

Secondary School Back-to-School Meeting: Year 7 (6^{ème})

Academic Year 2026-2027

Academic Leadership:

School Director: Dorothée Lebaillif

Head of Secondary and Sixth Form School: Stéphane Mazel

Head of Languages Department: Helen Thirtle-Léotard

Administrative Leadership:

Director: Jean-Marc Lebaillif (Accounting, contracts, etc.)

School Secretaries:

EPBI 1: Caroline Vivancos

EPBI 2: Laura Barbu, Florence Thiolet

(Absences, late arrivals, exemptions, certificates, etc.)

Supervisors - Administrative Staff: Malika Azoug, Thibaud Bousige

Teaching Staff:

French: Brigitte Vidal

Mathematics: Dorothée Lebaillif

Physics/Chemistry: Daniel Guy

English:

- Joanna Cowan (6^{ème}, Bilingual group)
- Vanessa Baker (6^{ème}, European group)

Spanish: Sabrina Palamara (6^{ème} homeroom teacher)

History-Geography:

- Ange Schneider (6^{ème}, European group)
- Helen Léotard (6^{ème}, Bilingual group)

Life & Earth Sciences (SVT): Stéphanie Badaroux

PE: Antoine Haget

Media and Information Literacy: Wilfrid Scamaroni

Exam Results

EPBI is pleased to share its results in this year's DNB (3^{ème} – Year 10, national diploma), National Baccalaureate, and International Baccalaureate exams.

For the DNB, every student in the national section passed, with 100% achieving honours (41.2% "Très Bien"/Distinction, 41.2% "Bien"/Honours) and an overall

average of 15.67/20. We would especially like to highlight the two students who achieved Distinction with "Congratulations from the Jury" (score above 18/20).

It is worth noting that teaching History-Geography in English had no negative impact on results, and that our students' overall average in Mathematics this session was 16.82/20.

Students in the international section who also sat the DNB had a flawless session, with an overall average of 14.46/20, despite not really preparing specifically for the exam (71% achieved honours).

For the National Baccalaureate, 100% of our students achieved honours, with 75% achieving Distinction and 25% achieving Merit ("Assez Bien").

The overall average was 16/20.

For comparison, at the national level in the general education section:

- No honours: 32.4% of successful candidates
- Merit ("Assez Bien"): 29.8% of successful candidates
- Honours ("Bien"): 23.2% of successful candidates
- Distinction ("Très Bien"): 12.8% of successful candidates
- Congratulations from the Jury: 1.8% of successful candidates

On the IB side, results were also very good, with a 94% pass rate. One student did not pass despite a score of 31/45 (equivalent to 13.8/20), as they did not obtain the required points in the three Higher Level subjects, and will retake the exam in October...

"Rules are rules" ... meaning the IB Diploma is extremely demanding!

The overall average for all EPBI students was 31.1/45 (equivalent to 13.8/20), compared with 30.8/45 worldwide.

There are no honours categories in the IB Diploma, but applying the National Baccalaureate criteria would give:

- 12.5% Pass-level ("Passable")
- 31% Merit ("Assez Bien")
- 50% Honours ("Bien")
- 6.5% Distinction ("Très Bien")

For the end-of-year MYP5 e-assessment (end-of-middle-school report), our students achieved an overall class average of 12.03/20.

The whole teaching team wishes great success to our National Baccalaureate graduates, who are joining preparatory classes (classes prépa BCPST) in Nîmes and Business Schools (SKEMA) in France, as well as schools abroad (a Bachelor's in

Communication and Information in the Netherlands, and a School of Architecture in Spain).

Our IB graduates go on to pursue their studies at leading French and international institutions. In France, our students have been admitted to prestigious business schools, including **EM Lyon, ESSEC, SKEMA and TBS**. In engineering, **INSA Toulouse, INSA Lyon and Centrale Lyon** will also be welcoming some of our graduates.

Internationally, **McGill University** has once again been a popular choice, with one of our students being admitted there. Our students have also been accepted to universities in the UK, including **Queen Mary University of London**, as well as **University College Dublin (UCD)** in Ireland.

