



SCHLOSS TORGELOW: CHILDREN WITH A FUTURE



TWELVE PUPILS PER CLASS | DEVELOPING POTENTIALS | ABITUR OF A HIGH STANDARD



The Lehmann family

Dear Prospective Pupils and Parents,

In the spring of 1993 we launched our project on the green shores of a German lake called Torgelower See. We wanted to found a boarding school where gifted and talented children with curiosity and a willingness to work hard would find a second home during the important formative period of their lives.

Today Schloss Torgelow is one of Germany's top boarding schools. We are proud that our students come from all over Germany and abroad to receive an education in Torgelow am See which will prepare them for the rest of their lives. Our students live and learn in a close-knit community, acquire knowledge, discover abilities, develop a sense of responsibility, make friends and grow up together. We, the founding family, provide a team of educators who support them as they prepare for the Abitur (school-leaving qualification for university entrance in Germany) and are proud of their achievements.

My own experience of school, including classes that were too large, little attention from teachers, and boring "chalk and talk" lessons, motivated me to found a better school with my father – one with small classes and individual encouragement, high-quality teaching and a range of extracurricular activities allowing each child to discover his or her talents. The excellent results achieved by our pupils in the German Abitur and later in life confirm that we made the right decision.

Our school at Schloss Torgelow continues a family tradition. Over 50 years ago, my father's experience of school caused my grandmother to found the Kurpfalz-Internat boarding school in Bammental near Heidelberg. At that time our family proved that a vision of a different, better school does not have to remain a dream.

I would be happy to show you around Schloss Torgelow during a personal visit, because seeing and experiencing Torgelow is the only way to discover what makes Schloss Torgelow such a special school.

Mario Lehmann
Member of the founding family

Your child's future begins with choosing the right school



Parents want to ensure that their children are well equipped for a successful life. As busy and committed professionals, they know that expectations are growing higher, competition in working life tougher, and qualifications from school and college more important.

For three generations now we, the Lehmann family, have run the Kurpfalz-Internat boarding school near Heidelberg, and since 1994 we have also been preparing schoolchildren for the German Abitur at Schloss Torgelow. Again and again our experience has shown that – alongside knowledge and learning – discipline, tolerance and self-confidence open important doors to success.

Many of our former pupils are still in contact with one another, and also with us via the old boys' /old girls' network. They ascribe their success in life to their ability to work and communicate, their determination and their good manners, which they learnt during the years they spent at our boarding school.

Together with our educational team we have developed a concept for a boarding school designed to prepare Torgelow students especially well for the challenges of the future. Our classes have a maximum of 12 pupils, who receive achievement-based support and encouragement and obtain an Abitur of a high standard after only 12 years of schooling. They also gain experience in other countries, take part in team activities, and make friends for life.

From the many applications we receive at Torgelow we select those students who make a good impression with a positive attitude to school, their personality and their interest. For several years Torgelow students have scored top marks in the centralised Abitur for the German state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania. We are very proud of their achievements. However, more important to us than a good grade in the Abitur is our students' development into self-assured, socially committed and contented individuals who face the future with courage and energy.

→ Reports on current school events: www.schlosstorgelow.de



*Heidrun Franke, Head of the School
Markus Klein, Head of the Boarding School*

A private boarding grammar school that aims high



Parents, teachers and children have been dissatisfied with the school situation in Germany and its development – and not only since the PISA results were published. Many doubt that today’s pupils are being sufficiently well prepared for the reality of tomorrow. Parents wonder what schools are doing to address the current apathy and lack of orientation.

The Schloss Torgelow private grammar school is a response to these questions. Our prime focus is on high-level achievements, sound knowledge and the acquisition of important skills. Our educational goal is to prepare young people for a successful future, give them orientation, and arouse their interest in life-long learning.

We can achieve these ambitious goals because our maximum class size is 12 pupils. Classes at Torgelow are therefore among the smallest anywhere in Germany. Our lessons not only stretch every individual, but also give each child individual attention. This means that lessons are more fun both for the children and for their teachers, since they have more time for one another. They use this time to build closer relationships, promote co-operative work, and improve the quality of lessons.

