

Exchange Year at Kantonsschule Zürcher Oberland Commitment

1. General Remarks

The exchange student attends Kantonsschule Zürcher Oberland (KZO) for an academic year. The years of schooling, subjects attended and the materials covered at the exchange student's home school(s) may be different from the syllabus at KZO. Nevertheless, exchange students are expected to participate fully, actively and during their entire stay in all school activities in and outside the classroom. Polite and disciplined behaviour as well as following the school rules are expected as a matter of fact.

2. Agreement

2.1 Integration

The exchange student actively tries to become integrated into his/her class and school life in general. He/she is open to and interested in contact with classmates and teachers.

2.2 Language Skills (German)

A good knowledge of German (speaking, listening, reading and writing skills) is very important for a successful integration in the host family and the school. Exchange students keep working towards improving their language skills by

- taking a placement test when starting KZO
- regular, active participation in the German classes for exchange students offered by the school
- reading and completing coursework on 3-4 books (The books are chosen with the teacher who teaches the German lessons for exchange students.)
- taking a German test after the first semester (minimum level: A2, GER)
- taking a German test after the second semester (minimum level: B1, GER)

2.3 Classes and Subjects

The exchange student attends as many mandatory subjects as possible. These subjects are fixed in his/her timetable. He/she takes an active interest in the subjects, completes coursework, and plays an active part in the lessons as far as his/her language skills permit. The teachers may ask or allow the exchange student to work on special assignments which suit the student's language and subject abilities. Should there be a free period, the exchange student is expected to study German, revise materials which have been covered in regular lessons or catch up on subject matters he/she is unfamiliar with.

Goal: A passing grade should be attained by the exchange student in the following subjects:

1.
2.
3.
4.

2.4. Timetable

On the first day of school, the exchange student receives the regular timetable of the class, on which the additional German lessons for exchange students are also included. The first few weeks at KZO are an orientation period (AFS: 4 weeks, the other organisations: 2 weeks). During these weeks, the exchange student takes part in all the lessons their class attends. The purpose of these weeks is for the exchange student to get to know and experience the demands of KZO and to see how the students at KZO work. At the end of the orientation period, the exchange student sets up his/her individual timetable according to their specific abilities, interests and his/her subject-specific knowledge. The exchange student's class

teacher or the teacher in charge of the exchange students help the exchange student in setting up his/her timetable.

In principle the exchange student is expected to take all the subjects he/she can manage. The minimal number of weekly lessons is 28. This amount may include 6th form elective courses (Wahlkurse) as well as half a lesson for learning and practising a musical instrument. Optional courses (Freifächer) do not count towards these 28 compulsory lessons.

If an exchange student wants to sign up for musical instrument lessons or any optional course, he/she has to get in touch with Ms. Denise Schütz, secretary at the school administration (Sekretariat).

If an exchange student is obliged to drop more than two subjects because he/she doesn't have the knowledge and skills required to complete the course, he/she has to complete an individual project as specified in the regulations „Projektarbeit gemäss Reglement der Schulleitung“.

Exchange students who begin their stay at KZO in 4th form in the spring semester (February to July) take part in the SLS ("Selbstlernsemester) the following winter semester (July to February). For these exchange students, the project work mentioned above is obligatory in their second exchange semester at KZO.

The personal timetable of the exchange student is obligatory. The student must take part in all his/her lessons and document his/her absences.

The class teacher certifies that all the subject teachers of the class, the host family as well as the teacher in charge of the exchange students receive a copy of the exchange student's personal timetable. Any changes of the personal timetable must be discussed and approved of in advance by all the teachers involved as well as the class teacher.

2.5. Adherence to Rules

The exchange student has taken note of school regulations regarding attendance, leave of absence, and house rules, and formally agrees to adhere to them. Serious violations of school regulations and/or failure to comply with the above commitment may result in the immediate termination of the exchange year.

Exchange Student:

Student's
Family name:
Given name(s):

Date :

Signature:

Kantonsschule Zürcher Oberland:

Mr. Guido Zemp, teacher
in charge of exchange students

Date:

Signature:

Copies:

- Vice principal Jola Svalina
- Class teacher
- Host parents
- Representative of the exchange organisation