These pathways demonstrate the wide range of opportunities available to students upon completion of the programmes offered by EPBI, both in France and abroad. The institutions mentioned above are those chosen by our students, but they have also received offers from many other prestigious universities and schools.

The **EPBI 2026–2027 School Profile** is also available, providing an overview of all the institutions to which our students have been admitted.

English-Language Diplomas

Students always have the option of preparing for **Cambridge English exams**.

Preparing for a Cambridge exam is strongly recommended for all our students (in the bilingual and European sections) both to validate a level with an internationally recognised diploma accepted by higher education institutions, and simply to improve one's level.

The schedule of days and times for Cambridge exam preparation is available online on CLEEBI.

The school maintains its partnership with **Academica Dual Diploma**, which allows our students, starting in Year 10 ("3^e"), to prepare for the **Highschool Diploma** — i.e. the American high school diploma. Obtaining it requires 24 credits.

Under the French or IB programmes, students can obtain, through their report cards, equivalencies in certain subjects such as Mathematics, for example (worth 18 credits in total out of the 24 required).

This leaves 6 courses over 4 years to complete (6 credits), requiring 3 to 6 hours of work per week (time built into the timetable). These 6 credits cover 4 mandatory subjects (English, U.S. History, American Economics, Government) and 2 electives (Psychology, Criminology, Geopolitics, SAT Prep, etc.).

This American diploma helps strengthen a student's application file for higher education (Parcoursup, UCAS, etc.) and is also ideal preparation for the SAT (the entrance exam for U.S. universities).

As such, we remain an official test and preparation center for the **SAT**. We therefore offer SAT prep courses (English and Mathematics) during every school break except Christmas.

Communication

We are holding **a special "Classroom, Cleebi, Noteebi" meeting on Thursday, 10th September 2026 at 4:00 PM**, to help you get to grips with the various information and communication tools offered by EPBI.

This meeting is open to all parents. We will install all the applications needed for your child's schooling and follow-up on your phones, tablets and/or laptops.

- Cleebi: Electronic School Liaison Notebook of the Bilingual International School. It provides all the information shared with students, parents, and teachers of the school. It contains no personal information.
- Classroom: Course content, and the platform for video conferencing. There is one Classroom per subject.
- Noteebi: Individual account to follow your child's schooling (grades, absences, tardiness, timetable, report cards, sign-up for parent-teacher meetings).

Electives

This year, EPBI has built its timetables so that all secondary school students finish classes at 3:30pm on Mondays and Thursdays.

In fact, an increasing number of students ask us for adjusted schedules to accommodate intensive practice of a sport or another cultural activity, and this will make it easier for them.

Options offered by EPBI:

- Musical Theatre: 3:30pm-5:30pm, on Mondays
- Chess: 3:30pm-5:30pm, on Thursdays
- Golf, tennis and paddle tennis: 3:30pm-5:30 pm, on Mondays and Thursdays
- Study time: 3:30pm-4:30 pm, on Mondays and Thursdays
- Cambridge exams: Tuesdays 4:45pm-5:45pm
- French as a Foreign Language: Tuesdays 4:45pm-5:45pm

Cambridge exams are optional (sign up through the secretary's office)

Study Time

Two study time options:

- A supervised study period led by a teacher, Tuesdays from 4:45pm to 6:00pm.
- A study period with a supervisor, Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 4:45pm to 5:30pm.

The Canteen

The only drink allowed during meals is **water**.

Aside from students bringing a "packed lunch," no outside food may be eaten in the canteen.

Students bringing a "packed lunch" will leave their lunch bag in the lockers near the staff room and collect it from the same place. Lunch bags and containers must be labelled with the student's first name, last name, and class, and cannot be reheated.

Student Arrival and Departure

Students will enter through the gate at EPBI 2 between 7:45am and 8:30am.

Students will leave through the gate at EPBI 2.

At home time, students will remain on the school premises until their parents arrive. A special authorisation will be granted for students who make their own way home (on foot, by regional train, by bus, etc.).

Students who do not stay for lunch will leave the school at 12:35pm after the last morning class and return at 1:30pm for the first afternoon class.

No Year 7 (6ème) student who usually eats at school may eat off-campus without a parent present; the parent must sign the child out at the secretary's office at 12:35pm and bring them back at 1:30pm.

