

Dear Parents,
Dear Guardians,

New legal guidelines (LBVO v. 21.11.2012) have come into effect regarding pupils from Year 7 (3rd class) of the New Middle School (NMS). Pupil's achievement will be assessed as being either of a **basic general education** level (*grundlegende Allgemeinbildung gA*) or an **in-depth general education** level (*vertiefte Allgemeinbildung vA*).

However, in order for all of the pupils in one class to have the chance of reaching learning targets, **the instruction** of the class **will not differentiate** between **basic** and **in-depth general education** levels.

- ⇒ Pupils will be assessed on a differentiated basis with reference to the **in-depth general education (vA)** or **basic general education (gA)** levels in the compulsory subjects of German, Mathematics and English, beginning in Year 7 (3rd class) of the New Middle School.
- ⇒ There will be no mark of **not adequate (5)** at the **in-depth general education (vA)** level.
- ⇒ There will be no marks of **very good (1)** or **good' (2)** at the **basic general education (gA)** level.
- ⇒ Pupils can be awarded the following marks on tests, in the end-of-term report or in the end-of-year report: **1 (vA), 2 (vA), 3 (vA), 4 (vA), 3 (gA), 4 (gA), 5 (gA)** in the compulsory subjects of German, Mathematics and English.
- ⇒ The **in-depth general education (vA)** level is equivalent to the assessment at an academic secondary school (AHS).
- ⇒ At every stage of assessment pupils have the chance to show progress and achievement, as there is always the possibility of being awarded either a mark at a **basic general knowledge level (gA)** **or** at an **in-depth general knowledge level (vA)**. This can be recognised by the use of the supplementary abbreviations (**gA**) or (**vA**) added to the marks on tests, in the end-of-term or in the end-of-year marks. The end-of-term or end-of-year marks are still determined by the overall performance in tests, lesson participation and homework.
- ⇒ If a pupil's achievement should weaken significantly in Years 7 or 8, so that an assessment at an **in-depth general education** level is no longer possible, the teacher will inform the parents/guardians immediately. Parents and pupil will be invited to an advisory meeting to discuss support measures.

Through the implementation of these regulations changes regarding the transfer to academic secondary schools and middle and higher schools of vocational education.

- ⇒ A pupil is entitled to transfer to one of these schools: AHS/BHS/BAKIP or BASOP
 - if the marks received in German, Mathematics or English are awarded at an **in-depth general education (vA)** level, or
 - if the achievement in one of these subjects is awarded at a **basic general education (gA)** level and a special dispensation is agreed upon by the teaching staff.
- ⇒ A pupil is entitled to transfer to vocational school (BMS), with a duration of at least three years
 - if the marks received in German, Mathematics or English are awarded at an **in-depth general education (vA)** level, or
 - the mark **satisfactory (gA)** was awarded at a **basic general education (gA)** level or
 - if the mark **adequate (gA)** is awarded at a **basic general education (gA)** level in one subject and a special dispensation is agreed upon by the teaching staff.
- ⇒ If the pupil is unable to satisfy the entrance requirements for an academic secondary school or a middle or higher school of vocational education, there is the possibility of taking an entrance exam.
- ⇒ As there is no differentiation between **basic general education (gA)** and **in-depth general education (vA)** levels in Years 5 & 6 transfer to an academic secondary school is possible if a **very good** or **good** has been awarded in the compulsory subjects of German, Mathematics and English.
- ⇒ If a student transfers from an academic secondary school to a New Middle School with a negative mark, he or she is still not entitled to move up to the next class.