

# Berlin Education Program

Like all FRÖBEL kindergartens in Berlin, at the FRÖBEL kindergarten Daumstraße we too implement the Berlin educational program. The program provides the binding framework for the education, instruction, and care of children in all Berlin daycare centers until they start school.

## In which Areas are the Children Supported and Encouraged?

Children need to be motivated in all areas important for their development. The Berlin education program addresses **seven such educational areas**.

It describes how educators can support children in understanding the world in which they live. Children's curiosity should be enlivened by the way educational materials are presented and used. The children should also learn how new things can be explored and learned.

### Body, Exercise, and Health

Childlike learning is tied to the body's experience of movement. Physical, mental, and social well-being are important prerequisites for children's development.

### Social and Cultural Environment

Education is inconceivable without social relationships. Social experiences in a culturally diverse community require ongoing engagement with the fundamental values that underpin individual rights and preserve communities. It is no different in kindergarten than anywhere else in the world. Even the youngest children are preoccupied with questions of meaning and purpose, and they want answers. It is about good and bad, right and wrong, life and death.

### Communication: Languages, Written Culture and Media

Language, both spoken and written, is the primary medium we use in our society to communicate with one another, and to exchange and organize knowledge. Anyone who wants to orient themselves in a knowledge-society

depends on communication skills and must acquire them. The first words a child speaks and the first pictures they paint are important milestones on this path. Children's access to books and works of art, to media in general, and their encounters with other languages, enrich their language development and promote their appreciation of the coexistence of different cultures.

## **Artistic Creativity**

Because their language is still developing, aesthetic perception and visual expression can help very young children deal with reality. Painting, drawing, molding clay – such creative processes help them deal with their daily experiences and develop their imaginations.

## **Music**

Everyone is musical, especially every child. Music's melodies, rhythms and timbres move our souls, delight and relax us, and enable communication across language barriers.

## **Basic Mathematical Experience**

Mathematics helps children orientate themselves in the world and make sense of it: numbers, clocks, the seven days of the week, circles, directions ...

## **Basic Scientific and Technical Experience**

Scientific observations and the use of technical devices and media encourage experimentation and generate questions. In trying to answer these questions, the children relate to the world and discover logical connections: Why does a bird fly? Where does light come from? What is electricity?