Kontakt
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Social Media
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The Youth and Children's Council

(in German Jugend und Kinder Gremium = JuKG)

The Youth and Children's Council (JuKG) is open to all children and young people aged about 9 to 21.
We want to encourage the voices of children and young people in our district politically – **also your voice counts with us!**
The JuKG is a group of young people who stand up for their ideas and interests, without any politically party – we are our own Lobby!
The local politicians support the JuKG, and educators from the local participation bureau support and advocate the council.

The right to participate

Children have the right to be heard and to take part in decisions that affect them in their daily lifes. This is a **children's right written in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**, Article 12.
This also means: **children and young people are allowed to talk about politics and shall be considered as experts of their living environment!**
One place where you can do this is the Youth and Children's Council (JuKG).
In the JuKG, children and young people who spend time in Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg meet regularly.
They talk about topics that are important to them and about problems they face and things they want to change politically.
They also talk to adult politicians from Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg to question some decisions or to place an issue.

Who can become a member?

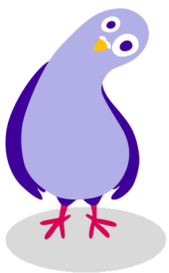
Once a year in January the JuKG Council opens up for new members to join.

- Anyone who wants to can **sign up themselves using** the official form on jukg.de website.
- All **schools and youth clubs can choose 2 people** and send them to the JuKG as representatives.
- Some children and young people are **randomly chosen from the official residents registration office and get an invitation letter.** They can join or not, just as they want to.

Every year the JuKG council has a new encounter stage.
You do not have to live or go to school in Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg.
It is enough if you regularly spend time in our district.

Who can do what?

Some things are open to everyone. Other things are only for members.
You can always come as a guest and bring your idea or just listen.



If you are a member:

- Share ideas and talk in working groups ✅
- Help make decisions in working groups ✅
- Talk in the big meeting (plenum) ✅
- Vote and decide in the plenum ✅
- Send in proposals ✅
- Be part of the coordination group ✅

If you are not a member:

- Share ideas and talk in working groups ✅
- Talk in the plenum ✅

Adult guests have to ask at participation bureau (KJBb) before coming.

The Plenum

All members meet regularly in a big meeting called **plenum**.
The plenum meets about 5 times a year, it's a full day 6hrs meeting with all the JuKG members. Ideas and topics are presented, members can discuss topics together and then the group votes and decides.
Everyone speaks German, and adults make sure all children understand what is being said.
If a JuKG plenum happens during school time, you get a **school excuse note**.
Your parents have to sign it, and you give it to your teacher.

The Working Groups (AGs)

Members can also meet in smaller groups, called working groups (AGs).
In the AGs:
Peers work on their ideas, organize themselves and plan things they want to change in Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg and maybe write a proposal for JuKG Plenum?
You only join an AG if you are interested in the topic and want to get involved.
AGs meet in the afternoon or early evening every 2-4 weeks.
You do not have to be a member to join a working group.
You can even bring a friend as a guest.

The Coordination Group

The coordination group has 5 members. They organize the JuKG for everyone, plan and moderate the plenum meetings. They are chosen by all JuKG members at the first plenum.

Proposals of the JuKG

How does a proposal work?
In working groups, peers think about what they want to change.
They collect information, for example: What has already been done about this? Is the idea possible? Who needs to be involved? Then they **write a text called a proposal to pitch their idea officially.**
The proposal is presented in the plenum, where **all JuKG members vote** on whether the proposal should go to the adult politicians. If most members agree, the proposal is sent to the politicians. **The politicians decide if and how the idea will be realized**.

The JuKG and the BVV

Adult politicians in Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg work in a similar way to the JuKG.
Their **parliament is called the District Council,**
in German: BezirksVerordnetenVersammlung (BVV).
JuKG members are officially allowed to attend BVV meetings, but only speak about JuKG proposals. JuKG is also welcome to join BVV-committees anytime, to listen, ask questions and share young perspectives about the current topics. JuKG is officially allowed to bring in their own proposals to BVV-Committes.

JuKG Own Projects

The JuKG gets money for its own projects.
Members can pitch ideas for an event, it just has to be about our district.
The JuKG decides together in the plenum how the money is used.

What are your ideas?

You can always contact Lotte & Annika from KJBb,
you find their mail and phone in the headline or check out www.jukg.de.