

**School: Vincent-Lübeck-Gymnasium**

**Town: Stade**

**Province / state: Lower Saxony**

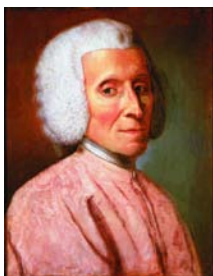
**Country: (Northern) Germany**

[www.vlg-stade.de](http://www.vlg-stade.de)

The Vincent-Lübeck-Gymnasium is a „Gymnasium“ in the town of Stade, which is situated around 50 km west of Hamburg, Northern Germany. A “Gymnasium” forms part of the German secondary school system in which the students are separated into ability levels from 5<sup>th</sup> grade onwards. “Gymnasiums” are responsible for the training and education of fast learners, preparing them for the final exam called “Abitur” which is normally taken after 12<sup>th</sup> grade and which allows students to study at a German university.



Parts of Stade's town center



Vincent Lübeck: our school's name giver

Today's Vincent-Lübeck-Gymnasium was founded in 1863 as municipal girls' school in Stade's medieval town center near St. Cosmae church. In 1930, this school was turned into the “Upper Secondary Girls' School of Stade”, a so called “Oberlyzeum” which now allowed girls in Stade to finish school with the Abitur. Due to a lack of space, the school moved into a bigger building near the train station in 1929. This building as well as the building in the town center still exist. After the Second World War, in 1957, the school changed its name to “Vincent-Lübeck-Schule”, thereby honoring a well known local organist and composer.

17 years later, in 1974, the school moved to its present location at Glückstädter Straße 4. This became necessary due to renewed space problems, attributed to the fact that in the preceding years the school had been turned into a coeducative Gymnasium, now allowing girls and boys to do their Abitur. Today's school name “Vincent-Lübeck-Gymnasium” was granted in 1994.



Today's school building...  
from the outside

There are a total of around 1500 students and approximately 120 teachers working and studying at Vincent-Lübeck-Gymnasium. The students are usually taught in lesson blocks of 90 minutes in subjects ranging from modern and ancient foreign languages, bilingual education (English-German), natural science, social and computer science as well as in fine arts. Students may specialize in these fields between 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

In upper secondary (10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade), students choose elective and compulsory subjects, thereby further specialising in their so called “profiles”. The Vincent-Lübeck-Gymnasium (or VLG, as many people call it) is officially a half day school. For the majority of students, school starts at 8.10h in the morning and finishes at 1.30h in the afternoon. However, due to the reduction of regular Gymnasium attendance from 13 to 12 years, afternoon schooling becomes normal for an increasing number of students.



...and from the inside



Vincent-Lübeck-Gymnasium is a very international school, maintaining global partnerships and/or regular exchange programs with Sweden, Turkey, Poland, New-Zealand, USA and Japan. The VLG also plays an integral part in local cultural life. It regularly organises music festivals and choir events.