

Concept of KinderHOUSE e.V.



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(Updated March 22, 2016)

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(A) General Information

1. Foreword

KinderHOUSE is a bilingual (German and English) parent-initiative, which cares for 24 boys and girls of primary school age (from the first to the fourth grade) after school and during the holidays. KinderHOUSE was founded as a registered association in 2002. The children generally attend the primary schools located on Alfonsstraße and Blütenburgstraße.

KinderHOUSE was established as a parent-initiative in order to help families and since 2010 has received financial support through BayKiBiG (Bayerischen Kinderbildungs und Betreuungsgesetz), an education and care law which includes the right to financial support. Therefore, the educational work at KinderHOUSE and the following concept are based on the "Bayerische Bildungs- und Erziehungsplan" (Bavarian Plan for Learning and Education).

2. Contact Information

KinderHOUSE e. V.
Nymphenburgerstr. 86
80636 München
Phone: 089/120 22 88-0
Fax: 089/120 22 88-1
Email: team@kinderhouse.de
Website: www.kinderhouse.de

3. Opening Hours

Term Time:	Monday- Friday 10:30-17:15
School holidays:	Monday- Friday 08:00-17:15
Closed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Christmas holidays (two weeks)- Easter holidays (one week)- Summer holidays (three weeks)- Brückentage (e.g. Friday after Ascension Day)

Each year the parents and team decide at a parent assembly the exact dates when KinderHOUSE is closed.

4. Rates and Service

KinderHOUSE offers staggered booking hours of childcare, which depend upon the child's grade level, the school that they attend as well as holidays & vacation. The annual childcare fee is based on the chosen booking times. Information about the current system can be found on the 'Buchungsbeleg' (booking form). The basic rate currently consists of the following fees:

- Childcare fee (monthly) € 175 (max.)
- Fee for food (monthly) € 60
- Additional fees are required for outings

There is also an annual membership fee to pay, the amount of which is decided at one of the parent meetings.

5. Premises

KinderHOUSE is situated in the center of "Neuhausen" on the ground floor of a building in the secured area of the "Bruckmann Verlag" premises. The 180 m² premises consists of: a large room for general use (common room), a toberaum with a climbing-wall, a smaller room used for a wide-range of toys and games that are exchanged regularly throughout the year (ex. building blocks), a "Disco Room" used for role-play and hanging out, an office, a kitchen with a seating area, a bathroom with two children's toilets and one adult toilet, a pantry, a storage room, and an entrance hallway which doubles as a cloakroom. Although the facility itself does not include an outdoor area, there are two playgrounds nearby. The Mailingerstrasse (U1) underground station is also nearby.

6. Staff

The Team consists of three people: An educator leading the team, a second educator and an English-speaking team member. Trainees are welcome for work placements at KinderHOUSE. A cleaner is also employed to ensure the premises are clean.



7. Admission of New Families

New children are accepted at the beginning of the school year or when spots become available during the year. A written application, which can be found on the KinderHOUSE website, is necessary to apply for a spot. The submission deadline is the 15th of December of the preceding year. A knowledge of English is not required.

A meet-and-greet evening with the Team, the "Elternvorstand" and the prospective new families is followed by a trial day for the child (without parents). The selection/admission process is then concluded by signing a contract, thus initiating the parents as members of the registered association. The contract is signed before the date of school enrollment, which is generally at the beginning of April. New parents and children are warmly welcomed and necessary information regarding the daily routine at KinderHOUSE is provided. A period of familiarization for the new children begins after the Pfingstferien, when they are invited to join the group in the afternoons to play. Every child receives a 'Paten' from one of the older KinderHOUSE children, who is responsible for helping the new child through the familiarization period. Interested families who are not offered a place can choose to remain on the waiting list.

