier path forward.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN
MORE ABOUT OUR WORK
IN ADVANCE?**



You can find the **direct contact** details for our staff at the Social Pedagogical Centre here:





Silke Mork*



I value the work we do here because Schloss Heessen is simply a vibrant place, full of interesting people! With my contribution, I try to play a small part in supporting their development and happiness.

* Head of Youth Services and School Social Work



I joined Schloss Heessen in 2014 and was immediately welcomed by the other students.

By the time I graduated in 2017, it already felt almost like a second family.

My time at Schloss Heessen had a profound impact on me - not only academically, but also personally. I made friends there who are still among my closest friends today. At the same time, it was here that the foundations for my future path were laid.

With a little distance, it is above all the wonderful stories and experiences that remain - while knowing that there were challenging moments at school, too.

After graduating, I quickly realised that I wanted to continue supporting Schloss Heessen. That's why I joined the Friends' Association - initially as a regular member and, for several years now, as a member of the board.

I firmly believe that Schloss Heessen is a place worth preserving because it provides a unique environment that can make a real difference in the lives of many children and young people.

Tim Knipping

Alumnus of Schloss Heessen and Board Member of the Friends' Association



Your Journey. Your Decision.

Choosing the right secondary school isn't always easy — especially because, ideally, you should feel at home in the school's programme and among the people around you from the first years through to the sixth form. That's why we offer a personalised programme to help you get to know Schloss Heessen and experience everyday school life first-hand.

Get to Know Us, Enrol, Feel at Home!

Your journey to Schloss Heessen- applications are **welcome throughout the year.**



1

Information Evening(s)

Find out more about your areas of interest — with no obligation. (optional)



2

Getting to Know Each Other

We'll have a personal meeting with you and show you around the school (and your "Quartier").



3

Trial Day (s)

Get a real feel for everyday school life before you make your decision.



4

Application

Feel at home with us? Then let's start your journey together!

Application at Anytime!

Whether at the beginning of the school year or during the year: We review every application individually and work with you to find the right time for you to start.

So that you can quickly find **the right person to talk to**, our Admissions Office is divided into different areas of expertise. Our Admissions Office for international students also specialises in visa-related questions and can provide practical support.



You can find all our contact persons on our website. Simply scan the QR code to go there directly.



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Publisher:

SCHLOSS HEESSEN | Private boarding school
since 1957, in June 2026

State-approved secondary school
Registered non-profit association

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Association number 729 • Hamm tax office
Tax number 332/5938/0187

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