



INFORMATION EVENT

ON THE TRANSITION FROM PRIMARY TO LOWER SECONDARY SCHOOL,
I.E. FROM “**GRUNDSCHULE**” TO “**WEITERFÜHRENDE SCHULE**”

This is one of many identical information events in the city.

We present the same information
in (easy) English
for non-German speakers.



German school diplomas
at a glance



Recommendation of the
primary school



Types of schools



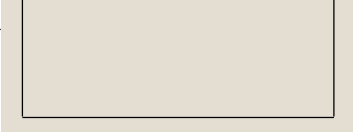
Registration procedure



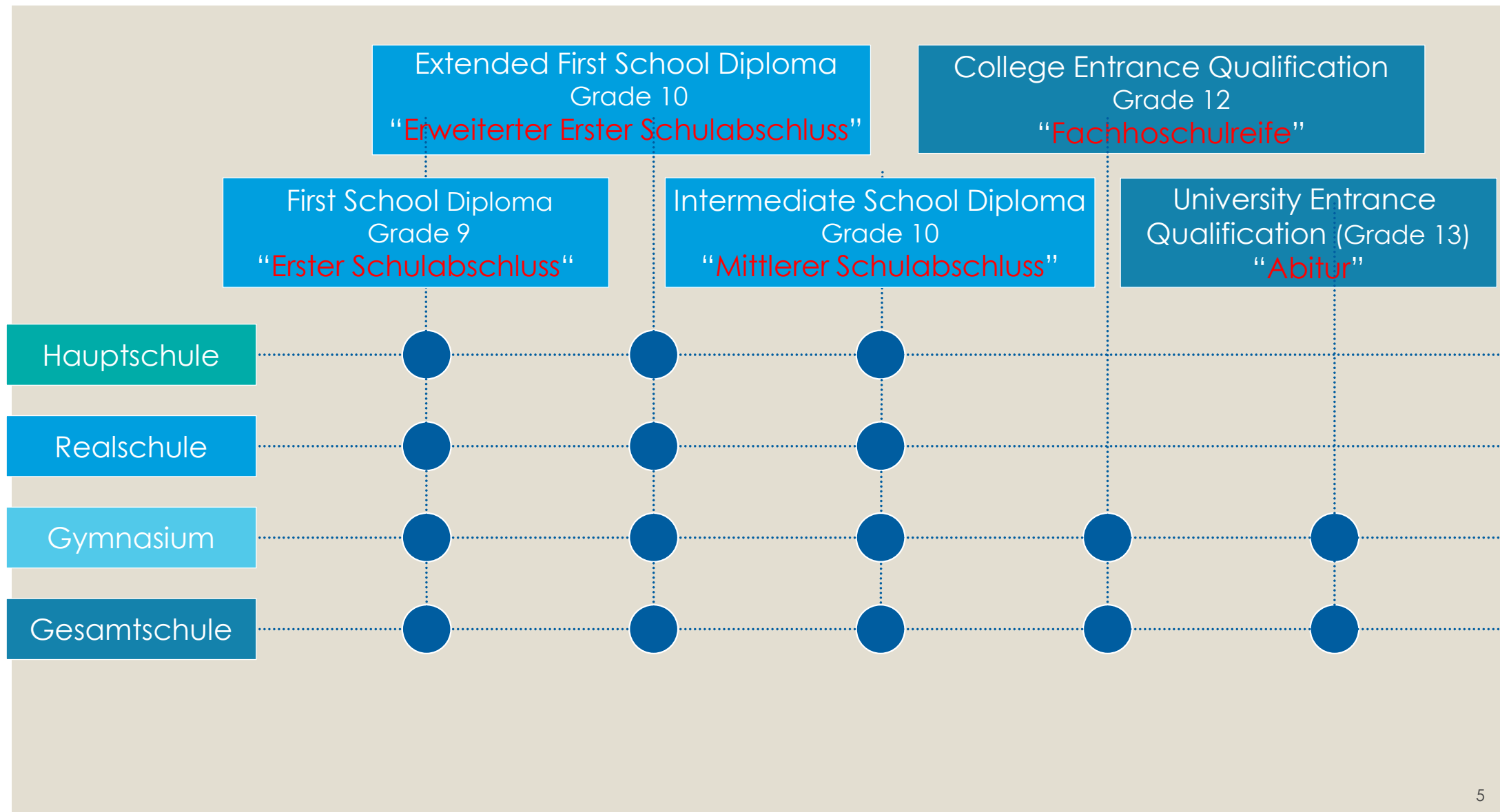
Other aspects

WHAT TO EXPECT

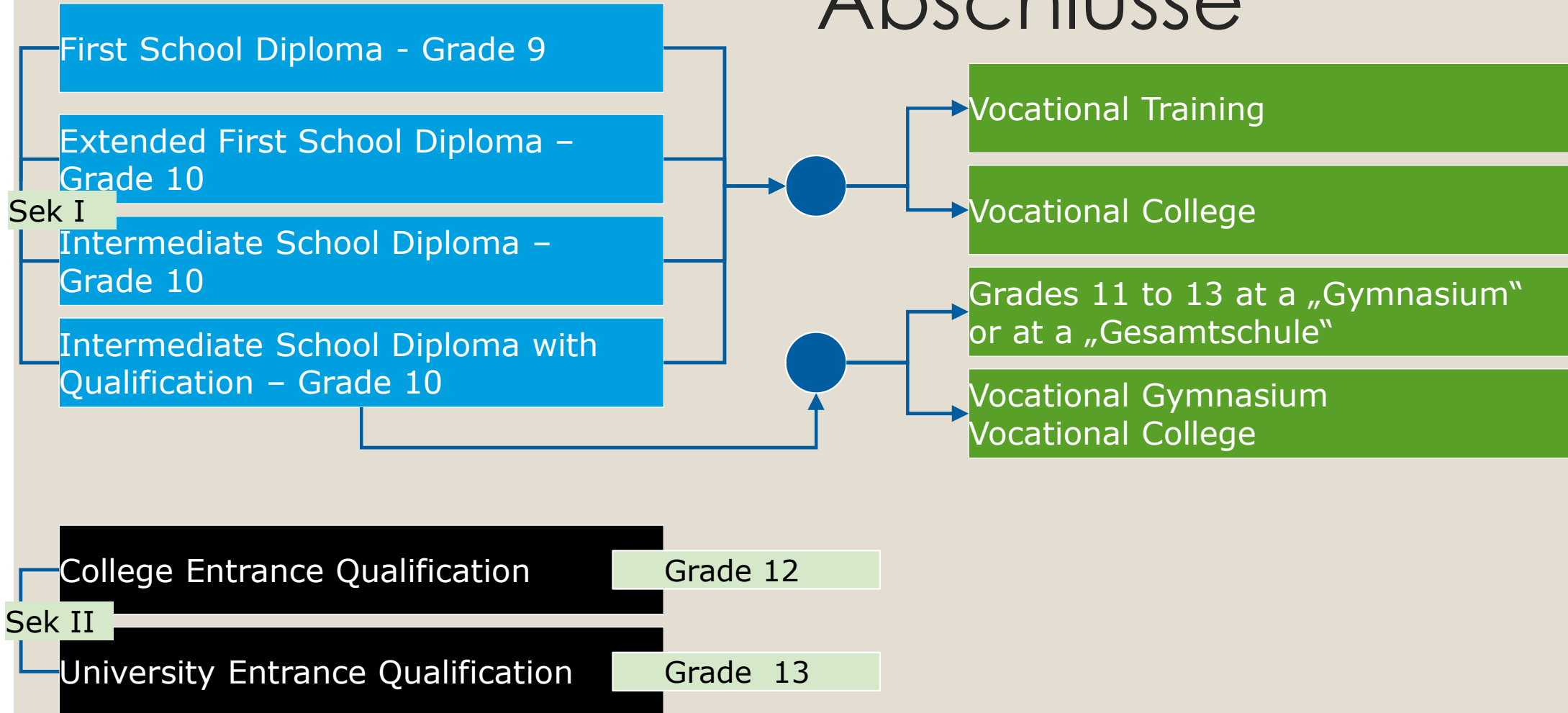


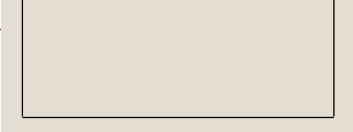


SCHOOL DIPLOMAS AT A GLANCE



Abschlüsse





RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Recommendation as a process

