

## **Focal Points**

### Prevention

- by making sure families with children between 0 – 19 years of age are best reached

### Family-friendliness

- allocation of cheap or cost neutral offerings

“Human relations require that our actions meet other persons’ needs.”

*(Harald Bewersdorf OKD, retired; translated by WMP)*

### Early learning and counselling

- special support for those under three years of age
- for parents with children who suffer from developmental disorders
- for parents with disabled children

### Integration

- integrated groups at day-care nurseries
- integrated leisure time activities
- counselling for families with disabled persons
- support for integration plans by social events and projects

“What lies behind us and what lies ahead of us are tiny matters compared to what lives within us.

And when we bring what is within out into the world, miracles happen.”

*(Henry David Thoreau)*

## **Co-operation partners**

You can find further information here:  
[www.ev-familienzentrum-lohmar.de](http://www.ev-familienzentrum-lohmar.de)

## **Protestant Centre for Children and Families, Lohmar**

*Evangelisches Zentrum Lohmar für Kinder und Familien*

An association of three Protestant nursery schools



An initiative by the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia

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“The first faith and the first hope concerning life are not acquired by sentence structures; nor is faith firstly acquired by the language of faith. We learn, by looking at the way the world has been designed for us and how we are treated, what of hope and faith means to us in the end.”  
*(Fulbert Steffensky, translated by WMP)*

**Protestant code**

The “Protestant code” means to us that in each of the three cooperating nursery schools the following be maintained:

- that Christian values and virtues are practiced and communicated during the daily routines and work by children, parents and educators,
- that living and working together is based on these Christian values and virtues before any successful relationships and mutual respect within our community can be established,
- that an atmosphere of trust, mutual acceptance, reliability and peaceableness allows us to meet at eye-level,
- that being a member of the parish helps grow a feeling of belonging and “home”,
- that by realizing and accepting the diversity that surrounds us we are able to meet families with different plans for their lives and religious forms with an open mind and with hospitality.

**Offers**

Advice and support

- by giving advice for any situation in life
- by accompanying people who are passing difficult processes in their lives
- by giving advice for education and problems in the families
- by giving pastoral care – also via telephone

Seminars for families

- by arranging meetings for parents
- by holding seminars to strengthen parental educational competence

Family and church

- by scheduled groups dealing with topics for women, men, children, seniors and families

Balance of family and work

- by finding day-care facilities
- by offering family-friendly services
- by arranging holiday camps for children and youths
- by offering and finding courses in baby-sitting

Groups for parents and children

Integration of persons with a disability and of foreign nationals

Cultural activities

- by organizing art exhibitions and musical events
- by valuing arts, crafts and traditions

Perspectives

- parent counselling
- promoting integration
- emergency service
- peace education
- cross-generational projects
- debt-counselling
- old-age pension counselling