

**Ban on bringing weapons, including ammunition
and similar objects as well as chemical substances, to school**

Directive RdErl. d. MK of 27 October 2021 — 36.3-81 704/03 —

— VORIS 22410 —

Subject: RdErl. of 6 August 2014 (Nds. MBl. P. 543, SVBl. p. 458),
amended by RdErl. of 26 July 2019 (Nds. MBl. p. 1158, SVBl. p. 518)
– VORIS 22410 –

1. The carrying of weapons or bringing of weapons as defined in the German Weapons Act [“Waffengesetz”] as amended from time to time into school, onto school grounds, or to school events is prohibited. Weapons include prohibited objects as defined in the German Weapons Act (in particular butterfly knives, push daggers, switchblade knives, gravity knives, steel rods, coshes, brass knuckles) as well as all other objects the carrying of which is prohibited pursuant to the foregoing Weapons Act (one-hand knives and fixed-blade knives of more than 12 cm blade length), and firearms.
2. This ban also applies to similar objects (such as blank, chemical irritant and signalling guns), gas spray guns, cut and thrust weapons as well as weapon-like objects such as butcher’s, kitchen or pocket knives, pepper sprays and laser pointers.
3. This ban also applies to weapons the handling of which is wholly or partly exempted from licence requirements or prohibitions, or the use of which is wholly or partly exempted from the Weapons Act (e.g. airsoft weapons where the kinetic energy of the projectile is 0.5 Joules or under, or toy weapons). The ban also extends to the carrying of replica weapons whose appearance means they could be mistaken for weapons as defined in the German Weapons Act.
4. This ban also applies to pupils/students aged over eighteen years who possess a licence to carry weapons (e.g. a gun licence or blank gun licence) or who have the right to acquire certain weapons which are not subject to licence requirements.
5. The ban further includes the carrying of ammunition of all kinds, fireworks, gunpowder as well as chemical substances that could potentially injure persons or be used to make explosive compounds.
6. The school management can permit exceptions in individual cases such as sporting events or theatre performances, domestic science classes or school events involving catering.
7. All pupils/students are to be instructed on the content of this ‘RdErl.’ directive at the beginning of each school year. Particular attention is to be drawn to special age-related hazards. Pupils/students are also to be warned that any infringement of this ban on carrying or bringing objects to school that are prohibited by the ‘RdErl.’ directive may lead to disciplinary measures.

8. A copy of this 'RdErl.' directive will be given to the parents or legal guardians when a pupil/student enrolls at school (as a rule, first and fifth school years or upon enrolment at a vocational training college).

9. This 'RdErl.' directive enters into effect on 01.01.2022 and expires on 31.12.2027. The reference directive expires at the end of 31.12.2027.