



www.esmol.be

EUROPEAN SCHOOL MOL

Our school was established in 1960 for the benefit of the children of the members of the European Commission personnel. However, since that date, our school has also welcomed children from many other European or overseas families who live and work in the area. Every day, buses bring pupils from as far away as Antwerp and Eindhoven.

Boarding school: Since 1985, with permission from the Belgian Ministry of Education, we have been able to provide accommodation for our pupils at the State Boarding School of Heppen/Leopoldsburg. For further information, its Director, Mr Janssens, can be contacted at the following number: +32(0)11/34.57.93 and +32(0)11/34.57.94, fax +32(0)11/40.12.82, website: <http://www.immert.be>.

The pupils of our school can also stay in the "Internaat van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs" in Turnhout. For further information contact the boarding school at the telephone number +32(0)14/40.21.80 or consult <http://www.internaatgoturnhout.be>.

Our school has four linguistic sections: a German, English, French and a Dutch-speaking Section.

Apart for the mother tongue program, the distribution of courses and their contents are identical in each section.

In certain situations the mother tongue teaching can be guaranteed even if at the school the corresponding section does not exist.

Our **kindergarten** welcomes children aged 3 to 6.

The **primary school** offers a 5-year curriculum (children aged 6 to 11).

The **secondary school** offers a 7-year curriculum (pupils aged 11 to 18).

All pupils prepare for the European Baccalaureate. They take this examination at the end of the seventh year, and the diploma is recognised in all European Universities and in many Universities overseas. Our school does not prepare for any national examination, but the curriculum has been designed so that pupils may, at any stage and without difficulty, go back to their national system. You can find further information on <http://www.eursec.eu>.

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To foster the unity of the school and encourage genuine multi-cultural education, there is a strong emphasis on the learning, understanding and use of foreign languages.

This is developed in a variety of ways:

- the study of a first foreign language (English, French or German), known as Language II, is compulsory throughout the school, from the first primary class;
- all pupils must study a second foreign language (Language III), starting in the second year of secondary school. Any language available in the school may be chosen;
- pupils may choose to study a third foreign language (Language IV) from the fourth class of secondary school. Any language available in the school may be chosen;
- language classes are composed of mixed nationalities and are taught by native speakers;
- the weekly "European Hours" in the kindergarten (twice a week) and in years 3, 4 and 5 of the primary school (90 minutes) bring together children from all sections for cultural and artistic activities and games;
- in the secondary school, classes in art, music and physical education are always composed of mixed nationalities;
- from the third class of secondary school, history and geography are studied in the pupil's first foreign language, also called "the working language" (English, French or German). Economics, which may be taken as an option from the fourth class of the secondary school, is also studied in a working language. From the third class, therefore, all social science subjects are taught to groups of mixed nationalities;
- finally, everyday interaction in the playground, the corridors and the recreation rooms enhances the acquisition of other languages and the realisation that using them is not only vital but natural.

In all the European Schools, the conscience and convictions of individuals are respected. Religious education or education in non-confessional ethics is an integral part of the curriculum.

At the European School Mol you can find:

- beautiful, calm outdoor play areas surrounded by trees and nature;
- extensive sport facilities, indoor and outdoor;
- a warm, caring environment for your child to grow and learn, as part of a dynamic international community;
- a lower number of pupils than average in our classes and the school provides a more individually tailored education;
- Learning Support provided for shorter or longer periods when necessary;
- all primary classrooms equipped with computers, interactive board and portable tablet PCs;
- all secondary classrooms equipped with computers, most of them with a multimedia projector and one in two also has an interactive board.

STRUCTURE OF THE STUDIES

Primary school

In **primary school** mathematics, discovery of the world, art, music, religion or ethics and sports are taught in the language of the section. From the first year onwards, they also start learning one foreign language, taught every day by a native speaker. For an English-speaking pupil this could be French or German.

During the "European Hours", children in mixed language groups, from the four language sections, take part in various activities.

Secondary school, classes 1, 2 and 3: observation cycle

In the secondary school all lessons are 45 minutes.

The program for the observation cycle is distributed as follows:

		<u>1st year</u>	<u>2nd year</u>	<u>3rd year</u>
Language I (mother tongue)	(*)	6	5	4
Language II (1 st foreign language)	(1)	5	4	4
Language III (2 nd foreign language)	(2)	-	3	3
Latin (Option)	(3)	-	-	4
Dutch (special 1 year course-option)		-	-	3
Mathematics		4	4	4
Natural Sciences		4	4	4
Human Sciences	(4)	3	3	3
Art	(3)	2	2	2
Music	(3)	2	2	2
Physical Education		3	3	3
Religion or Ethics		2	2	2
Additional activities (ICT)	(5)	1	2	2
		32	32 or 34	31, 33 or 35

(1): English, German, French.

(2): all languages of the European Union.

(3): pupils who take Latin drop art or music.

(4): human sciences: 1st and 2nd year in language I, up from 3rd year in language II.

(5): additional activities (drama, first aid, computing, etc...): are compulsory in the 1st and 2nd year and optional in year 3.

(*) In all years, except for years 6 and 7, the following denominations were fixed as follows:

Langue I : mother tongue.

