

Refugee schoolchildren

Ukrainian children and young people can of course attend school in Brandenburg. Schools are preparing for this. The School Act provides for a **right to attend school**.

Suspension of compulsory schooling – differentiated periods

For young people who are not accommodated in a reception centre in the state, compulsory schooling is suspended **six weeks** after assignment to or entry into the districts and cities with district status.

For young people who are accommodated in a reception centre in the state as part of initial reception, compulsory schooling is suspended for a period of **three months** after accommodation in a reception centre.

The suspension of compulsory schooling in the first six weeks or three months gives the refugee children and adolescents the necessary time to "arrive" in the new environment after the refugee experience, and gives accompanying persons the time to arrange a school visit.

Language support courses – preparation groups

At all (first) reception sites, the Ministry of Education already offers **voluntary language promotion courses** in the first three months, and there are mandatory preparation groups should the stay last longer than three months.

There is also support when attending school. If knowledge of the German language is not yet sufficient to enable children and adolescents to successfully participate in all classwork, they receive additional funding as part of a **preparation group or a support course**.

In each of the four state school offices, a school councillor is available to advise the schools on the admission, education and support of refugee children and adolescents. In addition, there is a state-wide **coordinator for migration matters** at the Frankfurt (Oder) State School Office.

The Ministry of Education will soon provide school headmasters with a guide for dealing with refugees. In addition, the MBS is currently preparing information for parents of school-age children from Ukraine in Ukrainian and Russian.