

School psychology

1. The academic education of school psychology

- You can study school psychology in line with a teacher education. A specific feature is that school psychology has to be studied deepend/in details for all types of schools. Normally you don't have to study a subject in details, except when you want to become a grammar school teacher. In Bavaria you can study school psychology at the Otto-Friedrich University of Bamberg, at the Catholic University of Eichstätt and at the Ludwig- Maximilians University in Munich.
- The official term for school psychology is "psychology with a school psychology main focus" points out that it's not only limited to subjects with a school reference. In a school psychology academic education you have to take the following courses:
 - social psychology
 - developmental psychology
 - general psychology
 - personality psychology
 - research Methodolgy
 - pedagogic psychology
 - clinic Psychology
 - diagnostics
 - "Gutachtenerstellung"
- During the academic education of school psychology you have to complete three six-week practicals for example at kindergardens, children's homes, child guidance centres or at institutions for disabled children. The third practical must be with a school psychologist.

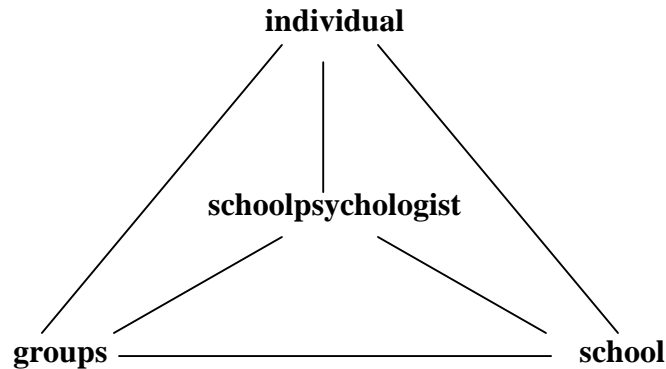
2. The basics of the work as a school psychologist

School psychologists...

- ... support pupils, parents and teacher in living and working together. They counsel and help them with learning- and teaching problems. They arrange advanced trainings and collaborate further development of the school.
- ... work with the aim to contribute to the personality development, the efficiency and "wellness" in the school.
- ... offer advise and help in urgent and critical situations and they support schools to accomplish current and future demands (prevention)
- ...often have twin-qualification as psychologist and teacher
- ... have personal contacts to the collegium, the head of the school and to the school administration. Because of the duty to keep confidential (§ 203 criminal code) they are also confident partner of their clients.

3. The fields of work of a school psychologist

The following diagram clarifies the central fields of work of an school psychologist:



3.1 school psychologist working with individuals

- advise in cases of learning and performance difficulties (e.g. motivation problems)
- advise in cases of special decisions concerning to the school career (e.g. giftedness)
- advise in cases of urgent crises (e.g. conflicts and force)

3.2 school psychologist working with groups

- discussion groups and working groups with pupils and school classes (e.g. handling of conflicts)
- workshops with the class representative
- parent-teacher conferences with actual topics (e.g. homework)

3.3 school psychologists working in a system of a school

- attendance of school development processes (e.g. profile of the school)
- participation in pedagogic conferences (e.g. topics about force)

4. Cooperation and Networking

School psychologists have many cooperation contacts with institutions inside and outside the school:

- schools and school administration
- school information centers
- school-counsellors
- children guidance centers
- youth welfare offices
- doctors and hospitals
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