

Learning with and from each other – like at this student council seminar



Taking a leap – flexibility in more areas than just sports



Experiencing research as an adventure – like these young scientists



Up on stage: Working together and enjoying the applause like this drama group

Alexander-von-Humboldt-Gymnasium



Who are we?

Alexander-von-Humboldt-Gymnasium is a grammar school in the district of Harburg in Hamburg. At present, around 760 pupils are taught by 60 teachers. They are organised in 22 classes of 10- to 16-year-olds as well as numerous courses in two senior years.

What do we have?

Our school was founded in 1956 and is set amid grass, bushes and trees in the district of Rönneburg in Harburg. Since 2014, it has been continuously renovated and modernised in accordance with current pedagogical concepts. This process of extensive construction work will culminate in the completion of a central building in December of 2018. Alongside the regular classrooms, our school features modern science labs as well as rooms dedicated to particular subjects (like Geography and Art). The school has several gyms, a playing field, a library, modern IT rooms, and a hall where pupils can spend their breaks. There are study rooms equipped with computers that our senior-year pupils can use in their free periods. All in all, the school provides a total of 100 computers, digital equipment like interactive whiteboards (Prometheans), projectors, and film and photo cameras that the pupils can use. Music and Drama will be taught in spacious rooms in the newly-completed central building. There will also be a new canteen, featuring a kitchen where meals will be cooked from scratch for all members of the school.

What do we have to offer?

Our school doesn't leave anyone behind. Our policy of individualised learning manifests itself in the concept of 'Fördern und Fordern' ('Supporting and Challenging'), an extensive programme for any pupils who want to work on their weaker subjects or want to challenge themselves in fields they are already good at. As students spend the greater part of their day at school, the school canteen serves them freshly-cooked warm meals as well as snacks and fruit every day. Our drinking water fountain provides thirsty pupils and staff with free water. We were awarded the title 'Gesunde Schule' ('Healthy School') in 2013.

What is our aim?

In the face of continuous challenges, we want our pupils to not merely acquire knowledge as a means in itself, but to combine and utilise their acquired knowledge and skills. This is what we call sustainable learning for the future, as it carries over into the pupils' lives long after they have left school and lays a foundation which allows them to confidently shape their own lives. Alongside offering inter-disciplinary and intergrade courses, this concept also includes progressively increasing students' independence as well as furthering cooperative and social learning.

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Understanding the present, shaping the future!

What makes us different?

- We offer and carry out 'Probex' and 'Natex' classes special science projects that give students the chance to take part in competitions – and work in cooperation with the Technical University of Harburg, underscoring our investment in modern science teaching. Once again, we have been awarded the title 'MINT-freundliche Schule' ('sciencefriendly school').
- By means of enterprises, work experiences in the field of social work and project days, we encourage careers guidance and provide a connection between school and working life.
- We consider education in the aesthetic subjects (Music, Art and Drama) to be just as important as the sciences. For that reason, we have developed our own unique and successful concept regarding these subjects.
- We offer Spanish, French and Latin as a second foreign language in Year 6 and offer to prepare students so they can successfully acquire qualifications in universally recognised examinations such as the Cambridge Certificate of English, DELF (French), DELE (Spanish) and in Latin.
- In cooperation with Kinderzentrum Harburg we offer a number of sports-, music- or other subject-related activities to keep the children occupied and supervised until 4:00 p.m. on all weekdays (registration is necessary). For a fee, children can be supervised beyond 4:00 p.m. in cooperation with other agencies.
- We strive to further the community spirit of the school with school counsellors, student council seminars, parent/student/teacher learning consultations, audits, public readings, theatre evenings and other activities, and set store by the greatest possible level of participation.
- We value the participation and the right of say of both parents and pupils.

The school inspection in 2018 certified that the school achieved good or excellent results in all categories. For instance, the report stressed the exceptional atmosphere in which learning is conducted as well as the way mutual appreciation sets the tone among all members of the school community. Over and above that, our school has received the award of 'European Eco School' annually since 1994 and the approval of quality as a 'School with exemplary careers guidance' recurrently since 2004. For the first time, we were awarded the SCHULEWIRTSCHAFT ('school and economy') prize by the name of "Das hat Potenzial" ('It has potential') in 2016; we won this distinction for our 'Nachwuchscampus' ('young talent campus') project in cooperation with the Technical University of Harburg and the Wirtschaftsverein Hamburg Süd. Five projects from AvH pupils were awarded the Bertini prize. We are proud to have been nominated for the nationwide 'Deutscher Schulpreis' ('German School Prize') and to have been awarded the 'Hamburger Bildungspreis' ('Hamburg Prize for Education') in 2012. Since 2014, we are an officially certified 'Klimaschule' ('climate-friendly school') and have also been awarded the title of 'Schule ohne Rassismus - Schule mit Courage' ('School without racism - school with courage') and once again the title of 'MINTfreundliche Schule' ('science-friendly school').





The art of drama



Learning without borders: AvH and its projects in Africa



Everything's in motion – like the waters of the Engelbek in our renaturalisation project



Who likes to read? Our library awaits!