



European School Mol

A school for the future



"Educated side by side, untroubled from infancy by divisive prejudices, acquainted with all that is great and good in the different cultures, it will be borne in and upon them as they mature that they belong together.

Without ceasing to look to their own lands with love and pride, they will become in mind Europeans, schooled and ready to complete and consolidate the work of their fathers before them, to bring into being a united and thriving Europe."

Jean Monnet





Welcome

At the European School of Mol, developing our students into active and conscientious citizens of the world lies at the heart of our mission.

Students' opinions, participation in school life and active involvement in the everyday running of the school are promoted throughout their academic careers.


ES Mol has a Nursery School for pupils aged 3 to 6 years old; a Primary School comprising a 5-year curriculum for children aged 6 to 11; and a Secondary School with a 7-year curriculum for students aged 11 to 18.

ES Mol is smaller than most European schools and has a family feel. Class sizes are smaller than average and are tailored to the needs of the individual students.

Our school has 3 language sections: Dutch, French and English. All students are taught in the language of their section - predominantly by native speakers of the respective languages. Apart from the mother tongue programme, the courses and their content are identical in each section.

ES Mol also offers mother-tongue tuition to pupils whose mother tongue does not correspond with one of the 3 sections (certain conditions apply).

The European School of Mol welcomes all students. Our student population includes children from local families as well as from international families who live and work in the area. Our school bus service transports students to Mol from Antwerp, Eindhoven and the Brussels area. Boarding facilities and host families are available for those students who live further away.



Academic excellence

ES Mol promotes academic achievement; to aim high is what we ask of our students.

Our students' excellent achievements are the result of a philosophy that encourages all to do their best, from day one of the school year, in every school year. We communicate this message regularly and clearly to our students and academic success is celebrated. Students are encouraged to be proud of their achievements.

Our students develop high standards in their mother tongue and in foreign languages. Everyday interactions with the whole school community in the corridor, outdoors, over lunch, during European Hours, and all across the campus, enhance the acquisition of other languages.

Furthermore, throughout their school careers, our students are encouraged to develop strong mathematical and scientific skills, in the classroom but also outside the classroom: during international science symposia, mathematics contests, and at on-campus science events, which are organised in cooperation with local and international institutions and companies.

The European School curriculum is structured in such a way that students can return to their own national schooling systems at any stage during the course of their academic careers.



State-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories, libraries, well-equipped ICT rooms, and excellent sports facilities guarantee a comfortable working environment for students and staff, allowing them to achieve their full potential. Our green campus and beautiful, natural surroundings contribute to the serene atmosphere which pervades the school.

Each year our graduates leave ES Mol knowing that they are well-equipped to cope with new challenges at a university of their choice, within Europe or overseas. Our careers teachers guide each student individually through the process of university selection and assist students in making the right choice after secondary school.

Various measures guarantee a consistently high quality of education: from school reports to regular visits by inspectors. Each member state of the European Union is represented and an inspectors' committee ensures the standards of the syllabi, examinations and the teaching and learning within all European Schools.

ES Mol is also overseen by its Board of Governors, which comprises representatives from the education sector of the European member states. This board ensures budgetary and statutory compliance and is the ultimate decision-making body of the European School system.

Genuine creativity

Music, art and drama play an important role at ES Mol. They help our students develop as individuals and as a team.

Our superbly equipped art and design facilities and music rooms encourage students to explore their creative side using the latest techniques as well as more traditional ones.

Art exhibitions and auctions, international photography competitions, the design and creation of stage sets, fashion shows, music evenings, short plays, and of course the annual ES Mol musical are some of the highlights that allow the public to witness the passion and dedication of our students and staff. Trips to London musicals, Parisian art exhibitions and museums, Brussels theatre performances, the opera house in Liège, as well as in-house training by the Globe Theatre, just to name a few, are offered from Nursery School as part of the curriculum.

In every project, ES Mol focuses on an international and multi-cultural dimension, thereby ensuring cross-cultural enrichment for all students from a very young age.



True sportmanship

At ES Mol, we believe in the Latin saying "Mens Sana in Corpore Sano" (a healthy mind in a healthy body). Whatever one's level, opting for a healthy and active lifestyle is what we encourage our students to do on a daily basis.

Sport is a great way to build more than muscles: relationships, leadership and teamwork skills all benefit from true sportsmanship.

Our students have access to comprehensive facilities: 3 sports halls, 2 tennis courts, basketball and football fields, a 400m running track, 25m swimming pool, and acres of grass pitches and woods.

In addition to sports lessons, there are Eurosport competitions between European schools, sports days, tournaments with local schools, survival trips to the Ardennes, sailing camps, dance workshops, etc...

Amongst our students, alumni and staff, we have members of national sports teams, internationally ranked sportsmen and even several Olympians.