8. Role and Responsibilities of Parents

KinderHOUSE is organized as a parent initiative. All parents are obliged to undertake KinderHOUSE-duties on a regular basis. The duties are listed on a to-do-list and are assigned at the start of each school year. These include, amongst others, administrative tasks (e.g. protocol), list-updating maintenance, IT support, public relations, in-house maintenance, shopping and laundry, cleaning of the premises when necessary and organization of emergency help by parents when a member of the team is ill or absent. The parents also organize parties throughout the year.

Every two months the parents and Team meet for a mandatory parent assembly. A meeting of all registered members takes place once a year. The 'Elternvorstand', consisting of at least three parents, is the executive body of the group. There are three roles to be filled in the Vorstand; financial, personnel and parent liaison. Vorstand positions are generally held for a two-year period. The board alone has legal authority and represents KinderHOUSE in public. It is also the point of contact for parents for organizational matters.

At the assembly, the Team informs the parents about the children's daily life at KinderHOUSE. The Vorstand reports news from their respective areas and organizational matters are discussed and decided upon.

The rules set out for the protection against infectious diseases are sent to the new parents with the contract. It is imperative to comply with these instructions. In general cases of illness the parents have to notify KinderHOUSE before 11:00am on the first day of illness. If a child becomes sick or is hurt while at KinderHOUSE, the Team contacts the parents and agrees on a pick-up time. Children who have permission to walk home on their own have to be picked-up in the case of illness.

9. Quality, Networking and Co-Operation

KinderHOUSE, as a parent-initiative, is sponsored by the City of Munich as part of their family self-help program. The contact point is the Department for Education and Sport of the City of Munich. KinderHOUSE works in close contact with the City of Munich, continually adapting its educational work to the framework set out by the 'Bayerischen Bildungs- und Erziehungsplans' and BayKiBiG. In regular planning sessions with representatives of the department, common goals are developed, changes are discussed and made if necessary, and open questions resolved. The quality of the educational work of the Team is further ensured by regular training and supervision sessions.

The "Association of Daycare Centers for Children" (Kleinkindertagesstättenverein (KKT)) is the umbrella organization over and advisory center for parent-initiatives in Munich. KinderHOUSE is a member of the KKT and this cooperative work supports not only the running but also the organization of KinderHOUSE.

Additionally, the Team is in constant contact with the 'Elternvorstand'. Great emphasis is placed on the close cooperation between parents and Team, therefore the Team invites each of the parents to individual meetings twice a year. A special "first meeting" is scheduled with the parents of a new child about four weeks after the beginning of the school year. All parents can arrange additional meetings with the Team if required. The basis for the discussions with the parents are developed by the Team in a weekly "Kids Talk", a discussion about each child based on the Team's daily observations, reflections and documentation. Reports of the "Kids Talk" are kept in the children's files. The Team is also in close contact with the children's respective schools and meets with the teachers for a discussion two times a year.

Daily communication between parents and Team is usually done either by e-mail or phone. The KinderHOUSE homepage includes a login area for parents. Here the current location of the group can be found. A mobile phone is also in use.

10. Food and Drink

KinderHOUSE puts special emphasis on a varied diet rich in vitamins. Lunch is delivered by a catering service. It usually consists of a main course accompanied by a salad or raw vegetables and a dessert. Occasionally, a soup and a sweet course ["Süßspeise"] are served instead. Once a week and during the holidays, the Team prepares lunch themselves. In doing so, the children are given the opportunity to include their own favorite foods in the weekly menu e.g. pizza, pasta or 'Brotzeit'. A small snack (fruit and cookie) is served in the afternoons. Mineral water or juice are available throughout the day. All meals and snacks are adapted for children with allergies.



(B) Philosophy and Educational Goals of KinderHOUSE

1. KinderHOUSE philosophy

The Team develops its educational goals from the multitude of constantly evolving educational possibilities available. The educational work builds itself around the children of KinderHOUSE, both as individuals and as a group. The strengths and personalities of the three Team members also influence the educational work at KinderHOUSE.

