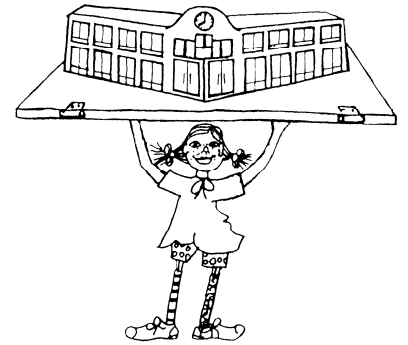


ASTRID-LINDGREN-SCHOOL

Elementary School of the Main-Taunus-District

- 65239 Hochheim a. M. -



Dear Mr MacDonald,

In the last couple of days and weeks, we generally dealt with the topic of school partnerships. With the help of parents and the Lob family, we took notice of your school in South Africa.

We introduced the project with your school in South Africa on a conference held on the 18th of November and four colleagues immediately agreed on playing an active part in our efforts. This is a good precondition for our partnership with your school. Parents want to support us as well.

Today, we would like to briefly introduce us.

Our school

The Astrid-Lindgren-School is a German elementary school based in Hochheim. The city of Hochheim has approx. 16,000 inhabitants and is located near to the cities of Frankfurt/Main (35 km), Wiesbaden (10 km) and Mainz (7 km). Our school is named after Astrid Lindgren the famous Swedish author of children's books. She also invented the character of Pippi Longstocking (who lifts up our entire school as seen on our school logo on the upper right side).

Our school exists for 15 years, thus it is relatively new. The school building is bright and pleasant. We like to work in here. Most of the parents are very interested in the development of their children and they often offer assistance in regard to our work.

The city built an extra house for children on the same property. There, the children will also be supervised in the afternoon and 33% of our pupils attend this facility. The children attend other schools after completion of grade four. A lot of them attend the local High School, which is located nearby just 300 meters away. Some of the other children will go to schools in various different cities.

There is one other elementary school in Hochheim. Furthermore there is another High School and a school for disabled children.

The children

Children between 6 to 10 years of age, who live in our school district, attend our school. In total, we have 240 children who are allotted in 12 classes:

1a – 1b – 1c

2a – 2b – 2c

3a – 3b – 3c

4a – 4b – 4c

Every class consists of 17 to 26 children.

During the first two years of school, our pupils have 21 hours of lessons per week, while in the last two years of school, they have a total workload of 25 hours per week.

There are a lot of subjects:

German language, mathematics, lessons of general knowledge, religion, arts, sports and English language (only offered in grades three and four). Physically handicapped children are also taught in our school system. Those children attend the classes together with the "normal" children. Our pupils have their lessons in the morning. In the afternoon, they do their homework at home, go to sport clubs, play alone or with other children.

The teachers and fellow employees

Our school employs 18 teachers (16 women and 2 men). Most of them control one class each. Additionally, three teachers for children with learning difficulties are responsible to support our handicapped pupils. They also advise and offer their support to other teachers, when difficult children have to be handled.

I govern the school, together with Mrs Brinkert (the vice principal). We always try to inform the staff the best way possible. This is very important for the work in our school.

Our school also has other employees:

Mrs Deak is our secretary. She only works in the morning hours. Mr Pöllmann is our janitor and works all day long in our school. In the afternoon, two ladies cleanse our school.

Most of the children live so close to the school that they can walk here. About 60 pupils come from another suburb and drive to the school by bus.

Dear Mr Mac Donald. I hope that you are interested in establishing a contact with us. We are very much looking forward to your answer.

Best regards from the city of Hochheim,

Wolfgang Kaupe
(*School principal*)

We also sent some pictures in another file.

Here are some Internet links for you:

- <http://www.hochheim.de/Home/index.html>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Astrid_Lindgren
- http://www.lindgren-schulen.de/index.php?session=2cec189d37f00c78e7200effc16f9374&menu_id=1

Schulkinderhaus



Astrid Lindgren School



Hochheim near Frankfurt, Mainz and Wiesbaden