



Welcome to Emden - And Johannes-Althusius-Gymnasium!

OUR SCHOOL:

Johannes-Althusius-Gymnasium (JAG)

First mentioned in historical sources in 1483, the Johannes-Althusius Gymnasium is a co-educational day school with a student body of 1,100 students, ranging from ages 10 to 19.

Our mission:

According to our slogan 'Future. Life. Learning' we aim at inspiring learning within a caring, creative and international community, to pursue excellence, and to challenge students to think critically as they prepare for the wider world.

High quality teaching and learning is at the core of what we do at the JAG. The style of teaching is modern and progressive. All of our classrooms are provided with modern IT-equipment, allowing digital learning on a high level.

Partners: Our school cooperates with external partners such as UNESCO, DFB (German Football Association) and the ERASMUS-Program of the European Union. Also, we are certified as „Umweltschule in Europa“ (Environmental School in Europe).

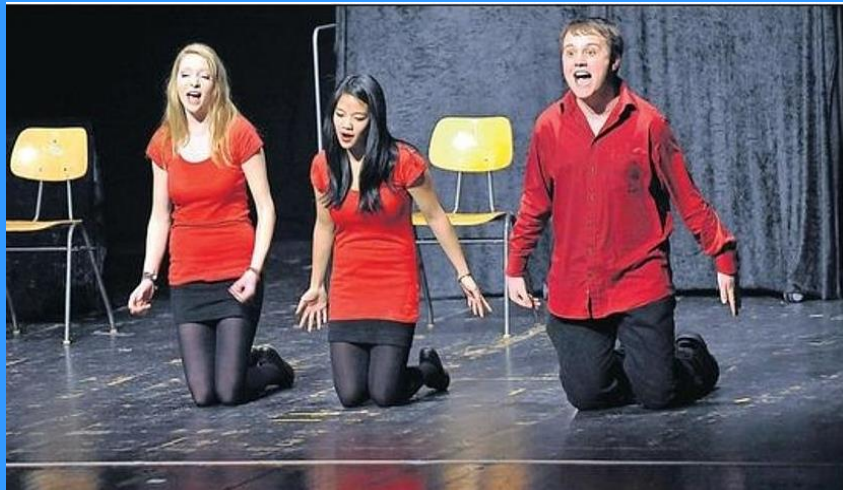


Extra-curricular activities: The school offers a rich and varied programme of extra-curricular activities. This is an integral part of every pupil's learning experience. Just as we celebrate the academic success of our pupils, we also encourage active participation in the school's co-curricular programme. We provide our students with a broad spectrum of choices, in and outside the classroom, in order to identify their skills, to stimulate them and enable them to achieve their full potential.

Clubs: There is a wide range of clubs and societies on offer after school. These include IT, Film, Chinese, Solar Technology, Sewing, Rowing, Drama, Literature, Sports, Music, Radio, and many others.

Culture: Both the Drama and Music Department stage major productions each year in Emden's 'New Theater', which serves as our school hall, including Jazz-events, classical concerts and plays both in German and English. Moreover, our Arts Department constantly exhibits students' creative works.

(right: JAG-Band at concert)



(left: JAG Drama-Club production of 'High School Musical' as part of our annual „Kultur Pur“-Week – an annual one-week event celebrating the rich world of music, art and theater with lots of students' performances.)

Leisure: During lunch break students can either enjoy the rich offerings of our cafeteria or spend their spare time in either our 'gaming room' (left), 'quiet room', 'fitness room' or the library. Our sprawling campus consists of play equipment, 'chill-out zones', and also of a boat house, especially for watersports like rowing.



As 'Environmental School in Europe', our students take care of chickens, rabbits and even bees - directly on our schoolgrounds.



Teaching objectives: We ensure that our students receive a relevant, provocative and challenging education. Our emphasis on developing skills in problem-solving, collaboration, investigation and self-evaluation prepares students for the challenges of further education.

After school we provide the students with the possibility to participate in special 'tutoring classes' to review relevant topics from their regular lessons, to deal with possible knowledge gaps and also to enhance students' strategies for studying successfully.

We also offer additional classes for highly gifted pupils and enable them to take part in extracurricular competitions such as the German Contest for Young Scientists („Jugend forscht“, left)

We aim to lay foundations for outstanding, life-long learning. Our curriculum promotes the growth and development of children and adolescents through enjoyment, enquiry and innovation whilst students develop confidence in their academic skills and high levels of emotional competence.

Languages: English is taught as the first foreign language and is mandatory for all our students from grade 5 to 13.

In Year 6, students choose between French, Latin or Spanish as an additional language. Furthermore, students can also learn Dutch.

In order to expand our students' language skills, bilingual education in History, Geography and Drama is also possible and in high demand. (right: Students after having successfully completed 'Big Challenge' language-competition in English)



Science: Once a year, our school invites students, parents and teachers to the 'Emder Lecture Days' („Emder Forschungstage“), a collection of speeches by high-ranking members of the national and international scientific community giving closer insights into e.g. the world of biology, astrophysics, meteorology, history or politics and encouraging our students to see beyond their horizon.

To this end, JAG also offers the opportunity for 'investigative learning' in co-operation with the nearby University of Applied Sciences Emden. Here our students are offered courses to improve their knowledge and skills in e.g. Chemistry, Physics and IT.

(above: JAG principal Alexander Stracke at opening ceremony of 'Emder Lecture Days')

OUR TOWN:

Location: Our school is in Emden (left: Emden from above), a town and seaport in Lower Saxony in the northwest of Germany, on the river Ems. It is the main town of the region of East Frisia (well known for its tea) and has, including surrounding areas, a total population of about 50,000.

Economy: The main industries in Emden are automobile production and shipbuilding. Volkswagen runs a large production plant which builds the Volkswagen Passat, employing around 10,000 people. Emden is also one of the three main ports for car shipping in Europe.

Another important economic sector is tourism, mainly as a day trip destination for tourists staying in the surrounding villages on the North Sea coastline.

Sights in Emden:

Emden is famous for its Art Gallery („Kunsthalle), focussing on 20th-century art showing e.g. works by Max Beckmann, Erich Heckel or Emil Nolde and often offering special exhibitions. Historically interesting is also Emden’s „Bunkermuseum“, a WWII civilian air-raid shelter including testimonies from those who sheltered here, offering a moving insight into part of history.

A further educational `must-see´ would be the award-winning State Museum („Landesmuseum Emden“) with its interesting and varied collection illustrating themes of local history and life in the region. Sections of the museum cover the Frisian coast and cartography, prehistory and 20th-century landscape painting, as well as a stunning collection of armour. These museums are all integrated into our curriculum.

And around Emden:



(left)

Emden is especially popular for its location at the North Sea and the National Park Wadden Sea (right: walking across the mudflats).



Also, the island of Borkum, one of seven East-Frisian islands, is a perfect destination for a daytrip, reached by ferry from Emden.

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