

“Welcome to our diverse school”

Ladies and gentlemen,

Hallo and welcome to our school. It's a great pleasure for us to have you here today. And we are very happy that you've come all the way from Finland and Bulgaria to visit us. We hope that during your time here you'll get to know more about our school and its diversity. The motto LEO, which stands for “learn from each other”, can also be used for our school, since many of us come from different places, speak different languages, and have different ways of life. So, we take this as a good opportunity to learn more from one another.

Our school is a very diverse place. We have students from many countries and cultures. Some of us were born here in Germany, but many of us moved here from other parts of the world. We speak different languages at home, eat different food and celebrate different holidays. But in school we all come together. We also have six different religions that are present here, including Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, and Sikhism. Some of our classmates are Muslim others are Christians, Jews, Sikhs, Hindus or follow other religions. Some don't follow any religion at all, and that's just ok, because the only thing that matters here is respect. Everyone can believe what they want and we try to accept each other just the way we are. But it's actually not just about religions.

It's also about gender identity. At our school, we believe everyone has the right to express who they are. Whether someone identifies as male, female, non-binary or any other way, they are accepted here. No one should ever feel like they are different or that they don't belong here, just because of their gender identity.

Our school also stands for values like freedom, acceptance, courage, respect, honesty, and justice. These are not just words, as we strive to live them every day. For example, we support each other, we try to help new students feel welcome, and we make sure no one feels left out. We also respect differences in appearance, financial background, and life experiences. Not everyone comes from the same kind of family. Some students may have more financial support, others may not have as much. Some may have grown up in very different circumstances, maybe in a different country or in a community with different values. But here at our school, we try to treat everyone the same and give every student the chance to succeed.

Sometimes students who come from other countries feel nervous at first, maybe because they don't speak German well, or they look or dress differently. But in our school, we try to never let them alone and we also try to support them in each step. And isn't that what a school should be about? I mean not just learning about facts and numbers, but also learning how to live together, respect each other and grow as people?

I personally have many friends with different backgrounds, beliefs, and identities. And I've learned so much from them. For example, I've learned about Ramadan, different family traditions, and other ways of thinking. And to be honest, it has broadened my horizon and it has made me more open and understanding.

So, in the end, we believe that diversity is something beautiful. It helps us grow not only as students, but also as people. We don't just learn math, science or languages. We learn how to live together.

And this week we are also excited to learn more about your cultures and stories as well. Thank you so much for listening. We hope you will enjoy your visit and see how we truly learned for each other.