Our modern timetable is organised on the double-period principle. This allows our teachers to use modern, practical methods. The children are actively involved in deciding what their classes will be like. Breaks are not dictated by the traditional bell, but are adjusted to the attention span of the individual class.

Our new classrooms are equipped with innovative Smart Boards, projectors and computers. Blackboards are a thing of the past. Materials for teachers and children can be accessed on the students' network via the school's own wireless LAN. Torgelow also has a wired connection to the Internet. This makes using such media perfectly normal. Special subject rooms with modern equipment, a science lab and generous rooms for music and art provide the best conditions for teaching.

Homework has its fixed place in the daily timetable. In Years 5 to 8 the children do their homework together as a class, under the supervision of a mentor. From Year 9 upwards, the best students may do their homework on their own in their rooms, while the others have supervised time for their homework in the early evening.

We believe it is especially important for the children's marks to be easily comprehensible both to parents and to the pupils themselves. Our students are therefore awarded marks in writing for every subject four times a year. The teachers at Torgelow not only give marks but also provide a descriptive assessment of the student's progress and indicate areas for improvement. These reports are emailed directly to the children and their parents at home. Furthermore, regular parents' days and direct contact with the teachers enable parents to be continually informed about their child's development.



12 children in a class, intensive lessons, and Abitur of a high standard



Can school learning keep up with the rapid developments in science and society? Can teachers really capture their students' imagination? How can young people find out what really interests them? Is today's Abitur sufficient for going to university? Can children in classes of 30 really obtain the individual support they need?

The first things children learn at Schloss Torgelow are that learning means being open to new ideas, that problems can be solved, that hard work pays off, and that success motivates. Our voluntary limit of 12 children in a class helps us give each individual what he or she needs.

Since 1994 Torgelow students have been able to acquire the state Abitur (which is fully recognised throughout Germany) after 12 years of schooling. Their outstanding results are due to concentrated and effective teaching and to their own hard work, which we demand of them. At our boarding school the students learn how to work systematically, apply solution-oriented thinking and become team players – which are all skills needed for successful university study or for sound vocational training.

The additional lessons required for reaching the Abitur in eight years at grammar school are hardly noticed (unlike at day schools). Torgelow students regard both the absence of the “school run” and the close dovetailing of school and extracurricular activities as major advantages of the boarding school. They can attend school and develop their potential in other areas.

Schloss Torgelow accepts students from Year 5 upwards, from all the German federal states and from other countries. Experience has shown that any differences in what the children have covered before they arrive at Torgelow can be quickly levelled out by our small classes or additional individual tuition. For a successful switch to the Abitur in eight years, we recommend moving to Torgelow at an early stage. However, it is still possible for students to join the senior years at our school.



Learning to speak languages fluently



In times of increasing globalisation, a good knowledge of foreign languages becomes hugely important. For this reason we at Schloss Torgelow offer six foreign languages: English, French, Latin, Spanish, and upon request Russian and Chinese.

We regard language lessons as more than just imparting knowledge. We have set ourselves the task of familiarising our students with the culture and lifestyle of other nations. Schloss Torgelow is a place where people of various nationalities and cultures meet. Together with the German Humboldt-Institut we offer children from other countries the programme entitled “Ein Schuljahr in Deutschland” (“A Year at a German School”).

Young people naturally learn to think in a cosmopolitan and open-minded way, and this is crucially important for their personal and occupational development. In discussion groups, courses in presentation, and study groups (some of which are led by native speakers), our students learn to speak a foreign language fluently.

In Year 9 all students at Torgelow take part in our “European Classroom” project by spending one school term in England. They attend Kingham Hill School near Oxford as regular boarders. This improves their written and spoken English and they discover what life is like in England. We use the rest of the school year in Torgelow to teach the curriculum for Year 9 in a condensed form, which enables our students to gain experience in another country without losing a year of school in Germany.

Furthermore, Schloss Torgelow is the only school in Germany that is a recognised “Internal Test Centre” for Cambridge University, England. Since 2004 Torgelow students have been able to obtain the Cambridge ESOL language certificates here at the school. The internationally recognised curriculum ensures that the certificates are widely accepted at universities and companies around the world.