Advice

- Personal conversation with class teacher and parents

Recommendation

- Part of the mid-year report card for grade 4

Recommendations



Recommendation
for different types
of schools

Hauptschule
Realschule
Gymnasium



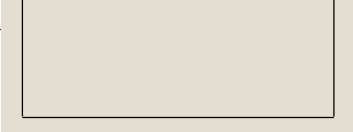
Possible second school type
named with restrictions
("eingeschränkte Empfehlung")



No guarantee of admission to a
comprehensive school
("Gesamtschule")



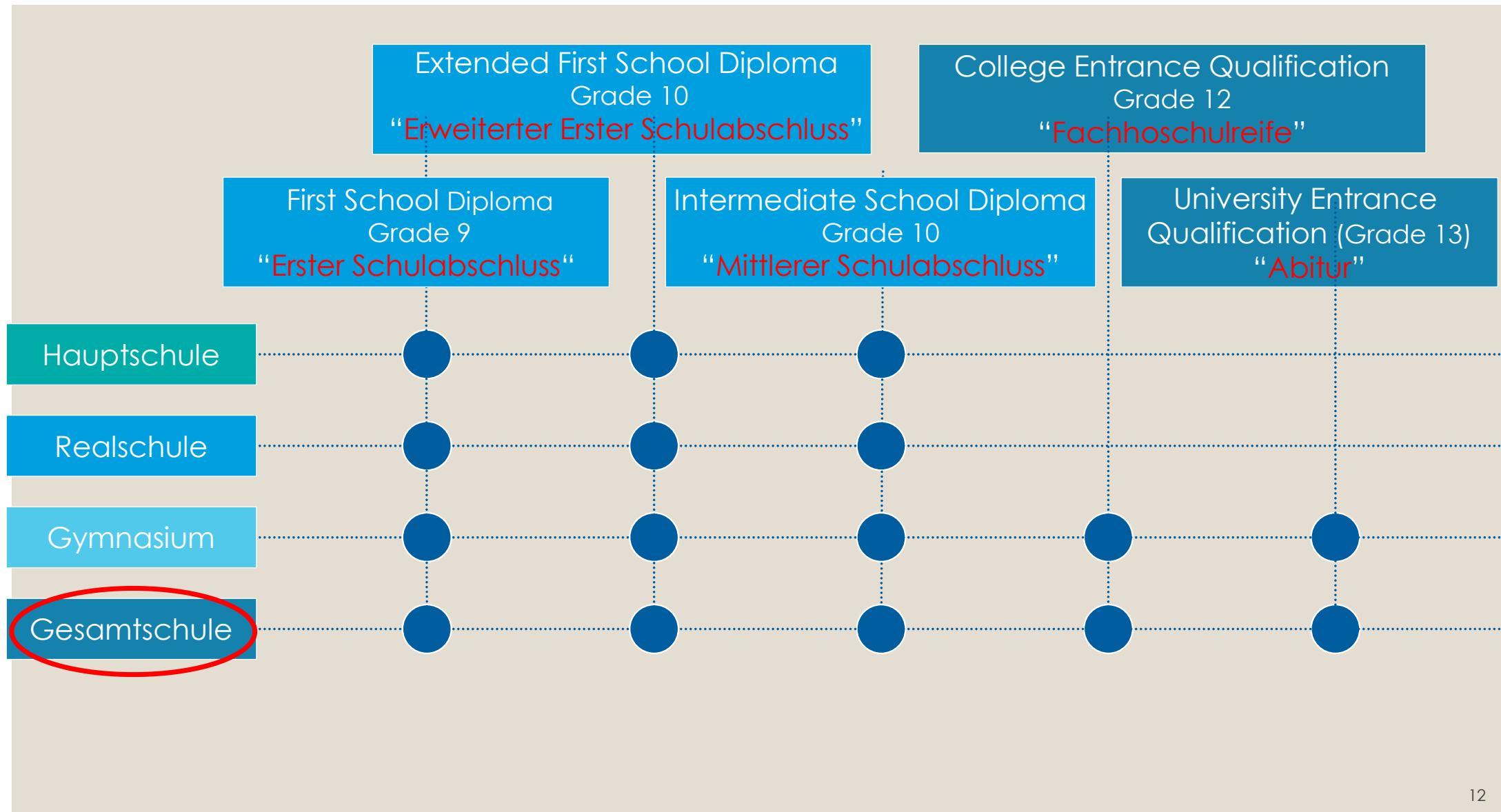
No guarantee of admission to a
specific school



TYPES OF SCHOOLS

GESAMTSCHULE

8 COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOLS IN DÜSSELDORF



Longer
joint learning

GESAMTSCHULE

- ✓ promotes children of all performance levels
- ✓ keeps diploma decision open for as long as possible



Characteristic educational approaches

all-day schools

- school is compulsory from about 8 a.m. till 4 p.m. three days a week

structured day

- teaching and non-teaching periods alternate

working in teams

- teachers work in multi-professional teams with social workers and others

Particularities



Advancement to the next year without formal promotion

till grade 9



Different levels of professional performance

different learning needs and abilities are taken into account



Options starting from grade 7

e.g. foreign languages (e.g. French or Spanish), Sciences, Arts, Computer Sciences, PE