At KinderHOUSE the children learn to control their behavior and their emotions. Their independence, openness and interests are developed and a responsible and respectful interaction with each other is encouraged. One of the main goals of the Team is to create a familiar, honest, stabile and humorous atmosphere in which the children eagerly participate. This atmosphere allows friendships to develop. The children interact with each other, independent of age and gender, so that a homogenous group with a strong sense of community develops. These characteristics, reflected in the daily structures, give the children orientation and security. The children should finish their time at KinderHOUSE with a positive attitude towards life.

2. Bilingualism

The English-speaking Team member speaks English with the KinderHOUSE group. In this manner, bilingualism is realized. New KinderHOUSE children with little or no knowledge of English are introduced to the language in a playful way at the beginning of the school year. Facial expressions, gestures and standard phrases that reoccur in daily life aid the learning process. Additional help can be requested either through translations by the team or by children who are bilingual or already have a more advanced knowledge of the language.

There are no lessons in the traditional sense. The children develop their listening comprehension through games, songs and their daily exposure to the language. After some time the children develop a feeling for the language, use their own knowledge and start to actively use English in their speech. The children are then encouraged to answer the English-speaking Team member in English, according to their own skill. With time, the children are able to address more complex subjects in English. The children acquire a broad vocabulary and learn to appreciate the language. English-speaking parents are also encouraged to speak to the English-speaking Team member in English to act as role models for their children.

The English-speaking Team member also prepares an English-language project together with the children. The projects focus on the current interests of the children and the overall group dynamic, allowing for and providing the children the opportunity to use and improve their language skills. Due to the naturally occurring cultural exchange through bilingualism, traditional festivities such as our large annual Halloween Party are also celebrated.

3. Participation

Children's Conference

The children's conference is an important tool of participation where problems, concerns, the present situation or coming changes are discussed with the children and solutions found with their involvement. Conferences take place every eight weeks or more often if required. They are scheduled after the homework period and parents are informed in advance by e-mail. The participation of children is strongly encouraged. The debates are prepared by the Team who also lead the discussion. The first children's conference focuses on explaining KinderHOUSE rules to the group and is therefore scheduled at the start of the school year. The outcome of the conference is presented on a notice board in the common room. The notice board allows children who were unable to attend the conference to learn about the current themes and decisions.

The conference theme is determined by the current state of being of the group and is then held promptly. To enliven the conference, the Team introduces, in a varied and engaging way, different forms of communication to the children. Role-playing or work in small groups is possible and the kids are also encouraged to create posters for the notice board. The children's conference creates an opportunity for the children to form their own opinions, to communicate their ideas and to present them in front of the group. At the conference the children adhere to the rules of discussion. The conferences also promote a democratic spirit and strengthen the appreciation of individual thought and ideas. All opinions are important and are listened to and respected by the children. The children develop open and honest attitudes and their self-confidence to express themselves in public is strengthened. For written submission about worries, wishes or concerns there is a 'Grievance Giraffe'. The notes posted are retrieved and the content discussed at the children's conference.

Office Hours for Kids

Another opportunity for participation offers itself weekly in the form of Office Hours for Kids. Towards the end of Homework Time, the children are invited to the office for some tea and a chit-chat with one of the members of the Team. Here they can express any comments or concerns they may have. Due to differing afternoon schedules, the Team offers these Office Hours on alternating days of the week. Notes are taken of the discussions and, when necessary, later discussed with the entire group.

Friday-/holiday program

The children decide the Friday program. On Wednesdays, suggestions are collected during lunchtime and each child then has the opportunity to vote for his/her preferred outing. The suggestion with the majority of votes wins.

Outings during the holidays are similar to those on Fridays. Parents must inform the Team on which days their child will attend. The children then compile a list of their wishes for outings and meals. The Team takes these suggestions to develop an enjoyable holiday program.

(C) Daily Life during Term-Time

1. Daily Routine- Chronological Description of the Day during Term Time:



Monday to Thursday

11.30 Onwards - Arrival of the children

Children from the same class walk to KinderHOUSE in a group after school. The children are greeted on arrival and, if necessary, problems, troubles and concerns are discussed. The children may play upstairs or occupy themselves either at the craft table or in the common room. While some children need some quiet time when they first arrive at KinderHOUSE, others vent their energy and move around or occupy themselves with creative work or board games. Occasionally members of the Team offer other activities before lunch.