Langue II : first foreign language, studied from the first year of the primary school.

Langue III : second foreign language, studied from the second year of the secondary school.

Langue IV : third foreign language, eventually studied from the fourth year secondary school onwards.

Secondary school year 4 and 5: pre-orientation cycle

Pupils will take a minimum of 31 and a maximum of 35 periods per week.

27 (or 29) periods constitute common core subjects.

Four to eight periods will be dedicated to optional subjects.

Pupils can choose from six different options.

<u>Common-core</u>	<u>Number of periods per week</u>
Language I (*)	4
Mathematics	4 or 6 (a)
Language II	3
Language III	3
Biology	2
Chemistry	2
Physics	2
Geography	2
History	2
Physical Education	2
Religion or Ethics	1

Option

Language IV	4
Latin	4
Economics	4
Art	2
Music	2
ICT	2

(a) Choice of the pupil

(*) In all years, except for years 6 and 7, the following denominations were fixed as follows:
Langue I : mother tongue.
Langue II : first foreign language, studied from the first year of the primary school.
Langue III : second foreign language, studied from the second year of the secondary school.
Langue IV : third foreign language, eventually studied from the fourth year secondary school onwards.

Secondary school, year 6 and 7: orientation cycle

Common-core		Options				Additional Courses			
1		2		3		4		5	
Language I	4	Biology	2	Latin	4	Advanced Langue I	3	Lab Physics	2
Language II	3	History	2	Geography	4	Advanced Langue II	3	Lab Chemistry	2
Mathematics	3	Geography	2	Philosophy	4	Advanced Mathematics(*)	3	Lab Biology	2
or		Philosophy	2	Language III	4			ICT	2
Mathematics	5			Language IV	4			Economics(▲)	2
Religion / Ethics	1			History	4			Sociology	2
Physical education	2			Economy	4			Art(▲)	2
				Physics	4			Music(▲)	2
				Chemistry	4			Language V	2
				Biology	4				
				Art	4				
				Music	4				

(*) The advanced mathematics course can only be chosen if the lessons of mathematics 5 periods is chosen.

(▲) Cannot be chosen if already chosen in column 3.

The pupils have to follow all the courses included in column 1. The biology, history, geography and philosophy courses must be selected in column 2 or 3. The biology course which appears in column 2 and 3 is compulsory unless physics or chemistry is selected in column 3. The pupils must choose at least two options from column 3 or 4, in order to ensure that their weekly schedule includes at least 31 periods. They can choose other options or additional courses on condition of not exceeding 35 periods per week.

It is obvious that all the schools cannot offer all the options in all the language sections. If an optional course cannot be created in the mother tongue of the pupil, it can be given in one of the other languages studied by the pupil or in the language of the host country.

SCHOOL MEALS

The school has a high quality canteen, also open for parents, serving freshly made hot and cold lunches or a sandwich. Current price for the pupils is € 4,10 per meal. During the main class breaks, pupils of the secondary school can also buy soft drinks, milk and sandwiches. (<http://www.pa-esmol.be>)

SCHOOL FEES

Please contact the school's bursar, Mr Demaeseleer (phone +32(0)14/56.31.91) for information concerning school fees.

You can also find additional information on <http://www.esmol.be> under 'Documents' 'School fees'.

TRANSPORT

Bus connections from Antwerp and Eindhoven.

Public transport every day between the school, Oud-Turnhout, Arendonk area and the nearest train stations of Geel and Mol. You can find further information on <http://www.pa-esmol.be>.

The following people are in charge of the organisation of school transport:

- for the Netherlands and the Antwerp area: Mrs P. Janssen, phone +31/(0)402 542 819;
- for the public transport (De Lijn): Mrs Stassen, phone: +32(0)14/56.31.37.

MEDICAL CARE

The school has a fully equipped infirmary, with a full-time nurse on duty.

The school doctor examines pupils at regular intervals.

A school psychologist is available for consultation and assessments.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

A wide range of activities (sports, drama, music, computing, etc.) is organised for the secondary school pupils partly by the school, partly by the Parents Association. These activities take place during the lunch break or after school hours.

For the pupils of the kindergarden and the primary school, the Parents Association organise activities especially on Friday afternoons. (<http://www.pa-esmol.be>)

HOLIDAYS

Summer : from July 5th to September 5th.

Autumn (end October) : 1 week (1st November inclusive).

Christmas : 2 weeks.

Carnival : 1 week.

Easter : 2 weeks.

Ascension and Whitsun : 1 week and a long weekend.

SCHOOL HOURS

Kindergarten

Monday and Friday	: 08.30 – 12.40
Tuesday and Thursday	: 08.30 – 16.15
Wednesday	: 08.30 – 12.35

Primary school years 1 and 2

Monday and Friday	: 08.30 – 12.40
Tuesday and Thursday	: 08.30 – 16.15
Wednesday	: 08.30 – 12.35

Primary school years 3, 4 and 5

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday	: 08.30 – 16.15
Wednesday	: 08.30 – 12.35
Friday	: 08.30 – 12.40

Secondary school

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday	: 08.30 – 12.50 and 13.45 – 16.15
Wednesday	: 08.25 – 12.30