It goes without saying that our students are given a good example.



Extracurricular activities



At ES Mol, we aim to provide an all-round education for all ages - not only in the classroom but also outside school.

Our students bake, run, skate, paint, create and sell products during Christmas markets and other charity events.

Science symposia, such as Greenlight for Girls, and the European Schools Science Symposium are hosted on campus and are an occasion to meet students from local schools and other European Schools.

Older students debate political issues in competitions (MEC, MUNOM, UNISS) both on campus and abroad.

Students are given the opportunity to set up mini-companies, are asked to participate in the work experience programme, and are offered informal lunches with professionals they admire, not to mention various school trips and regular outings.

ES Mol alumni

Our alumni are engaged in activities as diverse as music, politics, scientific research, medicine, sports, international law, dance, design, business, etc...

From London to Tokyo, Rio de Janeiro to New York, Paris to Moscow or simply in Flanders - there are dance studios, hospitals, universities, scientific laboratories and schools where you can find ES Mol alumni.

Some of them are famous, most of them are not but all agree that ES Mol has given them the confidence, personal development, academic knowledge and social skills to thrive in the "real world". Our alumni keep in contact with ES Mol and each other during the many alumni events – big and small – held worldwide and on campus.

Many alumni return to inspire our current students during fairs and conferences. They also return to keep in touch with lifelong friends they have made during their time in Mol or simply drop by to feel the multicultural and multilingual atmosphere of "their" school again.

Wim DE MEY



Windhoek, Namibia

Belgian

K.U. Leuven, master in medicine, specialization in pediatrics

Pediatrician

How ES Mol impacted my career...

"ES Mol leerde me dat een horizon vooral een begin is van een nieuwe interessante wereld met mensen met andere verhalen. Ideën en meningën. Opgroeien in een school met jonge individuen komend van achter deze horizons bereidt je voor op een leven als wereldburger."

Class of 2003

Isabelle SWARTEBROECKX



Geel, Belgium

Belgian

Thomas More Turnhout, Bachelor's degree elementary education

6th grade teacher in Balen

How ES Mol impacted my career...

"We zijn als persoon 'rijker' als we opstaan voor, en luisteren naar andere nationaliteiten, culturen, gewoontes, huidskleuren... Wat je kunt leren van anderen is onbetaalbaar."

Class of 2007

Camélia DI-MACCIO



London, U.K.

French/Belgian

Graphic Designer, Créapole, Paris
Currently: Accessory Design and Prototyping, London
University of the Arts, Ravensbourne

How ES Mol impacted my career...

"At ES Mol, I was able to develop my creativity in a multilingual and multicultural environment. It has allowed me to understand cultural differences which I translate in my creations."

Class of 2014

ES Mol in numbers

3

Schools: Nursery, Primary, Secondary

6

completely
refurbished
science labs

22

different
languages
spoken

2

libraries with over 45,000 titles
available to meet the needs of
our multilingual population

750

students

53

nationalities

3

sports halls

2

music rooms

1

medical centre
with full-time
nurse

130

large, bright, airy classrooms,
including a distance learning
centre

20

hectares of green campus

125

dedicated, multilingual staff
members

500

seats in the canteen, which serves hot and cold
meals and healthy snacks during breaks

3

stages

25m

indoor pool

3

language sections



Structure of studies

To make the **transition** to Primary School as smooth as possible, **joint Nursery and Primary School activities** are organised. There are joint celebrations, performances and pedagogical projects. Nursery School children also use the Primary School gym, kitchen, music room and library.

Nursery School is concluded with a **graduation ceremony** and a joint celebration with Primary School.

School hours

Monday	08.30 - 13.30
Tuesday	08.30 - 16.15
Wednesday	08.30 - 12.30
Thursday	08.30 - 16.15
Friday	08.30 - 12.30

Nursery School

The approach to teaching and learning in the early years is holistic.

The opportunity to be exposed to different languages and cultures from an early age offers advantages to children's learning and development.

The "Early Education Curriculum, or core curriculum, consist of 4 main domains:

- Me and my body
- Me as a person
- Me and the others
- Me and the world

Each domain comprises 3 dimensions:

- Learning to be
- Learning to live with others
- Learning to do and to know

On arrival at ES Mol, parents complete the 'entry developmental profile' with their child.

Each child has a Portfolio, which is a comprehensive collection of the child's work, self-assessments and teachers' assessments over a period of time. The portfolio is shared with parents twice a year, during the Christmas and Summer holidays. It then is returned to school.

Parents are welcome to request a meeting with the class teacher at any time if they feel the need to talk about their child.





Structure of studies

Primary School comprises a 5-year curriculum for students aged 6-11.

The school provides a formal education in 3 language sections - Dutch, English and French.

The programmes are recognised by all European Union member states.