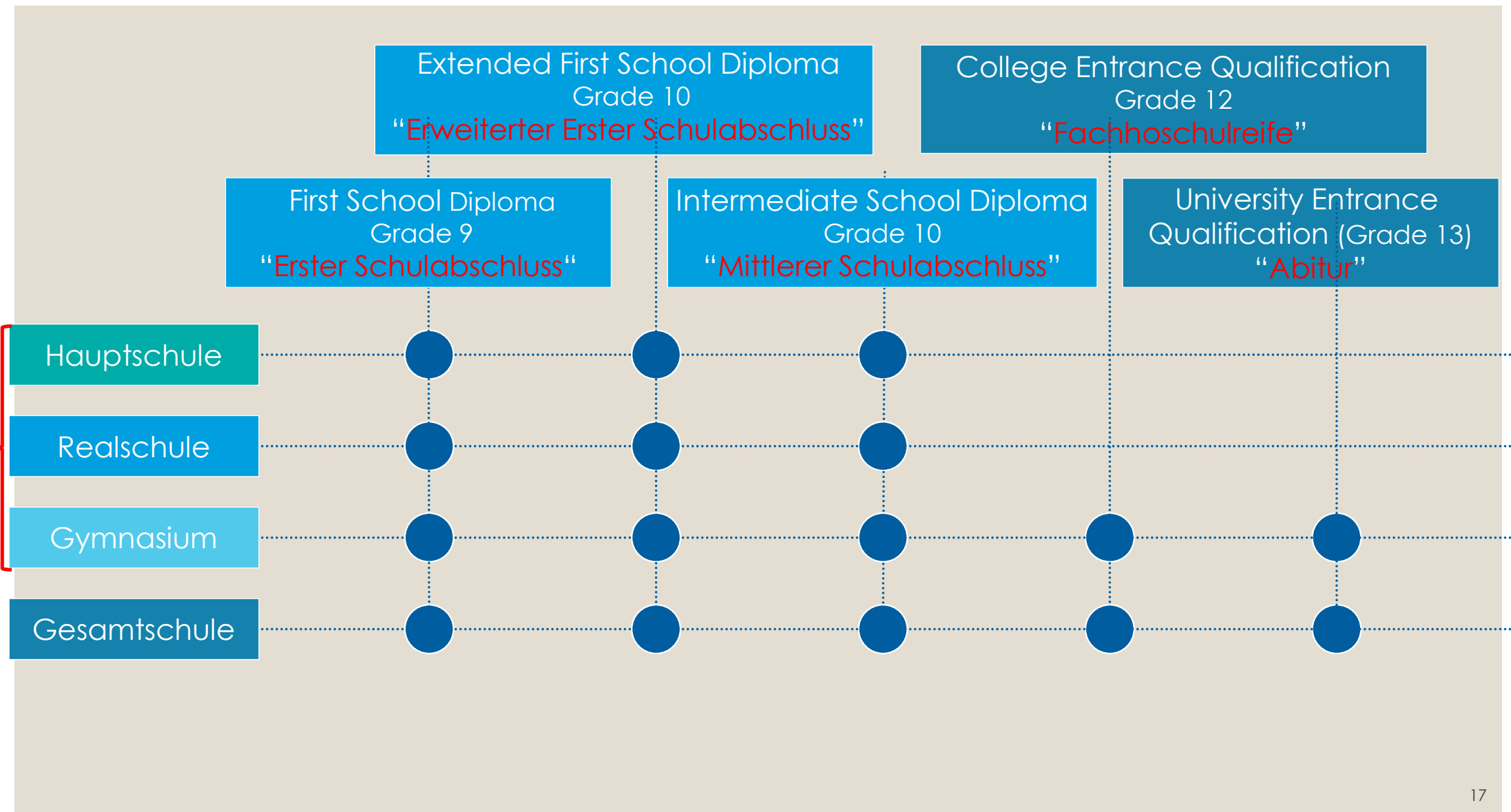


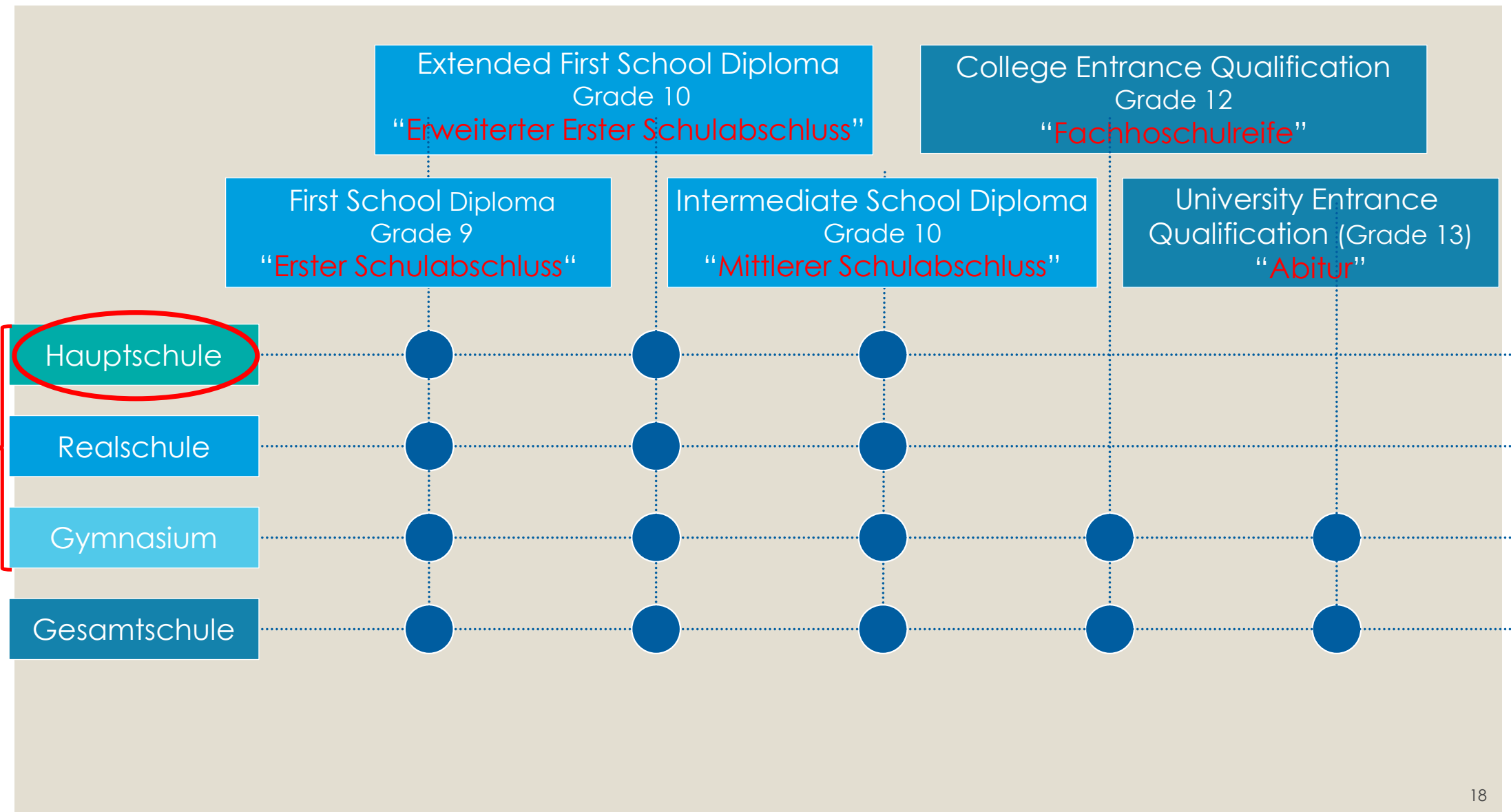
Career Orientation

preparation for various professional fields
focus on practical experiences

HAUPTSCHULE

7 HAUPTSCHULEN IN DÜSSELDORF





General education and career orientation



Career orientation

Prepares for various professional fields.
Aims at practical experience.