12:45 Setting the tables

Each day four children from the first and second grade set the tables for lunch. They learn to place the plates and cutlery in the correct position. Jugs, filled with mineral water or juice, are also placed on the table. The team maintains a duty roster, which rotates each week.

13:15 Lunch

After washing their hands, the children choose a seat at the prepared tables. The food is dished into bowls or onto plates by the Team and the children help by bringing the food to each table- The children serve themselves and pass the food on to their neighbor. Each child can decide how large a portion of food he or she wants. The motto "food provides energy and power and we need both to do our homework" encourages the children to try new flavors. Salad is always served with the meal. When the plates or bowls are empty the children refill them and return them to the tables.

The children who have classes until 13:00 join the meal after it has started. Each table has a reserved seat for an adult. Conversation at the table is important for the children and the Team. The children clear their own dishes from the tables. Then the children help to clear the tables and carry the bowls, plates and jugs into the kitchen. During dessert, news regarding the group is announced and the children may give feedback. The children also have the opportunity to voice their opinions and address topics that are important to them. These topics are mostly based on a brief conversation with the team beforehand. Children are encouraged to present their concerns themselves.

14:00- 15:00 Kinesiology and homework

After a brief airing of the room and kinesiological exercises, which increase concentration, Homework Time begins. Children cannot be picked up during this time. Each child has his or her own homework spot, which is assigned to them at the beginning of the school year. The seating order is arranged so that the children can work effectively and without interruption. The child's size and the height of the tables are taken into account when the homework places are assigned. During Homework Time, the children work quietly and only whispering is allowed. The Team supervises the group throughout and the children can raise their hands if help is required. For the first 20 minutes, the children are encouraged to work without asking for help. In doing so they learn to work independently and to concentrate, improving their "problem-solving-skills".

At the beginning of the school year, homework of the first graders is checked to ensure that all tasks are completed. Errors are not corrected. This allows their teachers to get an impression of their proficiency and knowledge. The homework of the second, third and fourth graders is checked for correctness by the Team. Errors are marked with pencil and are then discussed with the children. This allows the children to recognize their mistakes and learn correct orthography. If the Team notices, for example, that the correct calculating method has not been recognized or understood in math homework, they try to help in a one on one talk. Children who are learning to read have to read out loud to achieve good results. Therefore, reading homework has to be done at home, since it is not allowed to talk above a whisper during this time. Once the children have finished their homework, they may pack away their school materials and go play.

The Team attempts to ensure that the children complete their homework. Nevertheless, responsibility for the homework lies with the parents. Article 76 of the "Bayerische Bildungs- und Erziehungsplan" states, "parents (or legal guardians) are required to make sure scholarly duties and requirements are completed by the pupils and that the educational work of the school is supported at home." The tidiness of the schoolbag is also the responsibility of the parents.



15:00 - 16:30 Leisure Time Activities - outdoor/indoor

When weather permits, the group visits either of the two playgrounds nearby on Lazarettstraße or Blütenburgstraße. Before leaving KinderHOUSE the children go to the toilet, put on weather appropriate clothing and shoes and gather the toys they want to take with them to the playground. Each child is responsible for the toys he/she takes. An orderly line is formed before leaving. On the daily walk to the playground, the Team practices general rules of good behavior and traffic rules with the children.

At the playground a meeting point is announced and then the children are free to play. The children are not allowed to leave the playground. After a small snack, the group leaves the playground and returns to KinderHOUSE where the children take off their outdoor clothing and shoes and wash their hands.

During bad weather the group remains indoors. The children can choose from a variety of indoor play options such as arts and crafts, group games, playing in the toberraum or just spending time with friends. A small snack is also provided when indoors.