Students in the upper school also have the option of taking part at a conference of the THIMUN United Nations model in The Hague. These international sessions give older children a fabulous opportunity to apply the language skills obtained at Torgelow in a global political arena.

Our language programme also includes other exchanges – including some lasting for longer periods – meetings with pupils and teachers from our partner schools in Argentina, England and France, and the possibility of obtaining French and Spanish language certificates.

→ *Information about our language programme: www.schlosstorgelow.de*



Seeing giftedness as an opportunity



Nowadays only very few schools give gifted and hard-working students the attention they deserve. Large classes, the resentment of other children, and a poor understanding of equal opportunities often mean that gifted and hard-working pupils are not sufficiently challenged in the German school system.

Schloss Torgelow offers them a chance to develop their potential in a community of high-achievers. Here they can learn up to four foreign languages, do extra science activities, and decide what they will focus on.

In small classes of 12 pupils at the most, teachers can deliver lessons in a differentiated manner, tailoring them to the needs of the individual pupils, and take account of the fact that students' gifts cannot all be given identical treatment, but should be handled individually and sympathetically. Torgelow students enjoy school because we challenge them and have confidence in them. Here they receive recognition from teachers and fellow students, which is so often absent at other schools.

Highly gifted students, too, feel comfortable at Torgelow. They can skip to a more advanced class, distinguish themselves in extracurricular projects, or work with their fellows as project leaders. Workshops, presentations and academic projects offer additional challenges.

In Years 5 to 7 we offer a "Mind Factory" for pupils with special linguistic and mathematical gifts. Every week they meet in special groups for additional lessons. Schloss Torgelow is an external partner of the University of Rostock. Interested pupils in the middle and upper school can



join the university's Junior Studies courses or the programme of the Young Business School in Heidelberg. The "Torgelow Science Academy" invites scientists who know how to get even the youngest pupils interested in science. The children are involved in selecting topics that they find particularly interesting.

Our school concept includes entering competitions such as "business@school", "Jugend forscht" (research) and "Jugend musiziert" (music).

We pay special attention to preparing for future employment. The programme for the upper school includes internships and job information events so that our students have an idea of what to expect when they go to college or start work. Academics and experienced practitioners give students at Torgelow a detailed insight into the contents of the most important degree courses and the tasks and requirements of individual occupations. Our "University Day" offers both private and public universities a forum for presenting themselves and their courses. This enables our children to decide early on which choices will be the best for them.

Additional workshops or weekly Abitur projects enable our senior pupils to obtain extra qualifications in economics, law, memory techniques, biology or public speaking. In co-operation with external institutes we hold seminars on presentation techniques, time management, how to learn, and effective communication. We also offer targeted training for applicants attending selection interviews at universities.

→ More information about the Abitur at Schloss Torgelow: www.schlosstorgelow.de

Children and adolescents need values and orientation



Our society is characterised not only by shifting values, but also by the loss of ideals. At Schloss Torgelow we work against this trend every day by promoting humanity, tolerance and social responsibility.

One of our priorities is to give young people a solid value system that will enable them to take control of their lives. We help them to find out who they are and who they want to be. We encourage them to believe in ideals and values that they recognise as right and good, and which motivate them to face the challenges of the future.

Life with others at boarding school opens up new prospects to each individual and expands his or her horizon. In groups the children learn to be part of a team, to be considerate to others, and to take social responsibility – these are all competencies that are absolutely essential for life in a community. We see our task as educators not simply as bringing our students up to be functional members of a community, but also as encouraging and supporting their development into successful individuals and giving them orientation and stimulation.

Our children receive care and attention, understanding and advice. They have to struggle for their freedom while learning that there are rules which apply to everybody. We believe it is essential to allocate time to a range of options, and to achieve a balance between mental, artistic and sporting activities.

Children feel comfortable in the atmosphere at Torgelow. By “atmosphere” we also mean the human atmosphere. The students feel every day that the adults with whom they live and work like being with them and enjoy their tasks as teachers, mentors, trainers, workshop leaders, caretakers and cooks. This underlying mood ensures that everyone feels understood.

