



European School Brussels IV
Drève Sainte-Anne, 86
1020 Brussels (Laeken)
Brussels, March 5th 2020

ANNOUNCEMENT

COVID-19

Dear Parents,

Following the recent communications issued by the school and the OSGES in relation to the recent outbreak of COVID-19 (coronavirus), we would like to give you additional information.

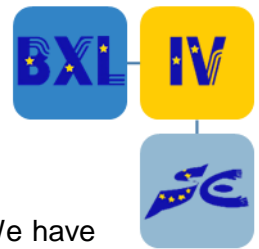
The Management team meets regularly to monitor the evolution of the situation and is in permanent contact with the OSGES which issues instructions following the recommendations of the European Commission, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and other national and international health agencies.

So far the situation at the school is of calm and normality.

Teachers have been asked to communicate to the management any information they receive and to observe the pupils that may seem sick and send them immediately to the infirmary.

The secretariats and the nurses check all suspected cases by contacting families directly.

So far conditions for absence to school seem to be fully respected by families. This is very much appreciated.



1. School trips

We have decided to act on a case-by-case basis when it comes to school trips. We have established certain criteria to be considered when analysing whether a trip or outing should go ahead or not. We will be evaluating each trip or outing individually. As you know, the situation is evolving every day. We will adapt our position if new recommendations are issued.

The main criteria include:

- The instructions issued to schools in relation to school trips in the host country/region/city of our destination;
- What sort of exposure our pupils will have, considering the number of people that will be present in a public space;
- The link between the trip and the curriculum;
- Depending on the nature of the trip, there may be other criteria that will be considered.

Please, note that reimbursement might not always be possible if a trip is cancelled.

For the time being school trips abroad will continue unless national authorities or the OSGES recommend not to travel.

a. In primary

For the moment, school trips for **P3 and P4** (*classes de mer* and *classes vertes*) are in Belgium and will continue unless either national authorities or the OSGES recommend not to travel.

b. In secondary

The **S6 school trip to Slovenia and Venice** will be cancelled anyway. The concerned families will be contacted and will receive further information.

We are analysing the possible alternatives in order to offer another school trip to the concerned pupils.

2. Events

Events continue in the school as usual. All external visitors are informed of the new conditions to be granted access to the school. They are also informed of the preventive measures in place.



Measures in place:

- ✓ The Management team meets every day to evaluate the situation;
- ✓ Soap and paper towels are checked every day;
- ✓ Alcohol-based hand cleanser dispensers have been placed in all classrooms and common areas;
- ✓ Keyboards and doorknobs are cleaned and disinfected every day;
- ✓ Classrooms, common areas and offices are regularly ventilated;
- ✓ *How to handwash* posters have been placed in every toilet;
- ✓ *How to handurb* posters have been placed next to every dispenser;
- ✓ *How to reduce risks* posters have been placed in every classroom, hallways and common area;
- ✓ Extra safety measures have been taken for the medical team;
- ✓ Nurses monitor every sick pupil;
- ✓ Teachers have informed the pupils about basic hygiene rules;
- ✓ The school radio club (Radio Europa Laeken) has issued a message informing the pupils about good practices (handwashing, etc.);
- ✓ School staff, partners and services have been informed as well;
- ✓ External visitors are informed of conditions to access the school.

Please, be reassured that the school takes this situation very seriously. We have at heart the well-being of our pupils and their families, of our staff members and partners, and are monitoring the situation day by day to establish which actions should be taken.

More information will keep being sent as the situation evolves.

Kind regards,

The Management Team

EEB IV

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