

Lower-secondary Stage

1st to 3rd class in the Lower-secondary Stage
(9th to 11th school year)



The lower-secondary stage is structured in three requirement levels:

Requirements of Sec B (Basic requirements)

The students prepare for a professional apprenticeship with fundamental or basic requirements. Sec B takes three years.

Requirements of Sec E (Advanced requirements)

The students prepare for an apprenticeship with higher professional requirements (with/without vocational diploma). In individual cases a transfer to high school is possible (entrance exam). Sec E takes three years.

The last year (11th) of state school

The 11th year in school gives particular consideration to the individual's talents and specifically prepares the student for the professional life to come. It includes two profiles, being service/social and technical/trade. In the last quarter of the second class in secondary school, the assessment meeting is held. There the compulsory profile objectives are agreed and selection for the 11th school year is made.

Completion of mandatory schooling

At the end of the lower-secondary stage, the students are awarded the certificate of completion. It provides information on achieved performance.

Requirements of Sec P (Stringent requirements)

The secondary level P takes two years. The students prepare for entry into the high school. This concludes after four years with the Matura and serves as preparation for university studies.



Responsibilities



School/Teachers

The school and teaching staff ensure the smooth running of the school, a conducive learning environment, knowledge transfer, cooperation between school and home and the services/agencies of the canton.

Parents

Parents are responsible for their children's education. They support and promote their children's development. They work together with the teachers and their children's school. They encourage the children to respect the rules and instructions of the school, do their homework and attend continuously. Parent participation is expected in school information events. When circumstances require, parents should make direct contact with the class teacher.

Students

Students have the responsibility to attend state school for eleven years. They are compelled to follow the rules and instructions for coexistence. They obey the instructions of the teachers and school management. They attend classes consistently.

Detailed information about your local school can be obtained from the school management.

An Overview of Solothurn's State School System



Further Information

Teachers and school management

Contact number for canton Solothurn's state school office 032 627 29 37.

Available under www.vsa.so.ch:
– flyers in different languages
– full brochure in German



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Welcome to the State Schools of Solothurn

The state schools of canton Solothurn have the challenging task of teaching children and young people elementary knowledge and skills to assist them in their development to become independent personalities.

For this task to be fulfilled, the school needs the support of the whole society. Good cooperation between school and home is important for success in school and development of the child.

My best wishes are with the children and young people on their way in their educational and vocational future.

Andreas Walter



Head
State School Office



Useful information about Solothurn Schools

Each child has the right and the duty to attend state school. Compulsory schooling lasts eleven years. The school year begins in August. The education offered is the same for girls and boys.

State schooling is a joint responsibility of the canton, the local authority and parents. All schools in canton Solothurn are managed schools.

Special assistance is available for students requiring support in addition to mainstream education.

Primary Stage

Nursery Classes 1. und 2.
(1st and 2nd school year)

Nursery is the first stage of state school. Children enter after their fourth birthday.

In nursery school the child learns through play to:

- broaden his zone of experience and existence;
- become independent;
- move within a peer group;
- contribute something to the community.

After nursery, the children transfer over to the 1st class of primary school. The transition is accompanied by nursery school, primary school and parents.

1st to 6th Primary School Classes
(3rd to 8th school year)

The primary school:

- takes six years
- creates the basis for targeted learning
- promotes intellectual, artistic and physical capabilities
- supports and promotes community education
- supports and encourages independent and responsible action.

French is taught as a first foreign language from the third class, with English, as a second, from the fifth.

The achievements in the subjects will be graded and recorded on the certificate. The achievements in work, learning and social behaviours are evaluated and recorded on the certificate. The primary school has no promotional conditions. The children are automatically promoted to the next higher class.

The transfer process for the lower-secondary stage is regulated by the canton.

School Careers at a Glance

The canton offers various educational opportunities, so that children and young people can develop according to their capabilities and inclinations. The chart below gives an overview.

For children and youths with disabilities, a special educational programme is available as required.