Older pupils may take responsibility for younger ones, or give extra tuition. And in our school parliament, taking on “community tasks” or as assistant supervisors of younger children, our students assume responsibility for the close-knit community that is so characteristic of Schloss Torgelow.







At boarding school youngsters experience security in a close-knit community



Growing up is one of the most difficult and exciting times in our lives. Many things change, and everything is in motion. During this period youngsters need stability and the security of a community.

At Schloss Torgelow the younger and older girls and boys have separate living areas, the Houses. The senior students live in the restored “Schloss” and the half-timbered rooms of the “Gelbes Haus”, while the middle school pupils have generously proportioned living quarters in the modern boarding school premises. The junior girls and boys live in our “Haus der Zukunft,” which provides a special living space designed for this age group with plenty of opportunity for playing games and having fun. As a rule two children share a comfortably furnished room which they may arrange to suit their own style. Each House is staffed around the clock by two mentors with educational training. They are available day and night for the children, help them when problems arise, ensure order and good behaviour, give the children care and attention, and provide advice. The mentors are supported by a qualified nurse who looks after the children when they have health problems and calls a doctor if necessary.

We organise “school event weekends” on six weekends during the school year, and everyone is involved in making these weekends a real experience. These highlights of boarding school life are dedicated to cultural events, sports competitions and creative projects. Away from everyday lessons, the children, teachers and mentors organise joint activities that promote mutual understanding.

On all other weekends the children are free to travel home. The school bus is available on Fridays take them to Berlin or Hamburg, where they are collected again on Sunday evening. Lufthansa and Air Berlin operate flights from Berlin Airport to Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Munich and Stuttgart. This means that even students from southern Germany can easily travel to their homes. They can maintain close ties with their families and friends even though they attend a boarding school.



Many of our pupils enjoy the peace and quiet of weekends in Torgelow. Our teachers and mentors provide a varied programme of weekend activities. Cinema visits, canoe trips, bicycle tours, cultural events, sports activities ... The programme includes everything that is fun to do. Siblings and friends are welcome to join us at Torgelow for the weekend if this is arranged in advance.

→ *Timetable of the school buses to Berlin and Hamburg:*
www.schlosstorgelow.de



Joint planning, joint activities, joint success



In a world that attaches ever more importance to success, a culture of pushiness is threatening to squeeze social skills into the background. Leading companies learnt a lot time ago that when it comes to the division of labour, an ability to work in a team and emotional intelligence are among the key qualifications. However good the training on offer, it will deliver nothing if it ignores getting along with other people.

At Schloss Torgelow we aim to encourage our students to assume responsibility for others. They should recognise that co-operating in a group, playing together as a team, or working on a joint project offers opportunities and possibilities that an individual would not have.

To promote team mentality, from Year 9 onwards we offer mixed-age team projects. Here youngsters from various Years who have similar interests work together on achieving a common goal. They can join a sports team to do sailing, judo, football, tennis, horse riding, golf, archery or athletics, work on designs for the Internet in the independent schoolchildren's company called "Castle-Design" (www.castledesign.de), do applied biology projects in the countryside, build a large sculpture for an art project, make a video film, compose and perform music, or put on a play or a musical.

The members of a team must be there for one another, not be discouraged by setbacks, and pursue the goal set with tenacity. The "team project week" represents a special highlight of this co-operative work, when the students dedicate a whole week to achieving a common goal. At the end the team is proud of its achievements and the members experience a very special feeling of belonging together.

→ Information about the team projects on offer: www.schlosstorgelow.de



Concrete ways to switch off



We believe that an intensive atmosphere of learning and efficient work will only be crowned with success if the students maintain interest in their lessons. They need space and time for relaxation. Sports, handicrafts and entertainment are therefore important at Schloss Torgelow.

Every week there are more than 70 extracurricular projects on offer in the afternoons and evenings which give our students an opportunity to discover their individual inclinations and gifts.

Not far from Lake Müritz – the largest lake in Germany – and right on the shore of Torgelower See, there are unique opportunities to engage in water sports. Swimming, sailing, surfing, fishing, rowing and canoeing are obvious choices at Torgelow.

Those who wish can qualify for a sailing certificate or sports boat licence. The Torgelow dragon boat team is one of the most successful schools' teams in Germany.

