Successful measures initiated and executed in Hamburg

Counselling in general schools

The preparation for the world of work starts in general education, when in grade 8 teachers from vocational schools give the young students career advice about ways into the world of work.

Then, in grade 9, the experiences gained in internships are evaluated,

and in grade 10 the young people are prepared for the transition management or given advice what else can be in store for them.
Vocational education must offer something for everybody, according to their interests, skills and capabilities. In order to find these out, teachers from vocational schools operate in general schools from 7th to 8th grade and give information about potential careers etc. It seems relatively simple for school-leavers with good marks and social skills to find employment as trainees. Quite often, their employer is the company they spent their internship at during 8th or 9th grade. However, there are some young people who do not seem to be employable – maybe due to the lack of social skills, bad marks, insufficient language skills and so on. They all must fulfill their obligation of going to school for at least 11 years. This includes one or two years of vocational education. If they cannot get a contract for whatever reason, the attendance of a preparatory vocational school is obligatory.

In Hamburg, we are currently testing a new way of bringing young people to the labour market, if they acquired training maturity but could not find an employer: They attend vocational classes together with others who obtained a contract with a company. Sometimes they find an employer after a while, and as they were educated like their class-mates of the Dual System, their time is not wasted and can be acknowledged – as if it were spent in the Dual System.
Youth employment advisory services

One of the successful measures initiated and executed in Hamburg include the establishment of Youth Employment Advisory Services (Jugendberufsagentur) in 2012.

Goal:
Increase rate of employment of people under 25 years of age

Guideline:
"Each and everyone is needed, no one should be lost!"

Measures:
• foundation of the YEAS in June 2012
• agreement of the participating institutions on systematic, mandatory and continuous collaboration
• YEAS were set up in all 7 districts of the city by Dec. 2013
The Youth Employment Advisory Services consist of five partners:

In the past, they all worked independently, but since 2012 they have worked in close cooperation. So the school-leavers are looked after individually by means of common efforts by all five partners to find the best way into the labour market for young people.

The „Jobcenter team.work“ is the institution in charge of people who live on social benefits (or welfare).
In 2013 all potential school leavers documented their careers planned. This graph shows the whereabouts of these 46.9 %.

Since we are having district schools in Hamburg (which are similar to comprehensive schools), many potential school-leavers decided to continue their school career. Their percentage was 53.1 % in 2013.