

Welcome to the Max-Born-Gymnasium!



Headteacher:
Günter Ost

Deputy head:
Ulrich Mayer

Maubacher Strasse 60 - 62
7 1 5 2 2 B a c k n a n g
Telephone 0 71 91 - 91 40- 0
Fax 0 71 91 - 91 40 50
e-Mail sl@mbg-bk.schule.bwl.de
Homepage www.max-born-gymnasium.de

The Max Born Gymnasium...

...strives to use its educational facilities to awaken an interest in learning, quell the thirst for knowledge, promote talents, instil social competencies and, together with all those involved in the everyday life of the school, create a solid basis for university studies and future careers.

School with a long tradition

The Max-Born-Gymnasium is a very "old" school and has - along with other schools in Backnang - a long tradition. It is the direct descendant of the "Gymnasium Backnang" and the "Oberschule für Jungen Backnang", which lasted until 1953, and which, in turn, had been a secondary school with a Latin department. And if we trace the path back to the Latin School via the various variants of this school, then we can go back as far as the Reformation. As the foundation year for the Latin School in Backnang is given as 1539, the school celebrated its 450th anniversary in 1989. The publication issued for this anniversary, "450 Years of the Backnang Latin School" (192 pages) - with many interesting articles and around 200 pictures, is available from the secretary's office of the Max-Born-Gymnasium at cost price.

From the Bandhaus to the Maubacher Höhe

Until the end of the 1950s, the Gymnasium Backnang (today: "Max-Born-Gymnasium"), which was called the "Oberschule für Jungen" until 1953 and which, since 1970, has carried the name of the atomic physicist Max Born, was housed in the so-called Bandhaus in the "Freithof" between the Collegiate Church and the Town Tower. As this schoolhouse could no longer cope with the large rise in pupil numbers, a new building was required, which was opened on the Maubacher Höhe in 1958: a light and friendly building with an atrium, an attractive, roofed play area and a music room attached to the building on the south side, which is also suitable for large events. The location of the school, on top of a hill and surrounded by trees and open spaces, is also very attractive, and it is in close proximity to the Karl Euerle sporting facilities, the Stadthalle and the New Sports' Hall, with the Max Eyth Comprehensive School as close, friendly neighbours.

Our patron, Max Born

The foundation of a second secondary school in Backnang, the Gymnasium in der Taus, was the reason to look for a new name for the "Gymnasium Backnang". From a wealth of suggestions, the atomic physicist and Nobel Prize winner Max Born was chosen. Max Born was not only an important scientist, but also a passionate promoter of his colleagues and pupils. He was an advocate of political common sense and of the responsibility of natural scientists as citizens of society, who have the responsibility for the sensible application of their knowledge. Common sense, according to Max Born, is a question of finding the human basis for scientific and political actions, and not just looking for the viability and superficial benefits of such actions. – Since the school's anniversary in 1989, the school has enjoyed a close friendship with Max Born's son, Professor Dr Gustav Born, Emeritus Professor of Pharmacology at King's College, University of London.

School with a large catchment area

The Max-Born-Gymnasium has a large catchment area. In Backnang, pupils mostly come from the Maubach Primary School, the Schillerschule and the Talschule. There are bus and train connections within five minutes of the school, whilst some buses stop directly in front of the school. These good transport connections are ideal for many pupils, who come to our school from all over the Backnang area. Around two thirds of our pupils come from outside Backnang! – In the 2007/2008 academic year, the MBG has 36 classes with 990 pupils and 75 teachers.

Two streams and a bilingual department

All the pupils of the Max-Born-Gymnasium have English as their first foreign language. In Year 6, they can then choose between French or Latin as their second foreign language. Besides the scientific stream (languages: English-French or English-Latin), with the new subject, Science and Technology, there is a language stream at the Max Born Gymnasium: Italian (after French or Latin) or French (after Latin) can be chosen as the third foreign language. In the 2007/2008 academic year, the MBG is offering an additional bilingual department, based on English, in which interested pupils can take subjects such as Geography, Biology and History taught in the English language.

A pleasing sign: voluntary pupil commitment

Social activities are not forgotten at the Max-Born-Gymnasium: besides social work in Year 8, the pupils are heavily involved in social activities (mentors, dispute settlement, homework help, etc.). The school welcomes and supports pupils carrying out such work, as they can learn to take responsibility and to act socially at an early age.

Wide range of subjects in the Sixth Form...

The size of the school allows a wide range of major and minor subjects. Besides the compulsory subjects of German, Maths, and the foreign languages English, French and Italian, the schools offers the following major subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geography, Social Studies, History, Sport, Ecumenical Religion and Art.

...and many clubs and societies

The range of clubs and societies on offer depends on the staff available. In previous years, the following clubs have been offered on a regular basis: Drama, English Drama Group, Lower School Choir, Middle School and Sixth Form Choir, Debating, Orchestra, Big Band, IT, Latin, Italian, Spanish, Internet, School Garden, Science and Technology, Library, Aquarium, Crafts, Judo and Circus. Also a key part of the activities on offer are careers' and university information events and career-related projects.

Canteen and Cafeteria

In the lunch break, hot meals are available in the newly-built canteen and, during breaks between lessons, pupils can go to the cafeteria, which offers hot and cold drinks and snacks. The canteen and the cafeteria is also used by the Max Eyth Comprehensive School.