



19th December 2019

Dear Parents of S4,

Within the European Schools there is in S5 a programme of “Student Mobility”. The principle behind the programme is to offer students the opportunity to spend all or part of the first semester of S5 attending another European School, staying with a host family who speak the student’s L2 or L3. For many students there are academic, cultural and linguistic benefits that come from being involved in the scheme, although consideration must be made of possible difficulties.

EIDE will offer your children the opportunity of participating in the programme next year and if you are interested you should inform us by 11th January 2020. The request will then be considered by the class council with advice to the director on granting permission to proceed.

The process does involve quite a lot of form filling and full details can be found on our website, where you will also find a list of possible destination schools:

<https://portal.education.lu/eid/Infos-pratiques/Programme-de-mobilité-en-S5>

The general term “mobility” is used to cover three possible arrangements:

- a “visit” under which your child would stay with a host family of another school, usually for the entire first term (possibly extended to the full semester, holidays excluded) of S5
- an “exchange” under which your child would swap simultaneously with a student from the host family of another school for the term, so that you would be the host family in Differdange for that student
- an “exchange” under which your child would spend one half term with a host family in another school and you would host a student from that family for the other half term.

There are fourteen traditional and accredited European Schools that currently participate in the mobility programme, and all have both anglophone and francophone sections (except Manosque: anglophone only), so our students would remain in the same section at the other school. There may be difficulties in some schools in matching your child’s L1, if it is not English or French. As far as possible the students continue with the same subject choices, but special arrangements can be made if a particular subject does not fit the host school timetable. Students are expected to be equipped with the text books used by the host school and this can add a significant cost. You should also be aware that some of the European Schools charge fees and might apply them. This would be clarified early in the process.

At the host school the students will participate in all assessments and an academic report will be drawn up and sent to Differdange. The student is also expected to write a report on their experience.

In participating, EIDE would become a host school and we would normally expect families participating in the scheme to offer to host students from other school. We would also be keen to hear from other families willing to house students, even if not sending their own children on the scheme.

The choice of host family is made through direct communication between yourselves and the coordinating person in the potential host school, usually a member of the parents' association. Contact details will be provided on receipt of your initial interest. There is no firm commitment until parents confirm their satisfaction with the arrangements, but hosting arrangements must be completed by April.

Please note that the list of potential host schools is currently being updated and will be finalised on our website as soon as it is completed.

Your sincerely,
Peter Ashbourne
Coordinator S4 & S5