But our sports programme offers all kinds of opportunities on land, too. The new stadium with artificial turf and a Tartan running track, the

sports field, tennis court, large sports hall and the dance studio with wall mirrors offer a wide range of options. While playing football, basketball and volleyball our students learn what it means to think for the whole team and to be strong together. For many, endurance sports and fitness training in our modern gymnasium are important ways of relaxing and “switching off”. Golfers can use our indoor golf simulator to continue training even during the winter. Aerobics, athletics and rowing complete the range of available sports.

Modern computer equipment with a wired Internet connection, a video workshop and a sound studio offer technically minded students a wide range of opportunities in multimedia design. They learn how to create Internet pages, use applications and write programs in computer languages.

Looking after the animals in our “small animal zoo” and acquiring a fishing licence in our angling project are especially popular with our younger pupils. The older ones take part in projects on public speaking, economics, business English, debating, literature, relaxation exercises, computer animated design, time management, choosing a career and memory training, to prepare them for university.

In the evenings people meet at the disco in the “Gelbes Haus”, at the film club or over a game of billiards, to relax after absorbing the impressions of the day. We regularly organise barbecues, parties and excursions which make schooldays at Schloss Torgelow an unforgettable period in our students’ lives.

→ You can find the current range of projects on the Internet, at: www.schlosstorgelow.de



Art, culture and creativity



Music, theatre, dance and creative design allow youngsters to express their individuality and encourage their development into independent individuals. At Schloss Torgelow we therefore attach great importance to the students' own activities in arts and handicrafts. The broad range offers every individual the opportunity to find a project that suits his or her interests and abilities.

Many of our students learn an instrument, play in the school band or sing in the school choir. Music and singing teachers support the educational team in providing musical activities. In co-operation with the music school in the nearby town of Waren, we offer the best students a chance to play in the orchestra or to enter the "Jugend musiziert" competition for young performers. Regular concerts and students' recitals are highlights of life at our boarding school and are always well attended.

Other pupils put on plays, either in German or in another language. They paint, make sculptures and design ceramics – all of these activities give Torgelow students an opportunity to try out different things and discover new abilities.

In our modern workshops the youngsters develop their talents under expert supervision, and enjoy learning these practical skills. Here they can create artworks, build electronic circuits, or learn joinery, gardening or how to work with sound. In the pupils' kitchen more and more students are joining in our cooking activities.

We regularly invite writers, artists, musicians and theatre groups to Torgelow for our project entitled "Kultur im Schloss" ("Culture in the Castle"). We create a forum for interaction between practitioners in the cultural arena and Torgelow's students. Discussions and joint activities enable the children to gain important experience for their own work.

Yet even with all these activities on offer the need for privacy is still respected. For the older children especially, spending time away from others is often a way of developing their own, special aspects. The broad, open landscape and the untouched countryside here help the children to shake off the many burdens of urban life and take a deep breath and relax.

→ Reports about events are available at: www.schlosstorgelow.de



Human beings, architecture and nature in harmony



Sprawling towns and cities, with their burdens and hazards, are becoming less and less of a suitable place for children to live and grow up. For this reason we spent a long time searching for a site close to the countryside where we could realise our vision, which would both appeal to young people and give them a chance to engage in attractive leisure pursuits. We found this place at Schloss Torgelow.

The first time we came here, we were enchanted by the site. The view of the grand white-walled castle, the then derelict, but three-hundred-year-old yellow half-timbered house and the park that had existed for decades right on the shore of Torgelower See convinced us that we could not find a better location for realising our vision.

Together with our architects we wanted to restore the old buildings to their original state and make the school and residential areas into a harmonious whole within the park. These buildings are grouped around a light-filled hall that is the centre of school life – and not only during daily assembly.

The children's rooms and the classrooms open onto the park with a view stretching into the far distance. However lively our daily routine is in the community, this environment provides the peace and quiet required for successful learning.

In 2006 we commissioned our new classrooms without blackboards, a new section for art and music, a larger library, a woodwork room, a science lab, an additional small sports hall and a modern gymnasium.

