

A low-waste and eco-friendly school start

Information for parents and guardians



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Your child will be starting school soon and it's time to buy their first school materials. Make sure you select products that are durable and environmentally friendly so you can contribute to conserving natural resources and preventing waste. We're happy to help you make the right choices!

Book covers

Avoid using plastic covers whenever possible. Binding paper is an excellent ecofriendly alternative material for covering books.

Folders

Don't buy plastic folders. Choose cardboard folders.

School bags

Safety is the number one priority here. All school bags should be DIN 58124-compliant. That means they should be back-friendly, traffic-safe and weatherproof. Ensure the bag is made of eco-friendly materials: without any softeners, PVC or heavy metals!

Pencil cases

We recommend pencil cases made of linen, jute or vegetable-tanned leather. Only buy the writing implements that your child really needs.

Exercise books

Buy exercise books made of eco-friendly recycled paper. The "Blue Angel" eco-label guarantees that the book is made from 100% recovered paper.

Recovered paper is a valuable raw material. Encourage your children to use paper sparingly. And always dispose of used exercise books in the blue recycling bin or in one of the city's many paper banks.

Pens and pencils

Buy unpainted wooden pencils. The paint coat can contain toxic substances. Felt pens only have a imited amount of ink and dry out quickly, so they soon end up as plastic waste. They can also contain substances which are potentially harmful to health.

Wax crayons

Wax crayons should have paper covers.

Make sure they have "toxin-free" printed on them.

Erasers

Buy eco-friendly erasers made from natural rubber. Plastic erasers are primarily made of PVC and softeners. Placing these erasers in the mouth can cause the softeners to leach out and enter the body.

Pencil sharpeners and rulers

Buy pencil sharpeners and rulers made from unpainted wood. Metal pencil sharpeners are also recommended for their stability and durability.

Paintbrushes and paint boxes

Buy paintbrushes with natural wood handles and paint boxes with replaceable colours that can be repurchased individually.

Glue

Liquid glue or glue pens without solvents are suitable for children. Glues containing solvents are harmful to health.

You are welcome to call us for advice!

T 0209/954-4222, Mon-Thurs 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Fri 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. abfallberatung@gelsendienste.de www.gelsendienste.de