School hours

	Years 1 & 2	Years 3, 4 & 5
Monday	08.30 - 13.30	08.30 - 16.15
Tuesday	08.30 - 16.15	08.30 - 16.15
Wednesday	08.30 - 12.30	08.30 - 12.30
Thursday	08.30 - 16.15	08.30 - 16.15
Friday	08.30 - 12.30	08.30 - 12.30

Primary School

SUBJECTS	YEARS 1 & 2	YEARS 3, 4 & 5
Mother Tongue (L1)	8 hrs	6 hrs 45
Mathematics	4 hrs	5 hrs 15
Language 2 (L2)	2 hrs 30	3 hrs 45
ONL (Irish / Maltese / Finnish / Swedish)	(1 hr 30)	(1 hr 30)
Music / Art / Physical Education	5 hrs	3 hrs
Discovery of the World	1 hr 30	3 hrs
European Hours (1)	-	1 hr 30
Religion/Ethics	1 hr	1 hr 30
Recreation	3 hrs 30	2 hrs 30
Total	25 hrs 30	27 hrs 30

Marking system

The reporting system is much more than simply grading pupils – it observes how pupils use knowledge and apply skills throughout their individual work (application of skills). A school report is filled out twice per school year (February and July), and there is a Parents' Day in November for individual meetings with the class teacher.

Each child has a Portfolio, which is a comprehensive collection of the child's work, self-assessments and teachers' assessments over a period of time. The portfolio is shared with parents twice a year, during the Christmas and Summer holidays. It is then returned to school.

Throughout the school year there are numerous opportunities for parents to find out about their child/ren's progress.

Specific to the European School of Mol

Primary pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5 have weekly Dutch lessons to facilitate their integration in Flanders.

(1) "European hours" are provided for Primary School pupils as from Year 3. Pupils from all linguistic sections in the same year get together to participate in joint activities (2 periods per week).



Structure of studies

Secondary School comprises a **7-year curriculum** for students aged 11-18.

The curriculum is composed of 3 cycles:

- » the **observation cycle** for Years 1, 2, 3;
- » the **pre-orientation cycle** for the Years 4 and 5;
- » the **orientation cycle** for Years 6 and 7.

In Secondary School all **lessons are 45 minutes** long.

School hours

Monday	08.30 - 16.15
Tuesday	08.30 - 16.15
Wednesday	08.25 - 12.35
Thursday	08.30 - 16.15
Friday	08.30 - 16.15

Secondary School

Observation cycle (Years 1, 2, 3)

SUBJECTS	1ST YEAR	2ND YEAR	3RD YEAR
Language I (mother tongue) (*)	5 hrs	5 hrs	4 hrs
Language II (1st foreign language) (1)	5 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs
Language III (2nd foreign language) (2)	2 hrs	3 hrs	3 hrs
Mathematics	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs
Integrated Sciences	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs
Human Sciences (3)	3 hrs	3 hrs	3 hrs
Art	2 hrs	2 hrs	2 hrs
Music	2 hr	2 hrs	2 hrs
Physical Education	3 hrs	3 hrs	3 hrs
Religion or Ethics (4)	2 hrs	2 hrs	2 hrs
Latin (5)	-	2 hrs	2 hrs
ICT (5)	1 hr	1 hr	2 hrs
Other national language (ONL) (6)	2 hrs	2 hrs	2 hrs
Total	35 hrs	35 or 37 hrs	33 or 35 hrs

(1) French, German, English.

(2) Any language of the European Union available in the school may be chosen.

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

(4) Religion and ethics: 1st and 2nd year in language I, from 3rd year in language II.

(5) Pupils who take Latin (optional course) drop ICT in year 3. ICT is compulsory in year 1 + 2 and optional in year 3.

(6) ONL: Other National Language (ONL), namely Irish or Maltese, is taught to Categories I and II students upon request.

(*) Language I: mother tongue.

Language II: first foreign language, studied from the first year of the Primary school. Language III: second foreign language, studied from the first year of the Secondary school.



Structure of studies

Students have a minimum of 31 and a maximum of 35 periods per week.

- » 27 (or 29) periods are **Common core subjects**.
- » 4 to 6 periods are dedicated to **Optional subjects**.
- » Students can choose from **6 different options**.

