

School Profile

Johann-Philipp-von-Schönborn-Gymnasium, Münnerstadt, Germany.

www.schoenborn-gymnasium.com



Our upper track secondary school has a very long tradition. Almost 350 years ago, in 1660, it was founded as a so called "Gymnasium" by Archbishop Johann Philipp von Schönborn of Würzburg with the help of the global priest society of the Bartholomites. Hence the name:

Johann-Philipp-von-Schönborn-Gymnasium.

The order of the Bartholomites was dissolved in 1680 and therefore Archbishop Johann Gottfried von Guttenberg transferred the school to the responsibility of the Augustine Order in 1685.

After the secularisation in 1803 the school became a state school and the Augustine Order was no longer in charge. However, they have always remained closely connected with the school up to the present.

The school was originally a "humanist" school, i.e. it had an emphasis on classical Greek and Latin in the curriculum. Later a modern languages branch was added.

The Johann-Philipp-von-Schönborn-Gymnasium has an outstanding tradition as a model school. Since 1969 it has had a leading role in several empirical school experiments.

This started in the seventies with the development of the so called "Kollegstufe", a course-based system for the two final years, which will be employed until 2011. In 2009 the first of our pupils will enter the so called "Neue Oberstufe", a new system for the two final years leading to university entrance level exams at Bavarian secondary schools. Our school has made its contribution to the development of this new system, too. From 2005 to 2007 Dr. Kerstin Vonderau and her pupils of the 11th grade took part in the school experiment "Seminarfächer in der neuen Oberstufe" and Herr Thomas Mühlbauer has developed models of cooperation between university and schools.

Currently the school is running the last year of the pilot project for the so called "Achtjähriges Ganztagsgymnasium", i.e. a secondary day school which leads to university entrance level after eight years, parallel to its regular part time pupils in the G9 (nine years of secondary education) and the G8 (eight years of secondary education), the latter being the standard since 2003. The former monastery of the Augustine Order has considerably been refurbished and serves as a special day care area for our full time pupils.

Finally we are in the first year of testing the replacement of the traditional midterm school reports in grades 5 to 8 by two so called "Leistungsbilanzen" (statements listing all marks of individual pupils), one in December and one in April.

In 2007/08 748 students attend the Johann-Philipp-von-Schönborn-Gymnasium. The staff includes 70 teachers who teach between 2 and 4 subjects each.

Below there are some more pictures of the school, the day care facilities and the town.



The former monastery as it looks today.



Münsterstadt and its rich medieval architectonic heritage.



The old school some time around 1900.



The former monastery seen from the other side as it looks today.



The monastery some time around 1700.



The yard and the back entrance of the monastery, very similar to what they still look like today.