As a parent, can I trust that my child is in good hands?

YES!

The term 'special educational needs' can be unsettling at first. This is particularly true if you are unfamiliar with such a support system from your country of origin or your culture. In Schleswig-Holstein, the primary goal of this programme is: **Support. Participation. Development.**

Your child should not be excluded or labelled. They should receive the support they need to learn effectively, grow continuously, and thrive in the future.

Seeking support for your child means you are paying attention, not that you failed as a parent. Instead, we are here to partner with you to understand **what they need and how we can help them thrive.**

Special educational needs do not mean:
'Your child can't do it.'

Special educational needs mean:
'Together, we'll look at what your child needs to succeed at school.'

We want to work with you to ensure that your child achieves the best possible school-leaving qualification.

This is important to us:

- Our goal is to prepare your child for academic success, connect with their community and confidently step into their future career.
- Students with special educational needs can still earn advanced qualifications, including the Level 1 Certificate (GCSE).
- The support is designed to help your child enjoy going to school, take pleasure in learning and develop their own strengths.
- This support may be adjusted or discontinued as the student makes academic progress.

Do you have any questions?

Please feel free to contact us.

Our goal is to enable your child to:

- learn effectively and continue to develop,
- enjoy going to school,
- develop a love of learning,
- participate in classroom learning and school activities, and
- make the most of their educational opportunities.

Timeline for your child:

Parent-teacher meeting	today
Classroom observation	approx.:
Assessment of your child	approx.:
Preparation of the report	approx.:
Discussion of the report with you	approx.:
Receipt of the decision from the local education authority	approx.:

Your Gutenbergschule team

Your contact at the Support Centre:

_____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Gutenbergschule
Learning Support Centre

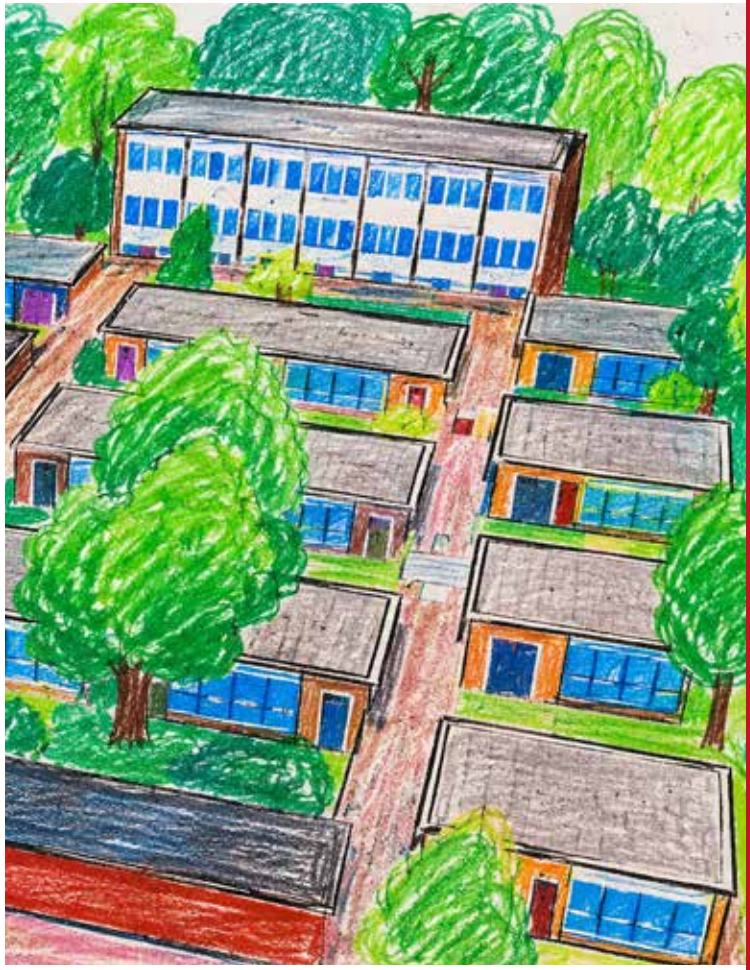
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GUTENBERG SCHULE

Learning Support Centre



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Special educational needs

Support for your child

Every child learns differently. Some children need more support than others.

If your child needs extra help with learning, communication or social skills, an evaluation can show if they qualify for special educational needs in Schleswig-Holstein.

What does 'special educational needs' mean?

Special educational needs means:

- Your child learns at their own pace.
- Your child receives the support they need for their development and learning.
- Your child's strengths and abilities are recognised and nurtured.
- The goal is to minimise difficulties and create good opportunities for development.
- The school your child currently attends works closely with the Gutenbergschule support centre.
- Together, they figure out the best way to help your child learn and reach their full potential.

Having special educational needs does not diminish a student's inherent worth or their right to a successful future.

Your child will usually remain in their current class. After primary school, they will move on to a comprehensive school, just like all the other children.

How does the process work?

Over the past few weeks and months, your child's school has gotten to know your child so much better—not just academically, but also how they grow socially, emotionally and in their language skills.

For example, they look at:

What is your child already good at?
Where does your child need support?
What learning methods work best for your child?
What support does your child need to continue to develop well?

If the school finds that your child needs additional support, our team at the Gutenbergschule Support Centre will step in to help.

We:

- review your child's learning progress to date and the available documentation,
- observe your child in class,
- work through various tasks with your child,
- if, where and how much extra support your child needs to succeed,
- hold a meeting with you and guide you through the assessment process.

We want to find out exactly what support your child needs.

What type of support is available?

Which type of support is appropriate always depends on your child's individual needs and strengths.

Potential types of support include:

- Support from a special needs teacher during lessons at the school your child attends
- Customised learning support, e.g. simpler class work
- Extra time for certain tasks
- Adapted learning materials
- Support with language and communication
- Support with social skills
- Customised support for your child

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