Any student who needs to leave outside these hours requires parental authorisation in writing (email) sent to the secretary's office.

Late Arrivals

At 8:30am, the gate will be closed. A late student must ring the gate bell and must always check in at the secretary's office first.

If the student is less than 10 minutes late, they may go to class with an entry slip issued by the secretary. Parents must always report late arrivals in writing to the secretary's office (letter or email).

A student arriving more than 10 minutes late will not be admitted to class until the following period.

After three late arrivals (whether under or over 10 minutes), the student will not be admitted to class until the following period.

Parents on the School Premises

As part of the security measures required by the authorities, any parent wishing to enter the school, whether through EPBI 1 or EPBI 2, must always check in at the secretary's office first. They will then be given a pass and may access the school premises.

Smoke-Free Perimeter

Since the decree of 1st July 2025, smoking is prohibited near primary, secondary and sixth form schools, and other places intended to welcome, teach, or house children, during their opening hours or periods.

Smoking is therefore prohibited for parents, students, and EPBI staff in an area extending from the exit gate to the road, as well as in the school car park.

Absences

"Planned" absences must be reported to the secretary's office in advance, in writing (letter or email).

Unplanned absences must be reported to the secretary's office by phone before 9:30am.

Upon the student's return, and before rejoining class, a written note must be submitted to the secretary's office (letter or email).

Medical

In the event of an accident, one of the doctors from the Baillargues medical group will step in.

If necessary, the child will be taken to Lapeyronie Hospital or to a private clinic if specified on the medical release form.

In any case, parents will be notified as soon as the accident occurs.

We are not authorised to give medication to sick children.

If a child needs to take medication, please ask your doctor, if possible, for a morning-and-evening dosing schedule. Otherwise, **give the school secretary the prescription and the medication, labelled with the child's name.**

Children who are sick and/or feverish cannot come to school.

No medication should be kept in schoolbags.

IMPORTANT: The following illnesses require exclusion from school and must be reported to the secretary's office:

Diphtheria, meningitis, polio, hepatitis A, tuberculosis, whooping cough, rubella, mumps, streptococcal infections (all types), gastroenteritis.

CLEEBI (Electronic School Liaison Notebook of the Bilingual International School)

General information is available on the website: www.cleebi.online

Please check it regularly. You can register on the site to receive any new information by email.

Personal correspondence should be sent to the secretary's office email address: **accueil@epbi.net**

Parents who have not yet provided their email address, or whose address has changed, are asked to update it with the school secretary.

Following Your Child's Grades

Children's academic results can be viewed on the website: www.noteebi.net

We have sent each parent and student a personal login and password.

You will also find lesson content, tracking of absences or lateness, teachers' remarks, and can sign up for end-of-term parent-teacher meetings.

Please note that access rights differ depending on whether you log in as a parent or as a student!

Assessments

A schedule of DS (assessment tests) is posted on the CLEEBI website and handed out to students. Each week, students are assessed in two subjects.

These DS grades carry a coefficient of 2.

Each teacher may also give oral or written quizzes on lessons, grade homework assignments, reading reports, or presentations, with appropriate coefficients...

The report card will not show an overall average, but will show an average for each subject.

Important Dates

School Holidays

- From Friday evening, 16th October 2026 to Monday morning, 2nd November 2026
- From Friday evening, 18th December 2026 to the morning of 4th January 2027
- From Friday evening, 5th February to Monday morning, 22nd February 2027
- From Friday evening, 2nd April to Monday morning, 19th April 2027
- Summer holidays starting 30th June (evening)

Public Holidays, Long Weekends and Non-Teaching Days

- Wednesday, 11th November 2026
- Monday, 29th March 2027
- Wednesday 5th May 2027, Thursday 6th May, Friday 7th May 2027
- Monday, 17th May 2027
- Wednesday, 23rd June 2027

School Fête: Tuesday, 22nd June 2027

Parent-Teacher Meetings

- 1st term: Tuesday 8th December 2026
- 2nd term: Tuesday 16th March 2027
- 3rd term: Wednesday 16th June 2027

Teachers will meet with parents for a 5-minute in-person individual meeting. You can sign up on the parent Noteebi account within the 15 days before the meeting.

