

BBZ Norderstedt: Vocational Training Centre and College

Our motto/slogan: *future prospects made from vocational education*

The BBZ Norderstedt offers both, vocational education and training in the dual system (vocational school – *Berufsschule*) and full-time vocational schools (Berufsfachschulen, Fachoberschule, Berufliches Gymnasium). For more detailed general information the following link might be helpful:

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/eurydice/index.php/Germany:Organisation_of_Vocational_Upper_Secondary_Education

vocational education and training in the dual system

- The BBZ Norderstedt provides vocational education in the following sectors:

administration and economy

- management assistants for office administration
- shop assistants
- management assistants in retail business
- management assistants in wholesale and foreign trade
- trained assistants for warehouse logistics
- warehouse operators
- industrial business management assistants
- legal assistants
- assistant tax consultants

metal technology

- metalworkers
- precision mechanists (in all fields)
- machine operators
- industrial mechanics
- cutting machine operators
- process mechanics (in all fields)

automotive engineering

- automotive mechatronics engineers

electrical engineering

- electronics engineer for energy and building technology
- electronics engineer for operating technology
- mechatronics engineers

hair and bodycare

- hairdressers

full-time vocational schools

- **vocational preparation** [*Ausbildungsvorbereitung Schleswig-Holstein*](both for students with and without any school leaving certificate and for those students who – as former refugees – still needing special support in learning the German language).

duration: 1 year

goals:

1. With a mandatory long-term work placement (combined with one or two days of school attendance) they are offered the chance to be taken on as an apprentice afterwards.

2. The students without any kind of school leaving certificate have to attend school all the week through and pass their GCE examn at the end of the year

- **vocational college**

a. for students heading for a secondary school certificate (*Mittlerer Schulabschluss*) in combination with a basic vocational training in either

- technology,
- economics,
- healthcare/dietetics

duration: 2 years

or

- social services

duration: 3 years (due to 35 weeks of work placement in care retirement homes or hospitals)

goals: - secondary school leaving certificate
 - introduction to one sector of occupations by offering insights through offering basic vocational training

b. for students with a secondary school leaving certificate serving a school-based vocational education either as management assistants or socio-pedagogical assistant)

duration: 2 years

goals: - higher education entrance qualification for the University of Applied Sciences (*Fachhochschule*)
 - profound knowledge about the occupation-related aspects in the sector chosen

- **higher secondary vocational school (*Fachhochschule*)** (for students with a secondary school certificate and a completed vocational training [training of at least two years])

duration: 1 year

goal: higher education entrance qualification for the University of Applied Sciences (*Fachhochschule*)

- **vocational grammar school (A-level)** (for students heading for a grammar school certificate in combination with a profound vocational training in either technology, economics, healthcare (also with the focus on education) or dietetics)

duration: 3 years

goals: - A-level exam (*Abitur oder Allgemeine Hochschulreife*)
 - introduction to one sector of occupations by offering insights through offering either sound vocational training in the BBZ Norderstedt's workshops or students' office (*Lernbüro*) (technology, economics) or intensive practical experience in combination with a solid theoretical background.

As partner to a vast variety of companies from different sectors our key business still is to give our vocational students the chance to acquire all those necessary qualification that allow them to pass their examinations at the end of their particular training successfully. This we have been doing since 1979 – the year the BBZ Norderstedt, respectively the then Vocational School Norderstedt, came into being.

Classes are held in state-of-the-art classrooms and workshops. The cooperation between the BBZ Norderstedt and the trainees' companies is full of trustfulness and mutual respect.

Concerning the second pillar of our school – the vocational college – young people are offered to gain the next level of school leaving certificates: starting with the GCE (General Certificate of Education) up to A-level.

What is different concerning this kind of school education – compared to schools of general education – is the fact that the certificates the students can achieve at the BBZ Norderstedt are always combined with a basic vocational training in either technology, economics, healthcare, dietetics or social services.

As for the vocational preparation our greatest concern is to support young people so that they become able to begin and successfully complete a vocational training. For this purpose we have also established an information centre with a committed councillor who shows the students which vocational opportunities they have and which steps they have to take in order to make these opportunities come true.

In case problems should arise – even in the students' private life – a competent social worker will offer advice and support.

Another aspect in vocational preparation is the teaching of the German language for those students who have arrived as refugees from various conflict areas and whose command of the German language ranges from having no knowledge at all to lower basic standard when they start attending these special classes.

The needs of our developmentally challenged students have been taken into account by establishing a special class. Nevertheless, the students of this class participate in lessons of other educational programmes whenever practical aspects of vocational training are dealt with.

For trainees of all kinds of vocational training classes (vocational school, students of the vocational college [type b or type a – social services]) the BBZ Norderstedt organizes and conducts vocational trainings/workplacements abroad in countries of the European Union. For the high quality of these mobility projects the BBZ Norderstedt has been granted several certificates by the National Agency – the latest is the Mobility Charta for the Erasmus plus mobility projects.

Last but not least we would like to mention that we are a certified centre for fastening technology, training facility for exhaust emission tests as well as training facility for hybrid- and electrically powered vehicles.

As a public-law institution (since 1 January 2012) we are also allowed to offer postgraduate training classes which are not offered by any other institution in our municipality.

By doing all the aforesaid we essentially contribute to the reputation of vocational education and training and help to reduce sustainably the shortage of skilled workers.