

As an elected parents' representative you are a member of the "Schulkonferenz"/ School Council and with the other members decide on:

- ▶ The programme of the school.
- ▶ Agreements regarding the cooperation schemes of the school and its collaboration with other partners.
- ▶ Establishment of all-day care and other care offers.
- ▶ Amount and allocation of homework.
- ▶ Issuing or changing school regulations.
- ▶ Principles ruling how to cope with general educational difficulties as well as arranging education and teaching agreements.
- ▶ Introducing and purchasing equipment and teaching material.
- ▶ Agreeing the school budget.
- ▶ Fixing of flexible public holidays.
- ▶ Principles and extent of parent information and counselling.

In addition, there are further decisions to be taken by the school council elected parents' representatives may take part in.

How you can help to shape the everyday school life of your children and influence the contents and the organisation of classes is regulated by the school law governing the State of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Please approach the form teacher of your child. Co-operation in an atmosphere of trust and a respectful, open dialogue contribute to successful communication and positive participation in school matters.

For further information please refer to the information documents distributed by the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, which may be ordered from the offices mentioned below or found on the internet:

<https://broschueren.nordrheinwestfalendirekt.de>
Keyword search: Elternmitwirkung in der Schule

www.bildung-in-bielefeld.de

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Stadt Bielefeld

Elternmitwirkung in der Grundschule Englisch

 www.bielefeld.de

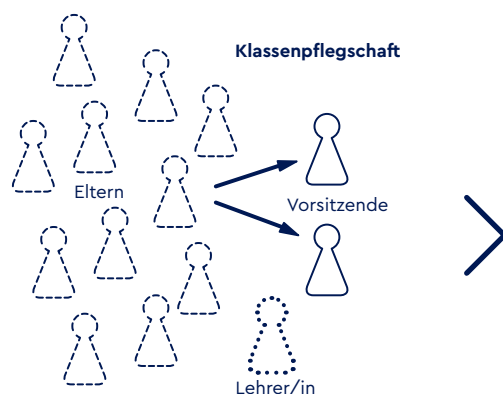
**Parents' Participation in
Schools**



Dear Parents,,
School is the place where democracy is taught and practised; all of us taking part in educating and teaching our children decide together about the everyday curriculum of our children at school. This also includes you, the parents.

Klassenpflegschaft / Class Committee

At the beginning of a school year all parents of a class elect the class committee and from the class committee a chairperson and a deputy are elected in turn.



Apart from electing a chairperson of the class committee, it is recommended to put together a team of parents who are available as first contacts for several parents. The form teacher has an advisory and informative function in meetings of the class committee. As far as content is concerned, the following topics will be dealt with:

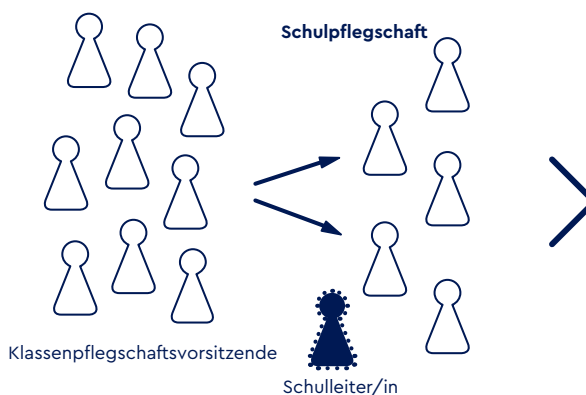
- ▶ Suggestions for introducing teaching material.
- ▶ Performance reviews.
- ▶ Homework.
- ▶ School events / class trips. Educational
- ▶ questions.

The person elected to chair the class committee will submit the wishes and suggestions of the parents to the school committee.

On the following pages we are going to give you a short overview of the possibilities for parents' participation in North-Rhine Westphalian primary schools.

Schulpflegschaft / School Committee

The meeting of all chairpersons elected to chair a class committee is called school committee. This meeting will in turn elect a chairperson and a deputy.



The school committee provides a suitable panel for discussions in order to discuss and coordinate the different opinions and interests of all parents. The head of the school may take part in the meetings in an advisory and informative function.

The head of the school may also present decisions to be taken in the subsequent school council meeting for discussion. Decisions of the school committee may be submitted to the school council as propositions in their own right..

Depending on the total number of pupils attending the school, the school committee may elect further representatives from its midst, who may then take part in the school council meetings together with the chairperson of the school committee.

Schulkonferenz / School Council

The school council is the highest board for parent participation in primary schools. It consists of representatives of the parents and of the teachers. The parents' representatives are elected by the school committee and the teachers' representatives by the school staff meeting.



The school council may take comprehensive and far-reaching decisions and make corresponding changes.

The school council is chaired by the head of the school. He or she has no voting rights. Only if there is a parity of votes, the opinion of the head of the school will be determining the decision.

On the back of this page you will find a selection of possible topics from the tasks assigned to the school council, which are precisely defined in Section 65 of the school law governing the State of North Rhine-Westphalia.