16:30 - 17:15 Flexible Pick up of Children

The children can enjoy free play until they are collected or until the time arranged for them to walk home on their own. Written permission by a parent or legal guardian is required for children who walk home alone. Shortly before 17:00, the kids tidy up. On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays all the rooms have to be left in good order as the premises are cleaned on these days.

Schedule Differences on Fridays

From 14:00 - 17:00 - Free time activities

Children who do not participate on the outings on Fridays have to be picked-up or leave to walk home by

14:00 from KinderHOUSE. On Fridays, homework is not completed at KinderHOUSE. This allows for the organization of outings that are not possible during the week due to limited time. Parents are asked to inform the Team weekly by 11am on Wednesday if their child will be participating on the outing on Friday, so the outings can be planned. These are planned together with the children during lunch on Wednesdays. Special care is taken that the program is age appropriate, that travel-time is short, and that the children have the opportunity to satisfy their need for movement. Outings to museums, castles, parks, swimming pools, or adventure playgrounds are possible. In winter, sledging and ice-skating are popular. Indoor activities such as arts and crafts, baking or group games are also possible. A large map of the city, full of ideas for outings, is available for the children to look at.

The outings are used to practice with the children general rules of behavior, traffic rules and behavior on public transportation. Over the course of the school year, the children come up with different ideas for outings. The Team, who give tips and advice, supports them.

(D) KinderHOUSE Daily Routine during Holidays

The holiday program is developed based on the size of the group and the ages, gender, interests and preferences of the children. Therefore, the parents must inform the Team, by latest 2 weeks before the holidays, on which days their child will attend. The children then compile a list of their wishes for outings as well as meals, since the Team prepares and cooks lunch together with the children. It is important that children who spend their holidays at KinderHOUSE have a relaxing, happy and enjoyable time. The holiday program is sent to the parents via e-mail well in advance. Since many activities depend on the weather, there may be some short notice changes. The outings during the holidays are similar to those on Fridays. It is recommended that every child has a Ferienpass, a pass issued by the City of Munich containing vouchers for free entry to or price reductions for many attractions in and around Munich, as it is frequently used. A backpack with a water bottle and a Brotzeit are also necessary.



1. Daily Routine – Chronological Description of a Day during the Holidays

8:00 - 10:30 - Arrival of the children

The children are either brought to KinderHOUSE by their parents or arrive on their own. Their packed breakfast or snack (Brotzeit) can be eaten in the common room. Material for arts and crafts and games (board games etc.) are available.

10:30 - 16:30 Holiday Program

Taking a packed lunch, the group leaves KinderHOUSE for the planned outing and returns no later than 16:30 for the children to be picked up. Holiday activities include outings to parks, outdoor pools, the Isar, a boat-trip on Lake Starnberg, visits to playgrounds/adventure playgrounds, forest adventure walks, visits to the zoo and wildlife park, horseback riding and the movie theater.

If the weather is unpleasant, an indoor program is organized. On such days, the program consists of arts and crafts, Home Kino, group games, visits to museums and castles, baking or cooking parties and indoor pools.

16:30 - 17:15 Flexible pick up of children

Until they are picked-up children can enjoy free play time. Shortly before 17:00 the children tidy up.

(E) Special Activities & Highlights



1. Creative Activities

A special table for arts and crafts is situated in the common room. Colored paper, scissors, markers, crayons, fabric and a variety of other materials are available. The children can work with all of these materials according to their own imagination. The Team, when requested, hands out special materials such as paint, beads, ribbon and cardboard. Themed or season related arts and crafts projects employing various craft techniques are also offered during the holidays. The arts and crafts table can also be turned into a wood-working-bench as KinderHOUSE is equipped with the necessary tools and wood. During woodwork-sessions the children work under the supervision of the team.