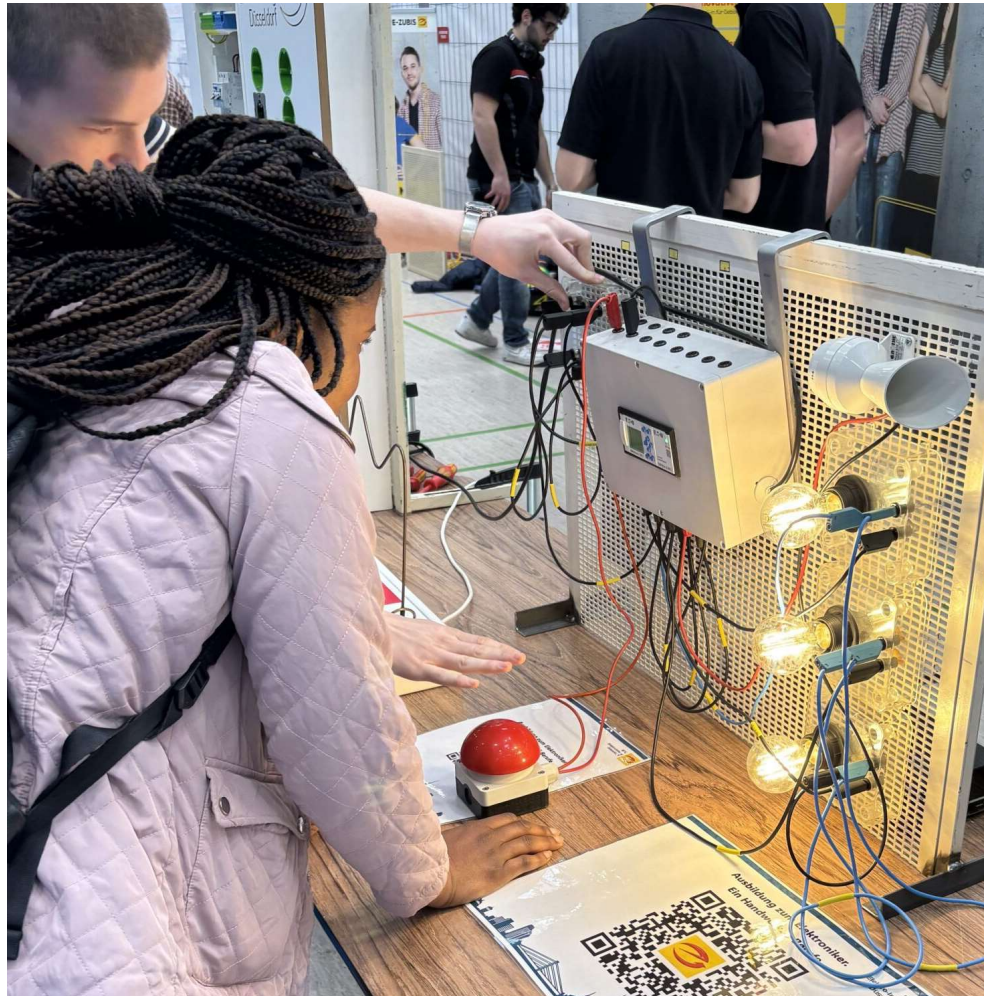
Life planning

Helps with personal development and gives orientation for the future.



Practical orientation

Application of theoretical knowledge.
Promotion of practical skills.



Student internships

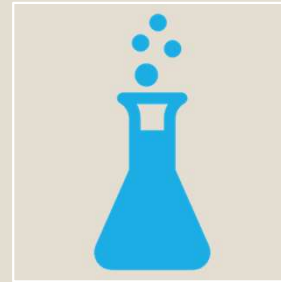
Three student internships offer a valuable opportunity for career orientation, especially for vocational training.

Foreign language and specialisations



Foreign language: English

English as foreign language



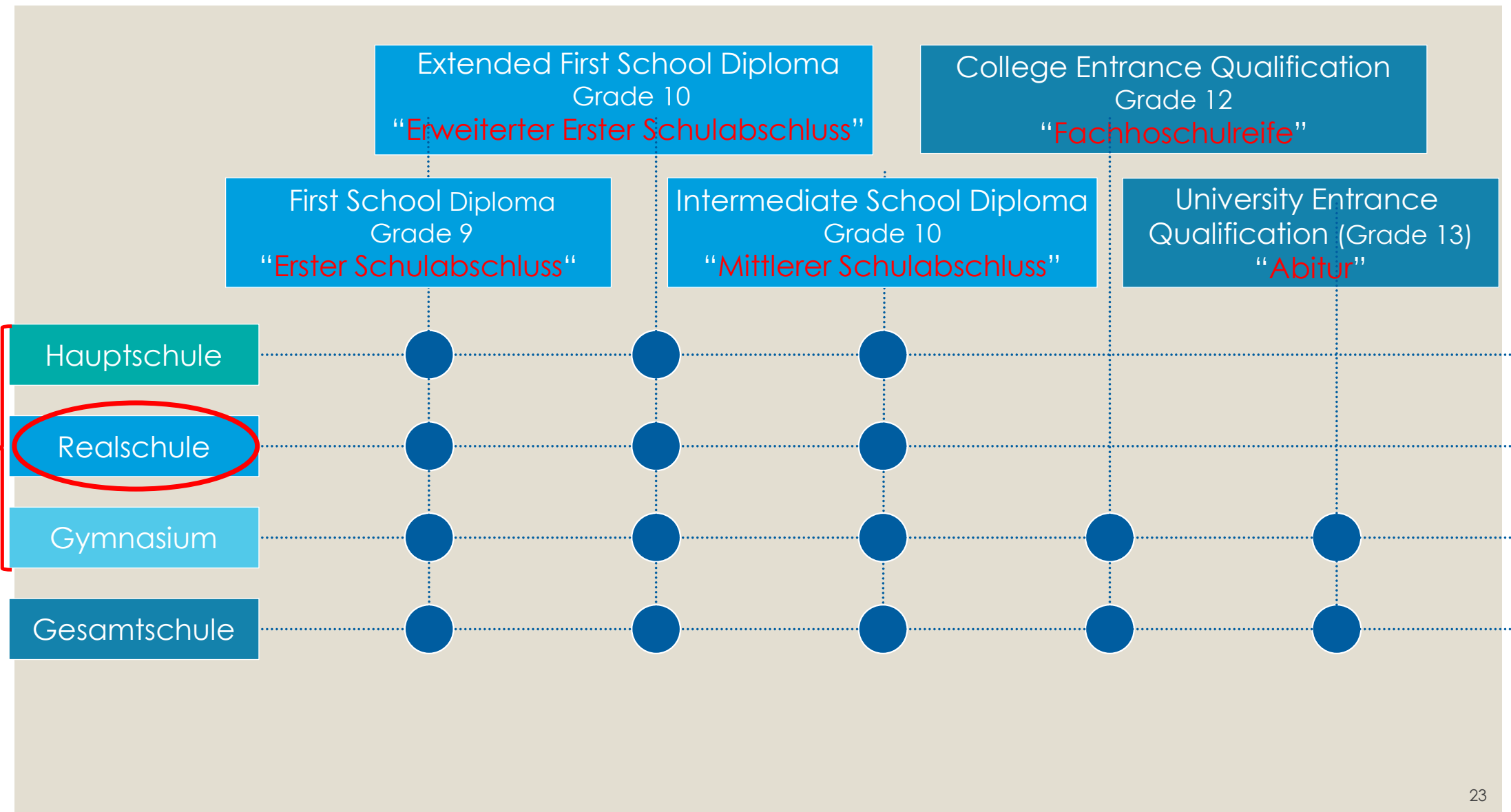
Major subjects

Practical Studies

Natural Sciences

REALSCHULE

14 REALSCHULEN IN DÜSSELDORF



Practical and theoretical support



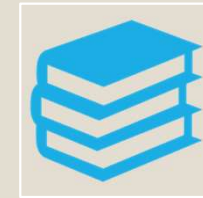
Extended general education

in-depth knowledge in
various subjects
foundation for further
education
Scientific foundation



Preparing for starting a vocation

at least two internships
cooperation with
companies in the city
cooperation with other
types of school



