

Lausanne, March 2025

Dear parents,

Next summer, your child will leave the school he or she now attends and may go on to an apprenticeship, study at an upper secondary school or a bridge year. There are several important steps to enable your child to achieve his or her goals.

If your child wishes to become an apprentice:

- Ensure that application documents (CV, personal statement, work experience reports etc.) are up to date;
- Check whether there is a requirement to pass an exam or entry test for the occupation in question;
- Look at the apprenticeships available on: www.orientation.ch;
- Apply to several companies and prepare for a recruitment interview.

If your child wishes to go on to an upper secondary school or a bridge year:

- Understand the differences between Baccalaureate Schools, Upper Secondary Specialised Schools (with a choice of six vocational subject areas), Business Schools and Bridge Years - their requirements and the prospects they offer;
- Check that he or she meets the entry requirements.

The *Office cantonal d'orientation scolaire et professionnelle* (OCOSP) (the Cantonal education and vocational guidance centre) is here to support you at this important time. You can:

Find useful information on our website

→ www.vd.ch/orientation

On the page “*pour les élèves de l'école obligatoire*” (for those in compulsory schooling), you will find information on occupations, education and training programmes, entry requirements, a link to the list of apprenticeships and a range of other useful information to support your child.



Make an appointment with the school careers adviser to:

- Identify your child's interests, values, skills and strengths, and relate them to possible educational options;
- Obtain personal support in achieving a successful start to his or her career (identifying companies, writing an application, preparing for admissions tests etc).

Your regional *Centre d'orientation scolaire et professionnelle* is available to help if you have any questions. Yours sincerely,

Emmanuelle Rossier



Director