

FAQs

<p>What are the status and the mission of the European Schools?</p>	<p>The European Schools are official educational institutions established in the 1950s and jointly supervised/run by the governments of the Member States of the European Union. They are legally regarded as public institutions in their respective host countries and therefore subject to the relevant public laws.</p> <p>The mission of the European Schools is to provide a multilingual and multicultural education for nursery, primary and secondary level children of staff of European Institutions.</p>
<p>What are Category I, Category II or Category III pupils?</p>	<p>Cat I: staff of EU institutions Cat II: financial agreement between the school and companies Cat III: private citizens, not belonging to the above categories. The school admits students upon availability of places. Please refer to our enrolment policy.</p>
<p>Can children whose parents do not work for the European institutions have access to the European Schools?</p>	<p>Yes, if there are places available in the class/section requested at the time of enrolment. For more information, please refer to our enrolment policy: Europäische Schule Frankfurt am Main - Info and Contact</p>
<p>What is the difference between an international school and a European school?</p>	<p>An international school usually follows the IB system. There is one working language (most of the time English). Other languages are taught as foreign languages.</p> <p>In a European School, the curriculum is delivered in different languages (see below language sections at the ESF) and it can meet the needs of children from many different backgrounds. Children have the opportunity to study their native/dominant language as L1 (one of the 27 EU countries) until the leaving certificate exams i.e. European Baccalaureate exams (EB).</p>
<p>What curricula does the ESF follows?</p>	<p>With the exception of L1, L2 (language 1 and 2), syllabuses are identical and the same standards are required to be met. All the syllabuses are harmonized across all European Schools in order to ensure equal conditions and lead up to the same examination: the European Baccalaureate. To guarantee recognition of the European Baccalaureate certificate, syllabuses must meet the minimum requirements of all the Member States. Since these vary from country to country, syllabuses are designed through negotiations among national expert based on detailed comparisons of national curricula.</p> <p>Pages - Syllabuses and Attainment descriptors</p>
<p>When can I register my child?</p>	<p>You can register your child from the beginning of December to the end of February of the year that you would like to enroll your child in September.</p>

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<p>When do parents/legal guardians know if their child is admitted?</p>	<p>Pupils of category III will only be admitted if places are available. The final answers, including the class allocation, will be sent by April at the latest. Please do not call the school; the correct and complete processing of the data is very time consuming. The school staff is instructed not to give individual feedback before all applications have been considered.</p>
<p>Can I register my child on a waiting list?</p>	<p>No, we do not have a waiting list.</p>
<p>What are the age conditions?</p>	<p>Admission into the Nursery school takes place at the beginning of the school year in September of the civil year in which the child reaches 4 years of age. Admission into the first class of Primary takes place at the beginning of the school year in September of the civil year in which the child reaches 6 years of age.</p>
<p>Does the school organize extra-curricular activities?</p>	<p>The parents 'association organizes the extra-curricular activities at the school. Parents must be members of the association to take part. For more information, please visit the association's website ESF Parents' Association - Home</p>
<p>Which language sections are available at the ESF?</p>	<p>German, English, French, Italian and Spanish (until S2) Europäische Schule Frankfurt am Main - Sprachenpolitik und Sprachsektionen</p>
<p>Which Language 2 (second language) can be chosen?</p>	<p>Language 2 can be either German, English or French. L2 must be different from the language of the section, except in case of SWALS* pupils. L2 will be used later (in Secondary) as a vehicular language for several courses: religion, geography, history, economics.</p>
<p>SWALS (Students Without a Language Section)</p>	<p>Pupils enrolled in a European School which does not have a language section corresponding to their mother tongue are place in one of the existing language sections and then receive tuition in their dominant language as language 1 (the European Schools provide instruction in all official languages of the EU). This is only available for category I and II. Category III pupils are entitled to language 1 tuition if a course already exists. For more information, please refer to our language policy: Europäische Schule Frankfurt am Main - Sprachenpolitik und Sprachsektionen</p>
<p>Can a pupil who is not a Category I or II student have access to L1 as a SWALS?</p>	<p>Yes, if and only if the course already exists Please note that if a course is kept because of the presence/attendance of a category I student, in case this student leaves the school, the course cannot be maintained regardless the presence of a category III student.</p>

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Which L2 can a SWALS student choose?	A Swals pupil enrolled in the English/French/German section will have English/French/German as L2.
Is it possible to request and obtain a change of L1?	<p>The school is obliged to comply with the provisions of the official reference documents: Article 47e of the document "General Rules of the European Schools" stipulates the following: the determination of L1 at the time of enrolment is definitive in principle.</p> <p>A change of L1 may only be authorized by the Director for compelling pedagogical reasons, reasons that are duly acknowledged by the Class Council and on the recommendation of one of its members. Accepted requests remain exceptional cases and are always assessed at the end of the school year by the Class Council in consultation with the teachers concerned.</p>
How big are the classes at the ESF?	Generally, classes consist of a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 30 pupils. Classes with fewer pupils than the minimum may be grouped (merged), while those exceeding the maximum may be divided.