Since the autumn of 2008 our private boarding school has also had its own stadium with artificial turf, a beach volleyball court and a circular Tartan running track.

In the summer of 2009 our students in Years 5 to 7 moved into a new home. The "Haus der Zukunft" offers them their own child-friendly living space where they can play as much as they want.

Diners in the historical atmosphere of the "Gelbes Haus", where the steward lived in former days, can look out onto the lake and observe how its appearance changes throughout the seasons. The students and their teachers eat in our welcoming dining rooms, whose charming rustic beams were preserved during restoration.

On the six "boarding school weekends" throughout the school year we invite our students to a special meal. It takes place by candlelight and with classical music playing in the background, and our kitchen team presents a gourmet dinner as the highlight of a very special weekend.



Come and talk to us



From left: Markus Klein, General Manager – Elle Schneider, Parental Advisor and Mentor – Steffen Bütow, Business Manager – Heidrun Franke, Head of School – Kirsten Lehmann, PR and Communications – Mario Lehmann, Founder

We will be happy for you to visit us to gain a personal impression of our concept and what goes into the familiar atmosphere of our school. We also regularly offer family information days at weekends. Our management team is available to give you comprehensive individual advice.



We welcome visits from interested parents. Our school admissions advisor, Ms Gross, will be happy to make a personal appointment with you. You can call our help and information line on Mondays to Fridays, from 8.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m., on +49 (0) 3991 624216.

How to reach Torgelow am See:

Schloss Torgelow is located in the municipality of Torgelow am See, approx. 10 km north-east of the town of Waren an der Müritz, on the shore of Torgelower See. Please note: if you are using a satnav, you should enter “Torgelow am See” as the destination to avoid confusion with the town of Torgelow.

Arriving by car:

From the west (Hamburg)

Take the autobahn A 24 bound for Berlin as far as the Wittstock/Dosse intersection. From there take the autobahn A 19 bound for Rostock. Leave the autobahn at exit 17 signed for Waren.

From the north (Lübeck/Rostock/Baltic coast):

Take the autobahn A 20 as far as the Rostock intersection. From there take the autobahn A 19 bound for Berlin. Leave the autobahn at exit 17 signed for Waren.

From the south (Berlin):

Take the autobahn A 24 bound for Hamburg as far as the Wittstock/Dosse intersection. From there take the autobahn A 19 bound for Rostock. Leave the autobahn at exit 17 signed for Waren.

From the Waren exit:

Take the national road B 192 signed for Waren. In the village of Neu Schloen, approx. 5 km before Waren, turn right for Torgelow and follow the signs. Drive all the way through Torgelow. The entrance to the park is on the right at the end of the village street. There are two fixed speed cameras on this stretch of road; please keep to the speed limits.

From the east (Neubrandenburg):

Take the national road B 192 signed for Waren. In the village of Neu Schloen, approx. 5 km before Waren, turn right for Torgelow and follow the signs. Drive all the way through Torgelow. The entrance to the park is on the right at the end of the village street. There are two fixed speed cameras on this stretch of road; please keep to the speed limits.

Nearest train station: Waren an der Müritz,

Nearest airports with scheduled flights: Rostock-Laage, Berlin, **Nearest sports airfield:** Vielist



The most important information in brief



Schloss Torgelow is a private, state-recognised grammar school for 230 boarders and 40 day pupils. It is owned by the Lehmann family.

Mecklenburg lakes ("Mecklenburgische Seenplatte")

Schloss Torgelow is located 10 km north-east of Waren an der Müritz – right on the shore of Torgelower See. It takes less than two hours to reach the northern German cities of

Hamburg and Berlin by car or train, and less than three hours to reach Dresden, Hanover, Lübeck or Magdeburg. We offer shuttle buses to Hamburg and Berlin at the weekends.

Classes with a maximum of 12 pupils

At Schloss Torgelow none of our classes has more than 12 pupils. This means that Torgelow's classes are among the smallest in Germany. Our lessons not only stretch every individual, but also give each child individual attention.

Modern timetable

Our modern timetable is organised on the double-period principle. The children are actively involved in deciding what their classes will be like. Breaks are not dictated by the traditional bell, but are adapted to the attention span of the individual class.

