

# Uddannelsesmuligheder efter folkeskole



I'm a 16 year old person living in Denmark. I'm born in Denmark, but my parents are from Austria. I just finished primary school in Denmark and am now considering what my next step should be. I'm fluent in danish.

What educational path would you recommend for me?

Good — you're at a really important crossroad, so let's go through your options carefully. Since you're 16, living in Denmark, fluent in Danish, with Austrian roots, and just finished primary school, here's a general overview of your main educational paths in Denmark after primary/lower secondary school (folkeskole):

## 1 Gymnasiale uddannelser (Upper Secondary Education — academic path)

This is usually the most common next step for students after 9th or 10th grade.

- **STX (Almen studentereksamen / General upper secondary school)**
  - Broad academic education (sciences, humanities, social sciences, languages).
  - Prepares you for university.
  - Good if you're not sure yet exactly what you want, but want to keep your options open.
- **HHX (Higher Commercial Examination)**
  - Focus on business, economics, and international trade.
  - Could be a great option, especially if you're interested in something international, and your Austrian background might fit nicely here.
- **HTX (Higher Technical Examination)**
  - Focus on natural sciences, technology, IT.
  - Ideal if you like technical fields or plan on engineering, IT, etc.
- **HF (Higher Preparatory Examination)**
  - A bit shorter (2 years instead of 3).
  - More practically oriented.
  - Good if you want a more flexible, less theoretical approach.

## 2 Erhvervsuddannelser (VET - Vocational Education and Training)

- Combines school and practical training.
- Good if you want to get into a trade, craft, or specific profession (plumber, carpenter, chef, hairdresser, IT-supporter, etc.).

- Denmark has a strong apprenticeship system, and many industries are looking for skilled people.

### 3 Other paths

- **International Baccalaureate (IB)** — international upper secondary program in English.
  - Good if you see yourself studying or working internationally.
  - Also fits well with your Austrian-Danish background.
- **Folk High Schools (Højskole) / Efterskole (for a year)** — if you want a gap year to develop personally before choosing.

## How to decide?

Here are some questions you can ask yourself:

- Do you enjoy academic studies and theory? → **Gymnasiale uddannelser.**
- Do you prefer practical, hands-on learning? → **VET programs.**
- Are you more into business, economy, or global trade? → **HHX or IB.**
- Do you like technology, science, IT? → **HTX.**
- Are you unsure and want to keep your doors open? → **STX or IB.**

## My neutral recommendation (based on what you've told me so far):

Since you're fluent in Danish, have international roots, and are at the start of your decision process, **STX or IB** could be strong starting points — they keep a lot of doors open for university or vocational choices later.

If you already know you're interested in business or technology, then **HHX** or **HTX** might fit even better.

👉 If you tell me a little more — for example:

- What subjects you enjoy.
- Whether you see yourself studying at university or starting work earlier.
- If you like practical or theoretical learning more.

— I can give you a much more tailored recommendation.

Shall we go one step deeper?