



SWALS – Students Without A Language Section

Information for parents

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| Definition | <p>Mother tongue tuition (MTT) is one of the most important advantages of studying at the European Schools.</p> <p>Category 1 and 2 students from the European Union are entitled to MTT.</p> |
| Teachers | <p>Tuition is always given by fully qualified native speakers.</p> |
| Organisation | <p>The parents choose which of the 3 sections (English, German, French) they would like for their child. All the subjects are taught in this “working language”. Therefore it is very important to choose the section according to the language in which the SWALS child is most competent. Equally, once admitted to the school is only in exceptional cases possible for SWALS to change their MT.</p> <p>For MTT the Kindergarten and Primary School children are grouped according to age: KG, Classes 1 and 2 – 5 x 30 minutes per week Classes 3, 4 and 5 – 5 x 45 minutes per week Ideally the students go to MTT when the rest of their class have 2nd language (L2). If this is not possible a compromise solution is found.</p> <p>If there are less than 7 students in a group the weekly MTT hours are reduced for year 1-5. For years 6 and 7 there is no reduction.</p> <p>In the Secondary School SWALS have MTT while the rest of the class have <i>their</i> 1st language (L1). All other subjects are taught in the SWALS chosen section language. All students (including SWALS) have both written and oral exams in their Baccalaureate.</p> |
| Assessment/Reports | <p>MT is assessed as L1. The section language is assessed as L2. The national syllabus is used for each corresponding MTT and is identical in all European Schools.</p> <p>The baccalaureate is taken in both L1 and L2.</p> |

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| Language Support | The school provides individual language support in order to give SWALS pupils a quick and effective integration into their chosen section. |
| Recommendations for parents | It is the parents' responsibility to develop and further the children's MT language at home (books, films, friends, home visits, relatives, etc.). |

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