School Rules

Rules and regulations are necessary for community life together and this document is available under the "*communication*" tab on the noteebi account.

Each parent will sign it electronically on their noteebi.fr account.

Every disciplinary action taken is followed by a meeting with the teacher and the academic leadership.

Parents agree to comply with these decisions.

Mobile Phones and Audio/Electronic Equipment

Mobile phones are prohibited in all schools. If students bring their phone to school, they must always place it, upon arrival, in a lockable box provided for this purpose. They will retrieve it when they leave the school premises.

Otherwise, the devices will be confiscated for **a full week (including the weekend)** and longer in case of repeated offenses. No exceptions will be made.

It is important that every parent raises their child's awareness on this topic.

Smartwatches are also prohibited.

Dress Code

Students must be dressed **appropriately**.

No underwear should be visible.

The length of shorts, skirts, or dresses must reach the knee. Tank tops with straps that are too thin (less than 5 cm) or t-shirts that expose the midriff are not allowed either.

Haircuts and hair colours must remain compatible with a school setting. In particular, non-natural hair colours, and shaved patterns or lettering, are prohibited. Piercings and tattoos are not permitted.

Security and Implementation of the PPMS (School Emergency Safety Plan)

The terrorist threat requires strengthened security measures in schools.

Official guidance from the Ministries of National Education and the Home Office requires every school to develop a PPMS (Emergency Safety Plan).

Implementing these measures requires the cooperation of the whole school community.

Safety and vigilance are everyone's concern.

- Everyday vigilance from everyone

As parents, please do not linger in the courtyards.

You will drop off or pick up your child with the adult or teacher responsible for students at the gate, and then leave **immediately**.

Gatherings of parents are not permitted on the school premises.

Outside official arrival and departure times*, you must ring the intercom, identify yourself, and always report to the secretary's office first.

You must obtain authorisation to enter the school premises from the secretary's office.

In case of tardiness, the student will be given permission to enter class. No student may join class without this authorisation.

- Regular practice drills

The PPMS covers risks linked to major natural incidents (storms, flooding, weather alerts, etc.) as well as specific emergency situations (fire, intrusion by outsiders, attacks, etc.)

During the school year, the school organises 3 drills, one of which covers an attack/intrusion scenario.

The drills allow students to practise the postures (lockdown, evacuation) appropriate to each type of risk, adapted to the children's age.

A video surveillance system is installed across the entire school premises (car park, playgrounds, park, entrances, exits, stairways, etc.)

An explanatory notice on what to do in the event of an orange or red "weather alert" has been published on www.cleebi.online

- Official arrival and departure times:
- 7:45 am to 8:30 am
- 4:30 pm to 4:45 pm
- 5:35 pm to 6:00 pm

Weather Alert Protocol

Given increasingly frequent weather alerts, the school has put in place a simple protocol.

In the event of an **orange alert**, classes continue as normal, but parents who wish to pick up their children before the end of classes may do so. In this case, a note from you will be required stating that you are picking up your children. (You must check in at the secretary's office.)

In the event of a red alert:

- If it is announced before the start of classes, the school will remain closed and will not admit children.
- If the **red alert** is triggered during class hours, parents must come to pick up their children as soon as possible. Staff will remain at the school for as long as necessary to look after the children.

Please note that exit permissions are no longer valid in the event of an orange or red alert, and you will need to come and collect your children in person. If you cannot come yourself, please specify by text or email the name of the person with whom your child can leave school.

Notifications will be posted on CLEEBI, which is why it is worth subscribing to receive messages by email.

Important Contact Information

- École Privée Bilingue Internationale, Domaine de Massane, 34670 BAILLARGUES

Phone: 04.67.70.78.44 Fax: 04.67.70.78.46 Dorothée's mobile: 06.71.38.38.85

- Secretary's email: accueil@epbi.net

- Dorothée Lebaillif: email (Academic Director): dlebaillif@epbi.net

- Jean-Marc Lebaillif: email (Accounting): comptabilite@epbi.net

- Helen Thirtle-Léotard: email (Head of Languages Department): hthirtle@epbi.net

- Stéphane Mazel: email (Head of National Secondary and Sixth Form School Programme): smazel@epbi.net