Equipment

Our new classrooms are equipped with innovative Smart Boards, projectors and computer technology. Torgelow has a wired connection to the Internet. Special subject rooms with modern equipment, a science lab and generous rooms for music, art and projects provide the best conditions for teaching and learning.



Abitur in 12 years

At Schloss Torgelow the grammar school begins with Year 5. Since 1994 Torgelow pupils have been able to take the state-recognised Abitur examination after only 12 years of schooling. The additional lessons required to complete grammar school in eight years are hardly noticed (unlike at day schools). The children have time to attend school and develop their potential in other areas.

Grammar school profiles

We cover almost all grammar school profiles. No matter which German state our students come from, we help them integrate into the Torgelow curriculum.

Foreign language lessons

In addition to English, French, Latin and Spanish, at Schloss Torgelow we will also provide lessons in Russian and Chinese upon request. We believe it is especially important that pupils learn to speak a language fluently. Linguistically gifted students may choose up to four foreign languages.



European Classroom

In Year 9 all students at Torgelow spend one term at Kingham Hill School near Oxford, England, as part of our "European Classroom" project. They attend the school as regular boarders, improve their written and spoken English, and discover what life is like in England.

Cambridge ESOL language certificates

Schloss Torgelow is the only school in Germany that is a recognised “Internal Test Centre” for Cambridge University, England. Since 2004 Torgelow students have been able to obtain the Cambridge ESOL language certificates here at the school. The internationally recognised curriculum ensures that the certificates are widely accepted at universities and companies around the world.



Giftedness as an opportunity

Schloss Torgelow offers gifted students who are prepared to work hard the opportunity to develop their potential in a close-knit community. Here they can learn up to four foreign languages and do extra science activities.



Gifted children

For the lower school our MIND FACTORY provides additional input in mathematics and languages. In co-operation with the University of Rostock and the Young Business School in Heidelberg, students in the middle and upper school can take a “Junior Studies” course parallel to their regular schooling.

Team of teachers and mentors

As a private school, we can select the teachers and mentors we want on our team. Each member of the team is experienced, highly qualified and committed.

Daily life at the school

The daily routine at Schloss Torgelow includes lessons, exercises and checks, the lunch break and project sessions. Understanding and knowledge are continually monitored, everyone receives individual encouragement, and anything that has not been understood is explained immediately. The afternoon may be used for projects that stimulate and develop the children’s abilities in science, sport, crafts, arts, music and social skills.

Homework

In Years 5 to 8, the children do their homework together as a class, with help and guidance from a mentor. From Year 9 onwards, children who gain good marks are allowed to do their homework under supervision in their own rooms or in the study room with guidance from a mentor.

Team projects

To strengthen team mentality, from Year 9 onwards we offer mixed-age team projects. Here youngsters from various Years who have similar interests work together on achieving a common goal. They can join a sports team to do sailing, judo, football, tennis, horse riding, golf, archery or athletics, or work on designs for the Internet in the independent schoolchildren’s company called “Castle-Design” (www.castledesign.de), do applied biology projects in the countryside, build a large sculpture for an art project, make a video film, compose and perform music, or put on a play or a musical.



Projects and leisure activities

Sports play a major role at Schloss Torgelow, in the form of a school subject, projects, competitions or leisure activities. We have a huge range: football, basketball, tennis, golf, swimming, sailing, rowing and dragon boats are just some examples. In addition to our own boats, we have a sports hall, a stadium with artificial turf and a Tartan track, a sports field and a tennis court. Students can take their driving test, or obtain sailing and diving certificates. Creative, artistic and practical talents are encouraged and nurtured in individual music lessons, the choir, the school band and theatre, dance and literature, film, cooking, gardening, pottery and keeping animals. As a school that focuses on memory techniques, we offer memory training and prepare our students for national and international championships.



Modern computer rooms with a wired Internet connection, a video workshop and a sound studio offer technically minded students a wide range of opportunities in multimedia design. They learn how to create their own websites, use applications and write programs in computer languages. Furthermore there is a cinema, a billiard room and a disco. The school bus takes 10 minutes to reach the charming town of Waren.