Preparing for further schooling

scientific fundamentals
mathematical concepts

Characteristic educational approaches

“Realschulen” are relatively small systems

choice of half-day schools with lunchtime supervision (10) and all-day schools (4)

mobility between the three types of schools
Hauptschule, Realschule, Gymnasium

final school report is crucial for progression to secondary school after Grade 10 (qualification)



Options starting from grade 7

Introduction of another major subject from different fields

Foreign language

- French

Sciences /
Technics

- e.g. Biology

Social sciences

- e.g. Politics

Music / Art

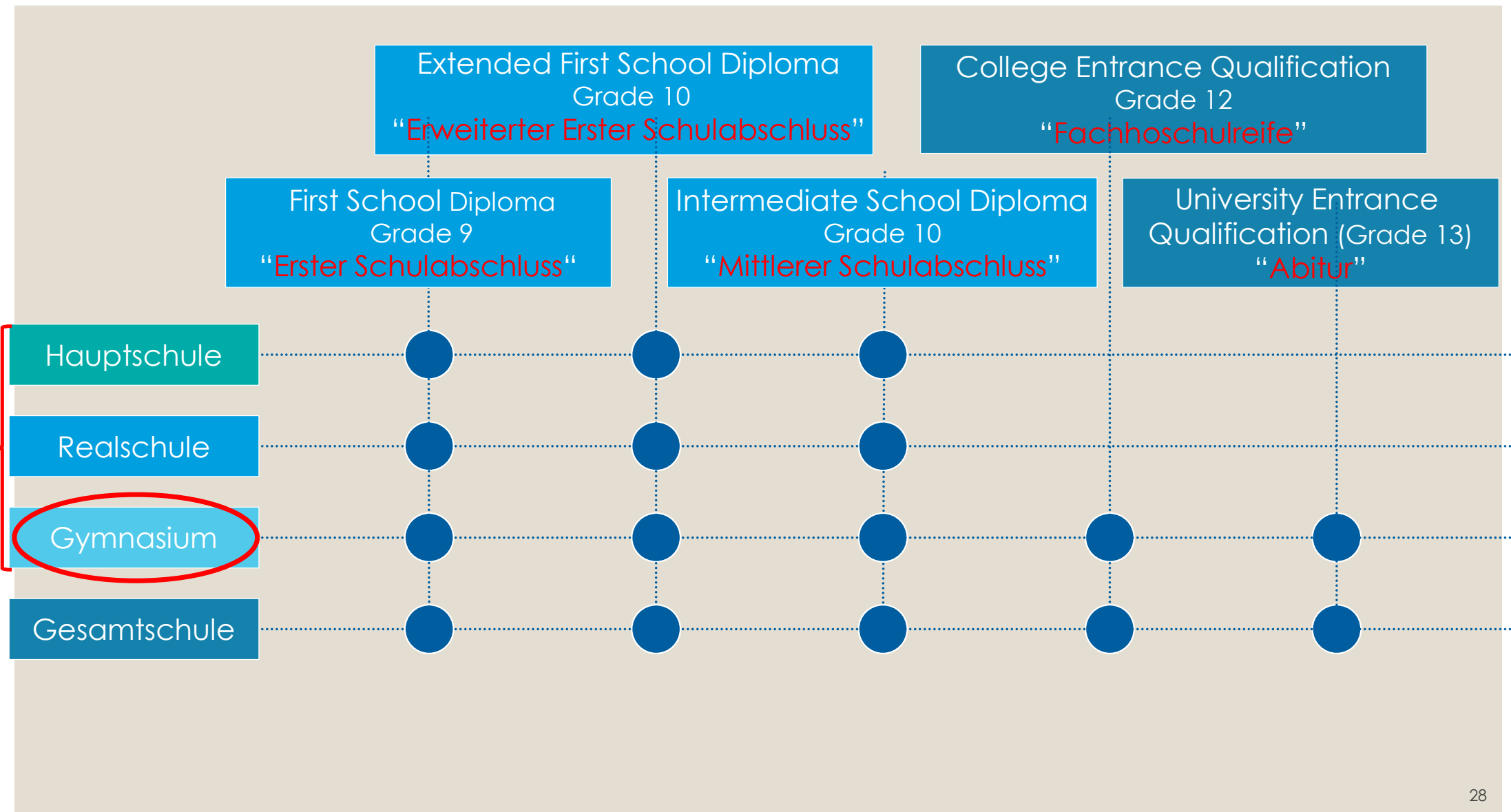
- e.g. Arts

Athletics

- P.E.

GYMNASIUM

25 GYMNASIEN IN DÜSSELDORF



Goal: Abitur ($\approx$ British A-levels)

Continuous academic pathway

usually after nine years



In-depth general education

Promoting comprehensive knowledge

Development of critical thinking



Preparation for university studies

Acquisition of necessary qualifications

Foundation for academic success



Qualification for vocational training

Career orientation

Requirements

Complex problem-solving and critical thinking abilities



Abstract thinking

Ability to derive general principles from specific cases



Analytical thinking

Ability to systematically examine information



Critical thinking

Ability to question arguments and information

Options starting from grade 7 :

second Foreign
Language

Options starting from grade 9 – depending on the school's special profile, e.g.:

third Foreign
Language

Computer
Sciences

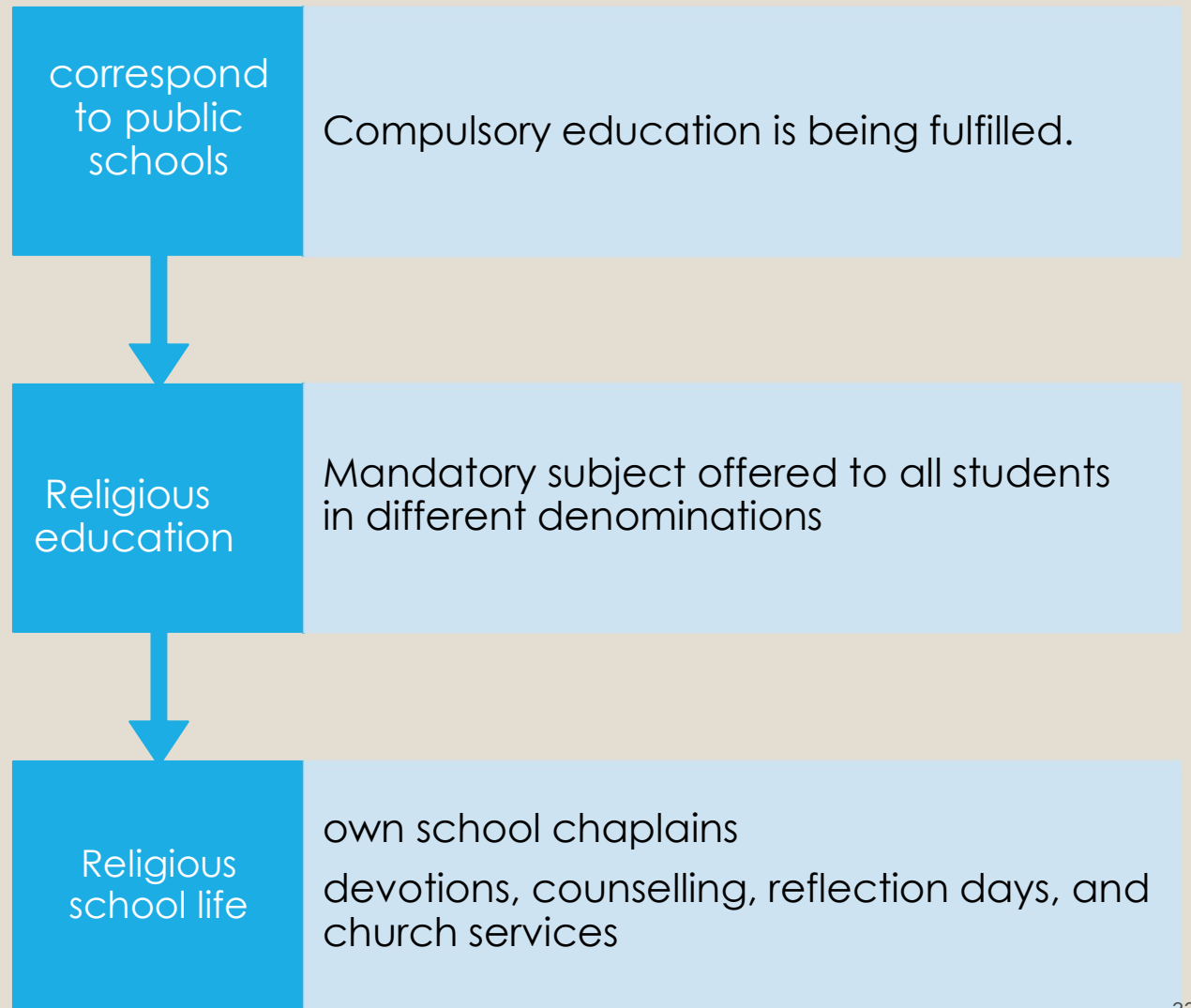
further Natural
Science

additional
Social Science

PRIVATELY SPONSORED SCHOOLS

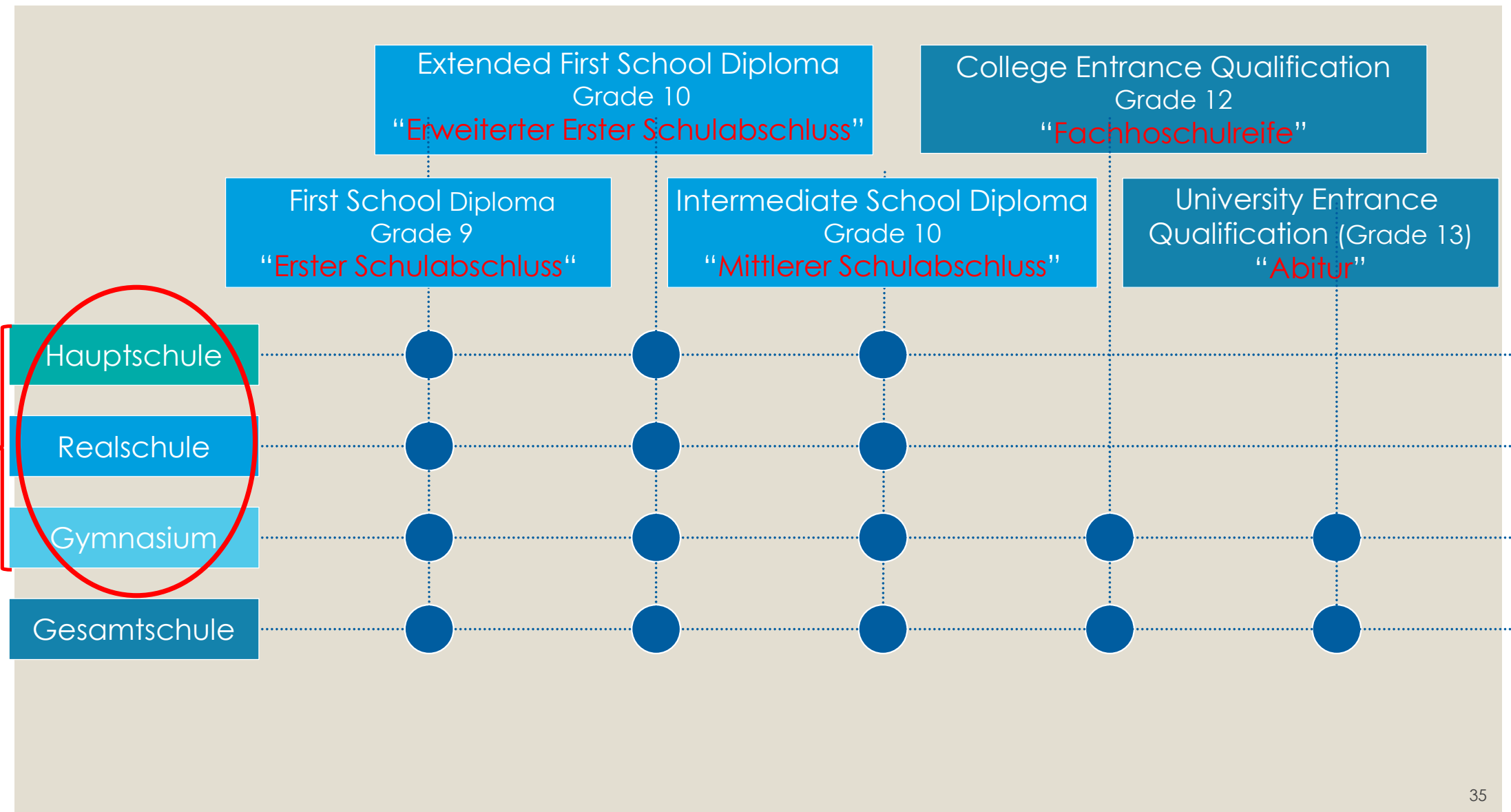
Alternative schools

e.g. church as sponsor



ERPROBUNGSSTUFE (TRIAL PHASE)

2 years for adaptation and trial phase
at Hauptschule, Realschule and Gymnasium.





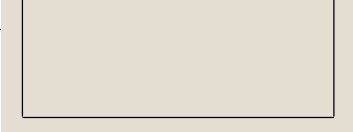
Transition from grade 5 to 6

No transfer decision into the next grade necessary



Decision after grade 6

Based on the grades, the school decides on the school type remaining? changing?)



REGISTRATION PROCEDURE



Registration form and appointments

- Legal guardians receive the documents with the mid-year report card.

[illegible]

Do not copy!

Central collection of data!

