

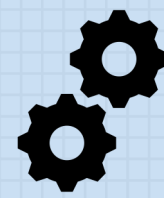
Click boxes to uncover why school–workplace cooperation (still) faces barriers — and how educational partnerships can be strengthened.

1. Understanding School–Workplace Cooperation as a Pillar of Germany’s Dual VET System

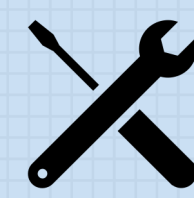
In the German vocational education and training (VET) system, apprentices alternate between three different learning locations that should cooperate with each other (= educational partnerships):



School: Theory



Training Center: Skills Courses



Company: Practice

2. Exploring How School–Workplace Cooperation Works Today

Our study examines current dynamics in school–workplace cooperation, aiming to capture the realities of educational partnerships = how they unfold in practice. For this purpose, our guiding question was:

What does today’s school–workplace cooperation look like?

3. Results: Revealing Barriers and Potentials in School–Workplace Cooperation

Our findings reveal multiple challenges and barriers to effective school–workplace cooperation but also promising practices and potentials for improvement. Despite major transformations in the VET landscape (driven by globalization, digitalization, demographic change, sustainability demands, . . .), progress since the 1990s continues to be limited. The challenge ahead: Fostering stronger cooperation.

4. Implications: Translating Insights into Actions

Moving forward means overcoming sporadic and superficial exchange by developing deeper forms of school–workplace cooperation. Such progress requires coordinated efforts at various levels:

