



ACCREDITED EUROPEAN SCHOOLS



Accredited European Schools

- First accreditations 2007-08:
 - Centre for European Schooling, Dunshaughlin
 - Scuola per l'Europa, Parma

Accredited European Schools

	M1-S5	S6-7	Agreements		M1-S5	S6-7	Agreements
Parma	yes	yes	2007, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2015	Bad Vilbel	yes	yes	2013, 2015
Dunshaughlin	yes	no	2007, 2009, 2011, 2014	Culham	yes	not yet	2015
Helsinki	yes	yes	2009, 2011, 2014	Tallin	yes	not yet	2014, 2016
Heraklion	yes	yes	2008, 2011, 2014, 2015, 2016	Copenhagen	yes	not yet	2015
Strasbourg	yes	yes	2009, 2011, 2013, 2015	Brindisi	yes	yes	2017
Manosque	yes	yes	2011, 2013, 2015	Brussels	not yet	not yet	
Den Haag	yes	not yet	2013, 2015, 2016	Differdange	not yet	not yet	



Accredited European Schools

- 12 accredited schools, 2 in course of accreditation
- 34 audits completed, 2 in course
- 2 inspectors per audit

Accreditation process

- First accreditation:

- Interest file
- Conformity file
- Audit

- S6-7 accreditation

- Conformity file
- Audit

- Renewal:

- Audit

Accredited European Schools

	Total	S6-7		Total	S6-7
Parma	655	91	Bad Vilbel	1411	194
Dunshaughlin	42		Culham	476	
Helsinki	275	40	Tallin	189	3
Heraklion	230	16	Copenhagen	201	
Strasbourg	993	125	Brindisi	421	74
Manosque	114	20	Brussels	26	
Den Haag	890		Differdange	101	
Total	S6-7				
7435	563				

Some accepted principles

- Cost neutrality
 - Real cost neutrality?
 - Audits?
- Limited flexibility up to S5
 - Equivalence?
- Strict conformity in S6-7
 - Control?

Equivalence

- Under the conditions and within the limits of the Accreditation Regulations, Accredited European Schools are granted equivalence of the education provided, **year group by year group**, to the one provided by the European Schools



Accreditation

- As far as secondary years 6 and 7 are concerned, strict application of the provisions laid down by the Regulations pertaining to the European Baccalaureate applies also to AES

Conditions (?)

- Three language 1 sections, including at least one in one of the vehicular languages and one in the language of the host country or of another country is a priority, but **non-binding objective**.
- Offering a language section in one of the vehicular languages is **mandatory**.
- Two different language 1 sections are **strongly recommended** as this is conducive to multilingualism in European schooling

Conditions (?)

- AES offer mother tongue courses to pupils without their own language section. The minimum number of pupils as from which such a course is created is **left to the discretion** of the Accredited European School
- Pupils without their own language section **receive support** to learn the language of the section they have to join

Conditions (?)

- **Language learning provision in terms of Languages II, III and IV complies with the Regulations in force in the European Schools**
- **Exceptions** to the aforementioned regulations may, however, be proposed by the school which is a candidate for accreditation at the time of submission of the **Dossier of Conformity** and must, where applicable, be approved by the Board of Governors



Conditions (S6-7)

As for the European Baccalaureate years, a school may be accredited only if:

- **respect the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate**
- **offer a range of options**, which is conducive to pupils' subsequent admission to courses in higher education.



Teachers

Teachers **must be qualified** to teach their subjects in one of the EU Member state languages, and they **must, in principle,** have language competences similar to those of native speakers in their language of tuition

Accreditation may also be conditional upon:

- The **existence of a support system for special needs pupils**, **within the meaning of the legislation of the country** in which the Accredited European School is located
- The **existence of ethics and religion courses, within the meaning of the regulations of the European Schools**, subject to **compliance with the legislation of the country** in which the School is located and it being understood that the **said courses may be replaced by teaching about religions and civics**.
- **Compliance with a minimum and maximum length per teaching period**, it being understood that this length **will be judged in relation** firstly, to the general teaching timetable and secondly, to the scale of the subject and the pedagogical requirements.



Accreditation procedure

Phase 1: General Interest file

- the **Member State** shall present a General Interest File (no template)
- The File shall be submitted to the **Joint Board of Inspectors** (JBI) which shall give its opinion by a two-thirds majority
- Then submitted to the **Board of Governors** accompanied by the opinion of the JBI

Accreditation procedure

Phase 2: Dossier of Conformity

- If the Board of Governors' opinion on the General Interest File is positive
- the **school** which is a candidate for accreditation shall present a **Dossier of Conformity** (template)
- The Dossier shall be submitted to the opinion of the **Joint Teaching Committee** (JTC), which shall give its opinion by a two-thirds majority
- The Dossier shall then be submitted to the **Board of Governors** accompanied by the opinion of the Joint Teaching Committee

Accreditation procedure

Phase 2: Dossier of Conformity

- If the Board of Governors' opinion on the Dossier of Conformity is positive
- **the school** which is a candidate for accreditation **shall undergo a prior audit, conducted by the Joint Board of Inspectors**
- The Joint Board of Inspectors shall form an audit committee comprising a maximum of four inspectors: **the European Schools decide on the composition of the audit team according to the profile and structure of the school**

Accreditation procedure

Phase 3: Audit

- The candidate school shall send a self-evaluation report (template) to the audit committee before the inspectors' visit
- After having scrutinised the self-evaluation, the audit committee shall visit the candidate school, where it shall obtain full information and shall ask any question which it deems relevant with regard to the objectives of the audit
- **The audit committee shall produce an audit report (criteria)**
- The report shall be submitted to the candidate school, which may make known its observations thereon
- **The final audit report, accompanied by the candidate school's observations, will be submitted to the opinion of the Joint Board of Inspectors**

Accreditation procedure

Phase 4: Accreditation and signature

- The final audit report, accompanied by the candidate school's observations and the opinion of the Joint Board of Inspectors, shall be submitted to the **Board of Governors** and to the legal representative of the candidate school
- The candidate school shall be accredited only if the **Board of Governors grants accreditation unanimously**
- Accreditation shall be granted for a period of three years, which shall be renewable, and shall necessarily take effect on the first day of the school year
- The decision to grant accreditation shall automatically carry with it the power for the **Secretary-General to sign the Accreditation Agreement** (template)
- **Accreditation** (and hence, recognition of pedagogical equivalence between the education provided by the Accredited European School and that provided by the European Schools) **is for the first years of schooling up to secondary year 5 inclusive**

Accreditation of S6-7 years

- For the specificity of secondary years 6 and 7, there shall be a procedure separate from the one leading to accreditation of the other year groups
- **The accreditation for years 6 and 7 shall be granted by the Board of Governors, on submission of a Dossier of Conformity, subject to the same procedure** as for the accreditation of the former years
- The decision to grant accreditation for secondary years 6 and 7 shall automatically carry with it the power for the Secretary-General to sign the Accreditation Agreement (template)

Accredited school process

1. The Member State should present a General interest file to Board of Inspectors and to the Board of Governors – if accepted, then
2. The Member State should present a Dossier of Conformity to Joint Teaching Committee and to Board of Governors – if accepted, then
3. The European School inspectors will make an Audit report to be presented to the Joint Board of Inspectors and to the Board of Governors.

General Interest file	Joint Board of Inspection
	Board of Governors
Dossier of Conformity	Joint Teaching Committee
	Board of Governors
Audit report	Joint Board of Inspectors
	Board of Governors

Renewal of accreditation

- **Subject to an application made at least nine months before expiry of the period**, the European Schools may renew accreditation for successive periods of three years
- The application for renewal may be granted only on the basis of an **audit report** produced by the **inspectors** of the European Schools **designated and mandated by** the Office of the **Secretary-General** to check the Accredited European School's compliance with the conditions laid down by the Dossier of Conformity during the period which has elapsed and its ability to comply with them over the following three years



Renewal of accreditation

- The draft audit report shall be sent to the Management of the Accredited European School, which may make its observations and produce any additional documents that it deems relevant. The report, as possibly amended following examination of those observations and documents, shall be submitted to the **Board of Governors**, accompanied by a certified copy of the latter.
- The **Board of Governors shall take a decision on the renewal application by the 30 June** preceding the date of expiry of the Accreditation Agreement.



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACCREDITATION AGREEMENT

- The teachers of the Accredited European School may receive any in-service training provided by the European Schools **subject to the conditions laid down in Article 17 of the Regulations**
- Teaching material specific to the European Schools, and in particular the documents Intermath, Eurobio and File for Europe, shall be supplied to the Accredited European School at cost price, plus any tax of any kind. This material shall be transported under the responsibility and at the expense, risk and peril of the Accredited European School

Art. 17

- **All the costs entailed by accreditation and its effects, without reservation or exception, shall be borne solely by the Accredited European School.**
- Those costs shall correspond to:
 - the **travel and subsistence expenses of the inspectors sent by the European Schools**. They will be defrayed on the basis of a mission order and under the same conditions as when inspectors carry out a mission on behalf of the European Schools;
 - the expenditure incurred by staff of Accredited European Schools in attending the in-service training courses organised by the European Schools;
 - The teaching materials (purchasing and dispatching)

S6-7

- In secondary years 6 and 7, the **Accredited European School must follow exclusively the curriculum and the structure of studies specific to the European Schools system**, so as to allow full recognition of the qualification of European Baccalaureate certificate-holder.
- Pupils' registration for and participation in the European Baccalaureate examinations shall be subject to regular and consecutive attendance at classes in years 6 and 7 of the secondary cycle of the Accredited European School or of a European School.
- Pupils of the Accredited European School who, at the end of year 7, fulfil the academic conditions for access to the European Baccalaureate shall be eligible to take the examination, subject, firstly, to registration at the School and secondly, to payment of the registration fee fixed by the Board of Governors.

S6-7

- The **costs entailed by organisation of the European Baccalaureate will be invoiced to the Accredited European School on a pro rata basis**, according to the total number of pupils registered for the session concerned. These costs will be calculated on the basis of the **total cost of organisation of the Baccalaureate** divided by the total number of pupils registered for the session in question. Those costs will be refunded to the European Schools on submission of an expense claim.
- Organisation of the European Baccalaureate in each examination centre is presented in the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate and the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate, as referred to in Article 5 of these Regulations.
- The **European Baccalaureate is awarded by the Secretary-General** of the European Schools, on behalf of the Board of Governors, at the end of secondary year 7 of the European School, or of the corresponding year of a school accredited by the Board of Governors, to pupils who have passed the Baccalaureate examinations.

S6-7

- **Pupils of the Accredited European School may lodge an administrative appeal**, on procedural irregularity grounds, against the European Baccalaureate examinations under the same conditions as pupils of the European Schools, in accordance with the provisions of Article 12 of the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate.