Assuming responsibility

In the school parliament our students assume responsibility for the boarding school community, as tutors they help other students plug the gaps in their learning, and the sponsors support our youngest children when they first join our boarding school.

Weekends

Students are allowed to go home at the weekends. Anyone who prefers to stay on the school premises can join in one of our many weekend activities. Six weekends in the school year are “school event weekends”, and everyone is involved in making these weekends a real experience. These highlights of boarding school life are dedicated to cultural events, sports competitions and creative projects.

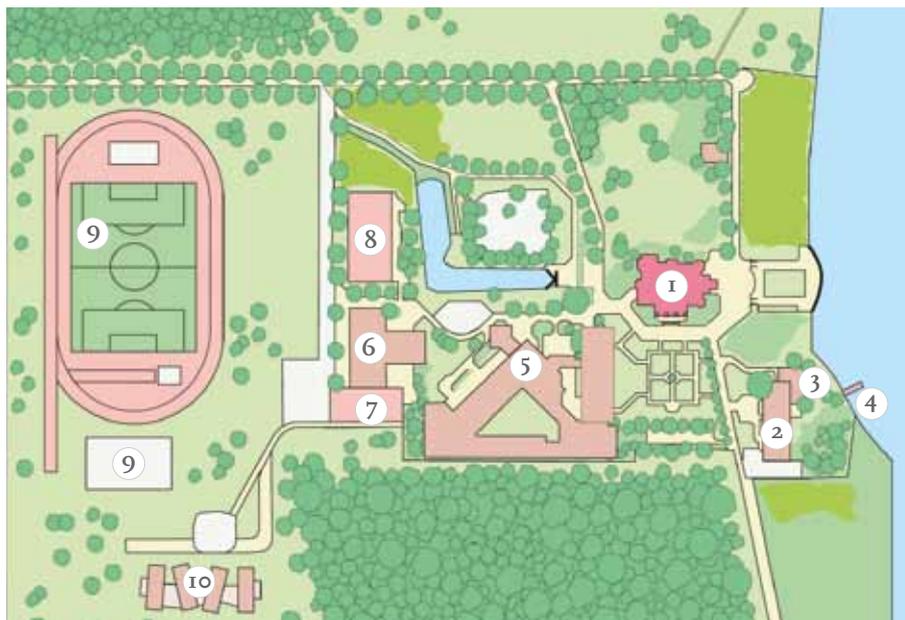


Shuttle bus

We offer shuttle buses to Hamburg and Berlin for children who wish to go home at the weekends and in the holidays. From Berlin Airport there are well-priced connections to all European cities.

Our campus

The boarding premises, teaching rooms and leisure facilities are located in the main section (the “Schloss”) either in tastefully renovated structures or in new buildings. Girls and boys have separate living quarters which are supervised by two mentors and have a cosy living room. As a rule two students share a modern, comfortably furnished room which they may arrange to suit their own style.



- 1 Schloss: pupils' rooms, forum, cinema, project rooms, fireside room, library
- 2 Gelbes Haus: dining room, cafeteria, disco, pupils' rooms
- 3 Boathouse
- 4 Landing stage
- 5 School and boarding school buildings: classroom, pupils' rooms, administration, project rooms
- 6 Sports hall, gymnasium, indoor sports hall
- 7 Tennis court
- 8 Sports ground
- 9 Stadium with artificial turf, beach volleyball court and Tartan track
- 10 Haus der Zukunft: junior pupils' rooms

Bursaries

Every year bursaries are awarded to students attending as day pupils or boarders whose parents cannot pay the school fees. Children in Year 5 and upwards may apply for a bursary. You can find more details in the bursary information, which we will be happy to send to you.

→ We regularly update the information about Schloss Torgelow on the Internet:
www.schlosstorgelow.de

All the information in this brochure may be subject to change between going to press and dispatch. We wish to thank the students of the Schloss Torgelow private boarding school for helping with the photographic material. Photos: Katalin Ziegler and colleagues, Berlin; Gudrun Holde Ortner, Heidelberg; Klaus Steindorf-Sabath, Waren; Bianca Schüler, Rostock; and others. Design: www.rieger-design.de



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When intelligent children have a crisis at school,
we recommended our sister school
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