School hours

Monday	08.30 - 16.15
Tuesday	08.30 - 16.15
Wednesday	08.25 - 12.35
Thursday	08.30 - 16.15
Friday	08.30 - 16.15

Secondary School

Pre-orientation cycle (Years 4, 5)

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS	4TH YEAR	5TH YEAR
Language I (*)	4 hrs	4 hrs
Mathematics	4 or 6 hrs (a)	4 or 6 hrs (a)
Language II	3 hrs	3 hrs
Language III	3 hrs	3 hrs
Biology	2 hrs	2 hrs
Chemistry	2 hrs	2 hrs
Physics	2 hrs	2 hrs
Geography	2 hrs	2 hrs
History	2 hrs	2 hrs
Physical Education	2 hrs	2 hrs
Religion or Ethics	1 hr	1 hr
OPTIONAL SUBJECTS		
Language IV	4 hrs	4 hrs
Latin	4 hrs	4 hrs
Economics	4 hrs	4 hrs
Art	2 hrs	2 hrs
Music	2 hrs	2 hrs
ICT	2 hrs	2 hrs

(a) Choice of the student

(*) Language I: mother tongue.

Language II: first foreign language, studied from the first year of the Primary school. Language III: second foreign language, studied from the first year of the Secondary school.

Language IV: third foreign language, studied from the fourth year of the Secondary school onwards.



Structure of studies

The European Baccalaureate

The European Baccalaureate examination is taken at the **end of Year 7**. The certificate awarded is **fully recognised** worldwide with students going to the UK, USA, Canada, Switzerland and Australia. The Baccalaureate examinations assess performance in the subjects taught in Years 6 and 7, and to qualify for admission to the examinations, students must have **completed at least the last 2 years of secondary education at a European School**.

School hours

Monday	08.30 - 16.15
Tuesday	08.30 - 16.15
Wednesday	08.25 - 12.35
Thursday	08.30 - 16.15
Friday	08.30 - 16.15

Secondary School

Orientation cycle (S6 - S7)

The Common core courses included in column 1 are mandatory for all students.

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.

Students must choose at least 2 Optional subjects from column 3 or 4, to ensure that their weekly schedule includes at least 31 periods. They can choose other Optional subjects or Additional courses on condition that they do not exceed 35 periods per week.

If an Optional course cannot be provided in a student's mother tongue, it can be given in one of the other languages studied by the student or in the language of the host country (Dutch).

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS		OPTIONAL SUBJECTS		ADDITIONAL COURSES
1	2	3	4	5
Language I - 4 hrs	Biology - 2 hrs	Latin - 4 hrs	Adv. Langue I - 3 hrs	Lab Physics - 2 hrs
Language II - 3 hrs	History - 2 hrs	Geography - 4 hrs	Adv. langue II - 3 hrs	Lab Chemistry - 2 hrs
Mathematics - 3 hrs	Geography - 2 hrs	Philosophy - 4 hrs	Adv. Maths (a) - 3 hrs	Lab Biology - 2 hrs
or Mathematics - 5 hrs	Philosophy - 2 hrs	Language III - 4 hrs		ICT - 2 hrs
Religion or Ethics - 1 hr		Language IV - 4 hrs		Economics (b) - 2 hrs
Physical Education - 2 hrs		History - 4 hrs		Sociology - 2 hrs
		Economics - 4 hrs		Art (b) - 2 hrs
		Physics 4 - hrs		Music (b) - 2 hrs
		Chemistry - 4 hrs		Language V - 2 hrs
		Biology - 4 hrs		
		Art - 4 hrs		
		Music - 4 hrs		

(a) The advanced mathematics course can only be chosen if in the Common core mathematics 5 periods is chosen.

(b) Cannot be chosen if already chosen as Options in column 3.

(*) The following denominations were fixed as follows:

Language I: mother tongue.

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

Language III: second foreign language, studied from the first year of the Secondary school.

Language IV: third foreign language, studied from the fourth year of the Secondary school onwards.

Langue V: fourth foreign language, studied from the sixth year of the Secondary school onwards.

ES Mol partners



Parents Association
European School Mol



ES Mol Parents' Association

The Parents' Association (PA) plays a key role in providing services such as transport, after-school care and boarding via host families.

After-school care / Garderie

This is for pupils from Nursery, Primary, and - in exceptional cases - Secondary School until their parents collect them or until they board the bus. It is available from Monday to Friday.

Transport

We have 5 different school bus lines transporting students from as far as Antwerp, Eindhoven and Ekeren.

Host families and boarding facilities

For pupils who live far away from school or even abroad, there are boarding facilities in the direct vicinity of the school. ES Mol works together with "Leefhuis CONNECT" - a boarding facility in Leopoldsburg. If preferred, the PA can look for a host family who will accommodate children during the school week.

Detailed information about the PA can be found on www.paesmol.eu

ES Mol canteen

The school has a high-quality canteen, also open to parents, which serves fresh hot and cold lunches and sandwiches. During breaks, Secondary School students can also buy smoothies, milk and healthy snacks. Students pay with an electronic canteen card.

ES Mol childcare

ES Mol works closely with "De Kleine Wereld", an independent crèche for babies and toddlers aged 0 - 3 years, situated on the ES Mol campus.

More information can be found on www.vaarthuis.be



Let's talk!

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