Registration dates for the municipal schools

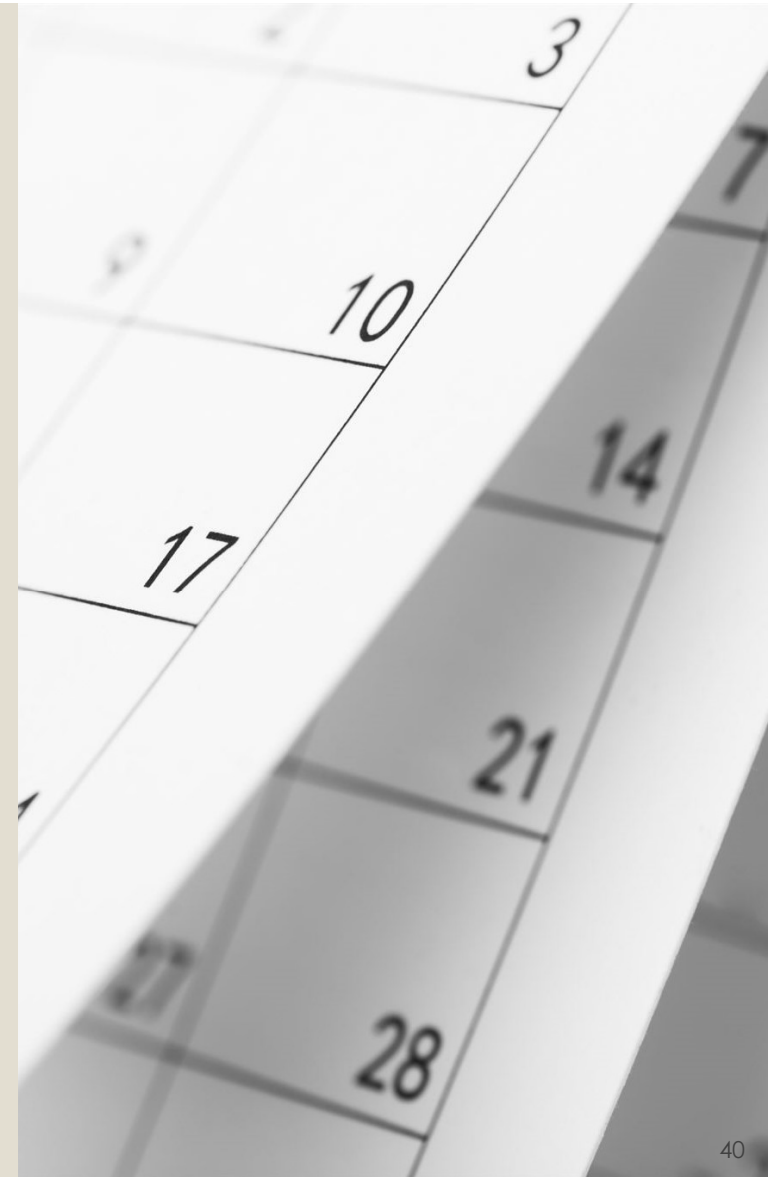
Half-year report cards 2026/27: 12th February 2027

15th to 17th February 2027



Please...

- ... book an appointment (via homepage).
- ... book only one appointment.
- ... cancel it in case you change your mind.
- ... inform the current primary school if you plan to enroll
 - in a private school
 - in a privately sponsored school
 - or in a school outside of Düsseldorf.



Decision on admission

Decision of the head of school

about the child's admission to the school:



If the number of registrations exceeds the capacity

specific criteria are applied:

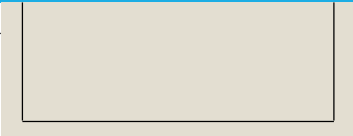


Criteria for school admission

Lottery

Siblings

Gesamtschule:
according to performance groups



FURTHER ASPECTS

Compulsory all-day school in lower secondary education



mandatory participation

All students must participate in the full-day program.



all-day offers

At least three days a week.

Includes at least seven hours.

half-day school in lower secondary education



earlier end of school day

school regularly ends after
the 6th lesson



voluntary activities in the afternoon

educational lunchtime supervision
clubs



Lunch provision



- Warm meals are offered at many schools.
- The prices for lunch can vary.
- “Education and Participation”: Free Lunch



Further Information



- **Inclusion:**

Inklusionskoordination Sekundarstufe I
☎ 89-96323



- **Costs for transportation :**

<https://www.duesseldorf.de/schulen/uebersicht-nach-themen-von-a-z/schuelerfahrkosten>

- **Bildung und Teilhabe** (= education and participation) for parents with limited financial means:

<https://www.duesseldorf.de/soziales/bildungs-und-teilhabepaket>

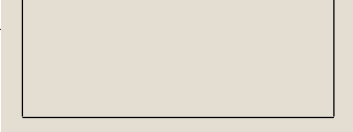
Further Information



- Hotline of the Department for Schools and Education:
0211-89-24080



- Digital brochure:
“Wohin nach der Grundschule?”



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

8 Gesamtschulen

Städtisch

Ersatz

Heinrich-Heine-
Gesamtschule
Graf-Recke-Straße

Élise-Freinet-Gesamtschule
Aldekerkstraße

Hulda-Pankok-
Gesamtschule
Brinckmannstraße

Joseph-Beuys-
Gesamtschule
Siegburger Straße

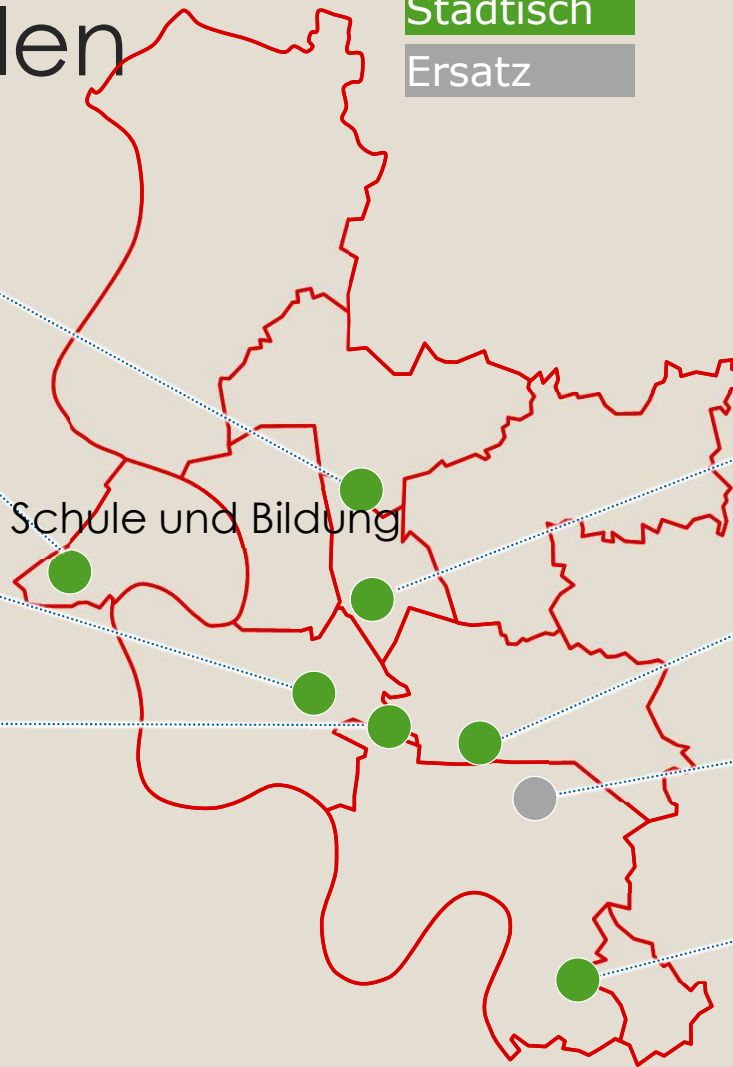
Amts für Schule und Bildung

Maria-Montessori-
Gesamtschule
Lindenstraße

Dieter-Forte-Gesamtschule
Heidelberger Straße

Freie Christliche
Gesamtschule
Fürstenberger Straße

Gesamtschule
Stettiner Straße



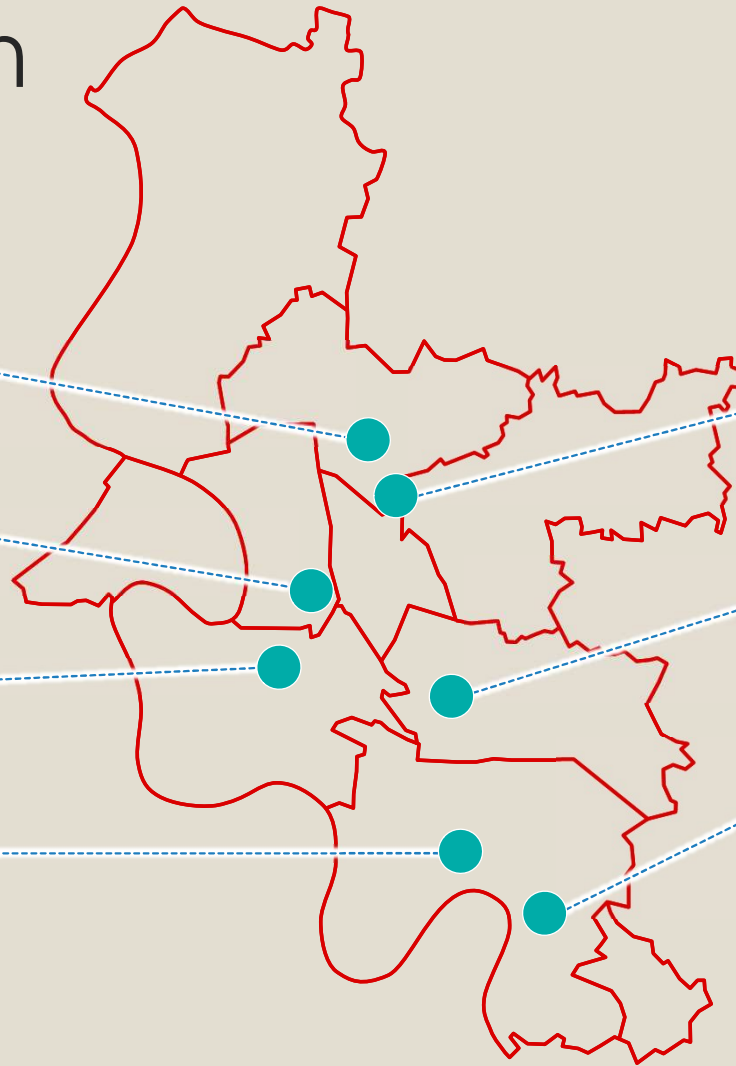
7 Hauptschulen

Wilhelm-Ferdinand-
Schüler-Tagesschule
Rather Kreuzweg

Kath. Hauptschule
St.-Benedikt
Charlottenstraße

Dumont-Lindemann-Schule
Weberstraße

Katholische Hauptschule
Itterstraße



Gemeinschaftshauptschule
Graf-Recke-Straße

Schule
am Eller Forst
Vennhauser Allee

Gemeinschaftshauptschule
Benrath
Melanchthon Straße

14 Realschulen

Toni-Turek Realschule
Klapheckstraße

Werner-von-Siemens-
Realschule Rethelstraße

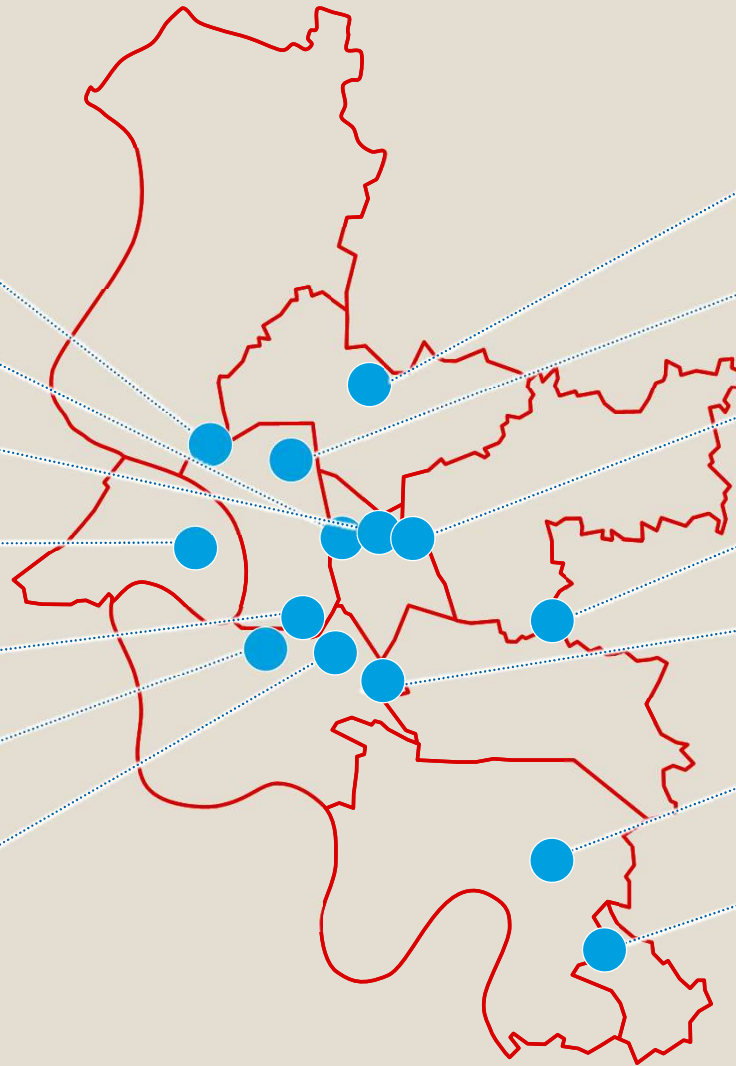
Anne-Frank-Realschule
Ackerstraße

Carl-Benz-Realschule
Lewitstraße

Realschule Friedrichstadt
Luisenstraße

Flora-Realschule
Florastraße

Freiherr-vom-Stein-
Realschule Färberstraße



Realschule Borbecker Straße

Justus-von-Liebig-
Realschule Ottweiler Straße

Thomas-Edison-Realschule
Schlüterstraße

Georg-Schulhoff-Realschule
Kamper Weg

Benzenberg-Realschule
Siegburger Straße

Realschule Benrath
Hospitalstraße

Theodor-Litt-Realschule
Theodor-Litt-Straße

Theodor-Fliedner-Gymnasium
Kalkumer Schlossallee

Suitbertus Gymnasium
Am St. Swibert

Max-Planck-Gymnasium
Koetschaustraße

Georg-Büchner-Gymnasium
Felix-Klein-Straße

Cecilien-Gymnasium
Schorlemerstraße

Comenius-Gymnasium
Hansaallee

St. Ursula Gymnasium
Ritterstraße

Luisen-Gymnasium
Völklinger Straße

Görres-Gymnasium
Königsallee

Lessing-Gymnasium
Ellerstraße

Geschwister-Scholl-Gymnasium
Redinghovenstraße

Gymnasium Bernburger Straße
Bernburger Straße

Städtisch

Ersatz

Albert-Einstein-Gymnasium
Theodorstraße

Friedrich-Rückert-Gymnasium
St. Franziskusstraße 131

Leibniz-Montessori-Gymnasium
Scharnhorststraße

Gymnasium Heinzelmannchenweg
Schlüterstraße (bis 27/28)

Gymnasium Gerresheim
Am Poth

Marie-Curie-Gymnasium
Gräulinger Straße

Goethe-Gymnasium
Lindemannstraße

Humboldt-Gymnasium
Pempelforter Straße

Wim-Wenders-Gymnasium
Schmiedestraße

Freies Christliches Gymnasium
Buchenstraße

Schloss-Gymnasium
Benrodestraße

A. v. Droste-Hülshoff-Gymnasium
Brucknerstraße

Gymnasium Koblenzer Straße
Theodor-Litt-Straße

25 Gymnasien