



Schola europaea

Office of the Secretary-General

Brussels, 1 September 2020  
2020-09-LD-1 GM/AB

## FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE EUROPEAN SCHOOLS' COMMUNITY

Dear Sir,  
Dear Madam,

### **Subject: Start of the 2020-2021 school year**

The European Schools will start the 2020/21 school year this week and it is evident that also this school year will be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, together with the Directors and all staff members of the schools, the Office of the Secretary-General will do its utmost to limit the impact of the pandemic on the daily teaching and learning in the coming months.

In this context we can inform you that all schools – with the exception of the European School Munich – will be able to offer teaching and learning for all pupils on site from the beginning of the school year. The European School Munich will have to start providing teaching and learning on site in A and B groups, due to regional measures of confinement.

We also want to take this opportunity to inform you that yesterday, on 31 August 2020, the Board of Governors of the European Schools took note of, and in general supported the analysis and the different proposals provided by the Task Force 'Preparation of the 2020/21 school year'.

In its analysis, the Task Force had addressed aspects of quality assurance, teaching standards for distance learning, assessment, training and evaluation of teaching staff. Particular emphasis has been placed on educational support, the challenges involved in potential distance teaching in the nursery and primary cycle and support for the European Baccalaureate cycle.

The Board of Governors supported in general investments in digital learning and distance teaching, including the improvement of the IT infrastructure and IT support, as well as investments in Educational Support. The necessary procedure for a rectifying budget will be launched as soon as possible.

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This general commitment of the members of the Board of Governors will allow the schools to get prepared for a situation when teaching 'on site' might be suspended or vulnerable members of the school community may not participate in the teaching and learning 'on site'.

Finally, we would like to seize this opportunity to thank all members of the community of the European Schools for their engagement, particularly those who volunteered to work also over the summer to prepare the start of the 2020/21 school year, that we hope and wish as smooth as possible.

Yours faithfully,



**Giancarlo MARCHEGGIANO**  
Secretary-General of the European Schools



**Andreas BECKMANN**  
Deputy Secretary-General of the European Schools

cc: Heads of Delegation  
Directors of the European Schools  
Directors of the Accredited European Schools  
Members of the Board of Inspectors  
President of Interparents  
Presidents of *APEEE*  
ISTC  
Representatives of the AAS

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