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The path from kindergarten to school

Dear Parents,

Is your child's time at kindergarten slowly coming to an end and are the first steps towards school just around the corner?



For a study, I am looking for families with children who are currently in their penultimate year of kindergarten. I am focusing specifically on the situation of parents and guardians of children with an attributed intellectual disability.

What is the study about?

The transition from kindergarten to school can be an exciting, promising, but also challenging time for families.

However, little attention is often paid to the specific situations of children with an attributed intellectual disability and their families. This perspective has also been lacking in research, which I would now like to change as part of my study.

What is the aim of the study?

I am interested in what is important to you as a family at this stage, and what thoughts and feelings you have. At the same time, I would like to understand the process of choosing a school and consider the issues that are on your mind.

How will the study be conducted?

In order to shed light on the transition in its entirety, I would like to accompany families over a period of approximately two years and learn about their experiences and perspectives in what are expected to be five conversations. The conversations are scheduled to take place within this time frame:

Who is behind the research?

My name is Pia Ockershausen and this project is part of my doctoral thesis. Through my practical work as a primary school teacher, I developed a desire to examine the complex situation of transition from a scientific perspective. Since March 2025, I have been working as a research assistant at the University of Münster in the field of inclusive education and special education.



Are you interested in participating in the study? Then please feel free to provide your contact details without obligation—I will get back to you. I will be happy to provide you with detailed information, answer your questions, and discuss further steps.



Thank you very much for your interest and support. I look forward to hearing from you!

First half of the penultimate year of kindergarten

Second half of the penultimate year of kindergarten

First half of the last year of kindergarten

Second half of the last year of kindergarten

Shortly after

starting school

The data collected is anonymized and treated with the utmost confidentiality.