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#didactamesse

From the trade fair to the day care centre

didacta
die Bildungsmesse

The formats of didacta 2026 are practical and future-oriented

didacta, Europe's biggest education trade fair, opens its doors in just a few months and 90 percent of the exhibition space is already booked. From 10 to 14 March 2026, the trade fair will gather pedagogic professionals, education experts and decision-makers in Cologne to present the current challenges and corresponding solutions for all education sections.

didacta
10.03. - 14.03.2026
www.didacta-cologne.com

In addition to school and extracurricular education, vocational training and myQ qualification, a key focus lies on where education begins: the early education sector. The visitors will not only have the chance to discover renowned exhibitors again in 2026, they can also experience an extensive and practical event programme. It is worth registering early:

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Early Education: Impulses for successful educational biographies

Early education forms the basis for a successful educational biography. Over 150 exhibitors that specialise in early education will offer products and services that can be immediately integrated into the daily professional routine. Here, the trade audience can test and assess digital tools, innovative room concepts and learning material live. The Early Education Forum in Hall 8 will provide educational professionals with inspiring and helpful insights on the pressing challenges of their section. These include, among others, current issues such as the shortage of skilled workers and quality assurance, inclusion and diversity, language education and communication as well as child protection and children's rights. New approaches will be presented and discussed here - including concepts that promote diversity and prejudice-conscious education as well as practical implementation ideas for children's rights.

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"Our society is changing rapidly - and we need to find meaningful responses to this in our nurseries. After all, they are our first places of education. At the trade fair, we therefore want to use our supporting programme to showcase the many good ideas, projects and initiatives for nursery staff, thereby providing important impetus for everyday life in nurseries", said **Stefan Spieker, Board Member of the Didacta Association, Early Education Section.**

Headquarters and place of jurisdiction:
Cologne
District Court Cologne, HRB 952

Daily opening events in the Congress Centre North

The daily opening events in the Congress Centre North on Early Education are one of the trade fair's programme highlights. Here, education professionals, directors of day care centres and the employees of supporting organisations can gain insights into further topics such as educational opportunities, differentiated language

education and transition management. Day care centre management and new legal regulations will also be discussed. It is necessary to register for these events and this is already possible online here. It offers a unique opportunity to learn about new approaches and engage in a direct exchange with the industry.

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Further special events and shows for the future of education

In addition to the Early Education Forum, further special events and shows offer interactive formats that shape and rethink early education. These topics are also tailored to the needs of education professionals. For example, a special exhibition on the work of foundations is planned, named "Discover. Try. Explore - we empower children for a changing world". The event is organised by the Didacta Verband e. V. in cooperation with the Stiftung Kinder forschen, Stiftung Lesen, the Sarah Wiener Foundation and the Initiative für Zukunftsbildung.

didacta showcases manifold solutions: ranging from the digital promotion of skills, sustainability and environmental education, through to the integration of these themes into the day care centre daily routine. At the same time, it focuses on pedagogic interior design and the optimal usage of learning and living spaces. In this way, it once again addresses the education issues of our time.

didacta 2026 under the motto: Everything undergoing change. Education under focus

This year's top theme concisely covers the current challenges of our time. In times of technological upheavals, societal change and global crises, good education is crucial for a resilient society and robust democracy. The centre of attention lies on the four top themes Future and Basic Skills, Health and Well-being, Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence as well as Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), which accentuate how education can be the key to competently addressing the major issues of our times jointly. Following a holistic approach, other aspects of an educational biography will also be covered, in addition to early education. The School and Extracurricular Education sections are located in Halls 6, 7 and 8. Vocational Education and myQ Qualification can be found in Hall 6.

"We are delighted that so many of our exhibitors are once again supporting our new motto "Everything undergoing change. Education under Focus" and that they will present a truly colourful display of urgently needed innovations, solutions and products in March. Anyone working in or for the education sector, who doesn't come to Cologne, will quickly lose touch," said **Jörg Schmale, Director of didacta at Koelnmesse**.

With around 700 exhibitors and over 1,600 events awaited, didacta 2026 is the central platform for exchange, networking and professional development in the education sector. These include many renowned exhibitors such as **AUREDNIK, campusLan, Christiani, Community Playthings, ETS DIDACTIC, Festo Didactic, HABA Pro, i.m.a. - information.medien.agrar, IServ, Ernst Klett Verlag, Lucas-Nülle, mobile.schule, Neanderthal Museum, Schutzgemeinschaft Deutscher Wald, Verlag an der Ruhr** and many more.

Free participation in workshops, seminars and panel discussions offers the trade visitors valuable insights for their daily work. The programme can be individually compiled, booked and managed online via the didacta website. Further information on travel and accommodation can also be found there.

About didacta

As the biggest and most important education trade fair in Europe, didacta presents all the relevant education themes and promotes the dialogue within the education sector. didacta covers all segments from early learning, to school education including extracurricular facilities, through to vocational education and training. It thus promotes lifelong learning. At the same time the trade fair serves as the biggest European further education event and is the central industry meeting point for educational staff, education providers, decision-makers and people interested in co-shaping the future of education.

Further information is available at www.didacta-messe.de

Note for editorial offices:

didacta photos are available on the Internet at <https://www.didacta-cologne.com/imagedatabase>

Press information is available at: <https://www.didacta-cologne.com/pressinformation>

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