2. Adventure Day/ Kulturtag

Since its establishment, KinderHOUSE has been an institution that lives and benefits from the diversity of an array of differing cultures. This diversity is reflected in the KinderHOUSE Adventure Days. This "group activity" takes place every week, often in conjunction with the holidays throughout the year or in the form of a long-term project. A major theme due to KinderHOUSE'S' bilingualism, are the traditions and customs of the English-speaking cultures. The children venture into worlds often unknown to them, exploring these through varying methods. What is important here is the interexchange of similarities and differences in order to broaden and enrich one's horizon. Another aspect is brought in through "Kulturpädagogik"-experiencing and living through trial and error and expression in differing art forms such as theater, dance and literature.

3. Media Education

Different types of media are encountered in daily life and so the children learn how to use them in a

responsible way at KinderHOUSE. This is primarily achieved through print media. KinderHOUSE offers a large selection of books, both fictional and educational. The children can also bring their own books and share them with the others. Audiobooks and music CDs are mainly used for relaxation. The children also have access to a computer, which they can use for research. Here they can use a selection of learning programs and games. During outings the children have the opportunity to develop their creativity with cameras, which are supplied by KinderHOUSE. Media productions, such as the creation of animated or theatre films and similar projects are carried out over longer periods of time. For this purpose, KinderHOUSE has its own video camera.

4. Traffic Safety Education

The children practice the rules of the road every day. The relevant rules for the route to and from school are first taught in small groups. Clear and concise rules that are easy to comprehend are used. On the second day of school, the Team greets the first-graders outside the classroom and accompanies them to KinderHOUSE. During this phase, the children become familiar with the route to KinderHOUSE and learn to take care of themselves and their group. There is a set route, which is taken by the whole group to KinderHOUSE. Behavior at traffic lights and on the underground and how to cross roads, driveways and entrance roads are discussed with the children. After a few weeks of training, the part of the route on which the children are accompanied is shortened. The children walk alone in a group to a prearranged point, where they meet the Team, and then walk the rest of the way together with the Team. By the Herbst holidays, the children are usually walking on their own as a group to KinderHOUSE. All other children walk together with their classmates to KinderHOUSE. Children who go to school by bike or with their scooter must leave them at school. For the safety of the children as well as due to insurance reasons, it is strictly prohibited. The way to the playground is practiced with the entire group. At the start of the school year a new child is always accompanied by an older one. The Team positions themselves at the beginning and end of the line, to supervise the group better.

When going on outings the group often uses public transportation. On the platform, the Team takes their positions at the front and back of the group and once in the train, they position themselves at the doors. The children choose a spot to sit or stand and remain on/at their spots for the entire ride. The Team communicates precisely when it is time to exit or change trains. On exiting the train, the group forms a line and a head count is carried-out. Travelling by public transportation is also regarded as preparation for the children using it on their own.



5. Toberaum

The toberaum is one of the most popular places for the children at KinderHOUSE. As there is no outdoor area, the children release their pent up energy in the toberaum. It is equipped with building-block-cushions, a soccer ball and a climbing wall. The children can play in small groups or all together. They learn respect for each other and how to find compromises. Different games can be played at the same time if they are considerate towards each other. In the period after the beginning of the school year, when the new group is finding its feet, the Team observes the children by regular visits to the toberaum. The new children learn the rules and duties quickly and are soon able to move considerately and independently in the playroom.

The toberaum is a place where the bond between the KinderHOUSE children is strengthened. Over the years, this has assured the development of a homogenous, socially competent group of children that respect each other. Each child is encouraged to express their own needs and to stand up for their own interests. The children are encouraged to solve minor conflicts alone. The Team is always ready to support and assist if a child asks for help for himself or a friend.

6. Sports Hall

An 'Elternamt' is responsible for booking the sports hall at the Blütenburg School from October to the end of March. After Homework Time, the group walks there together. The possibility to play here is not to be regarded as a sports class. The goal is to offer another way to play and to satisfy the children's need for movement.

