

**DEPARTEMENT  
BILDUNG, KULTUR UND SPORT**  
Abteilung Volksschule

January 2022

## **Information Regarding Promotion from Kindergarten to Primary School (Primarschule)**

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### **Recommendation Process for Promotion from Kindergarten to Primary School**

Promotion from kindergarten to primary school is made on the basis of the kindergarten teacher's recommendation. The central criterion for the recommendation is the child's development to date in relation to the competencies described in the Aargau curriculum and the prognosis for further competency development. The recommendation, made at a promotion conference, is based on the evaluation portfolio. The portfolio contains sufficient representative work (for example: individual work, drawings, photos of craft projects, self-evaluations etc.) as collected by the teacher throughout the school year. The kindergarten teacher explains and justifies his/her recommendation to the parents on the basis of documents in the evaluation portfolio.

In recommending promotion to primary school the kindergarten teacher takes into account the development of the child. In special cases promotion to a decelerated first grade (Einschulungsklasse) or an appropriate program for children and youth with special needs may be indicated.

### **Procedure**

During the first kindergarten year, the kindergarten teacher may hold an assessment conference with the parents regarding the child's development based on an assessment survey (Einschätzungsbogen). In the second year of kindergarten, the kindergarten teacher holds an obligatory promotion conference with the parents in the period between February through April. The child may also participate at the parents' request.

At the promotion conference the kindergarten teacher and the parents document their agreement regarding placement in writing. If they cannot reach an agreement and differences cannot be resolved in further discussions with all of those involved (parents, child, kindergarten teacher), the office of the municipality<sup>1</sup> determines the placement. Parents have the opportunity to present their arguments to the responsible office before this decision is reached. The promotion decision, including information regarding right of appeal, will be provided to parents in writing by the municipal authority responsible for the decision. Parents have the possibility to file a complaint opposing the decision with the regional school council (Schulrat des Bezirks) within 30 days.

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<sup>1</sup> The municipal council has overall responsibility for the school. Appealable school decisions, such as career decisions, can be delegated by the municipal council to a member of the municipal council or to the school management. Each municipality defines in a set of regulations which body is responsible for making appealable school decisions.