Games and exercises are offered which take into account the age, gender and development of each child. The possibilities include team-sports, acrobatics, as well as dancing games and international games. The shared experience of playing and exercising strengthens the group as a whole, allowing them to improve

their consideration for others, their tolerance for frustration and their respect towards rules. The educational goal is to guide the child in getting to know his or her own body, how to use it and experience the joy and fun of movement. "Freetime", during which the children can use the available equipment in the sports hall, is given at the end.

7. Bake Sale

Since 2005 a cake sale has been held on "Buß- und Betttag". As schools are closed on this day, KinderHOUSE opens at 8:00. Preparation for the event begins some weeks before. All parents have to obtain a certificate from the "Gesundheitsamt" (health office) or an accredited general practitioner according to § 43 of the "Infektionsschutzgesetz" (Law for the Prevention of Infectious Diseases). The biannual renewal of the certificate is conducted under the guidance of the Team. The children prepare leaflets and posters, which are distributed and put on display in the local area. The profits from the cake sale are partially donated to a social project that the children previously suggested and selected, and partially used to fund the annual visit to a farm. All families provide two cakes or an equivalent number of baked goods. The City of Munich officially grants KinderHOUSE permission for the Bake Sale, which takes place in front of KinderHOUSE on Nymphenburgerstraße. The children, with the support of the Team, are in charge of the sale.

8. Birthday Parties

The birthday parties at KinderHOUSE take place on a Friday following the actual birthday. A special table is set for the occasion with the birthday child sitting at the head of the table. In celebration of the day, the Team prepares a special meal and the birthday child may choose the destination for the Friday outing. The child's parents provide cake, ice cream or sweets, which are served as a snack while on the outing. The birthday child also receives a present from KinderHOUSE.



9. Halloween

A highlight for both children and parents is the annual Halloween Party. This celebration naturally takes place at the end of October and gives the new parents the opportunity to experience a relaxed atmosphere at KinderHOUSE with the Team, the other children and their parents. The theme of the party is announced to the parents a few weeks beforehand in order to get them and the children into the spirit of the event. Halloween is a special celebration for school children and offers some age-appropriate thrills and excitement. The Halloween Party may therefore not be suitable for some of the children's younger siblings. The parents who are responsible for organizing the party coordinate and plan two routes for trick-or-treating, each with its own photographer. They also organize the sweets, the buffet, and help with the decorating and costumes. The Team creates a program for the evening and decorates the rooms, with help from the parents. The afternoon starts with the children dressing up in their costumes and having their faces painted, if desired. At 17:00 trick-or-treating begins. The children, accompanied by their parents, walk to the pre-arranged trick-or-treat points where sweets are handed out to the kids. Once the two groups have returned to KinderHOUSE, the buffet is opened. The Team leads activities throughout the evening. The atmosphere is enlivened by games, riddles and conversation. After the conclusion of the party, the parents and children along with the Team clean up and remove the decorations

10. Farewell Party

At the end of the school year, the fourth grade children say their farewells. A party is scheduled to be held during the annual farm visit (Bauernhof) and includes an outing, a piñata and a fun quiz game about the departing children.

11. Bauernhof/ Farm visit

In the first week of the summer holidays, the group travels to a farmhouse. For the last years now, the group has visited the Würmser family farm in Gelbelsee near Denkendorf. a program is organized by the Team taking the weather into consideration. Activities include, but are not limited to: game nights, a trip to the local Freibad or a hike to the nearby lake, a pajama-movie-night, a bonfire with Stockbrot, nature preservation outings, a hay-wagon ride and themed 'Geländespiele'.

12. Last but not Least – The First Day of School

The 1st of September is the official first day at KinderHOUSE for the new children. During this last week of the summer holidays, the children have the opportunity to acclimatize to this new phase in their lives and get used to the routine at KinderHOUSE before school begins.

The first day of school is a particular highlight. After starting school and becoming part of a class, the children come to KinderHOUSE with their "Schultüte". Each child is photographed with its "Schultüte" and its family. The Team hands out a small present to the new first-graders. The new children have officially arrived at KinderHOUSE, which from this point on will be a faithful companion to them:

Welcome to KinderHOUSE!