



The European Parents' Association

of the European Schools

ALICANTE, BERGEN, BRUXELLES I, II, III, IV

FRANKFURT, KARLSRUHE, LUXEMBURG I, II,

MOL, MÜNCHEN. VARESE

June 2024

Supporting the European School Parents' Community through the Bacallaureate

Dear Parents of S7 Students, dear Students,

The 'BAC 2024 season' is now underway and we wish all the candidates great success.

Immense efforts are made each year regarding the quality assurance of the examination papers and to ensure that all goes smoothly. Considering the number of papers and students involved, problems with the exams are rare. Nevertheless, there are few things that you should be aware of... "just in case":

Possible actions in the next 2-3 weeks and before the announcement of the results

If your child comes home following an examination with a concern about it, please take time to understand the nature of the problem. Should you conclude that your child encountered a problem, which was possibly due to a mistake in the paper (such as vague wording or incorrect translation) or in how the examination was run, then it could be worth raising your concern with the Chairperson of the Examining Board (Article 12 of [Regulations for the European Bacallaureate](#)) and with the Bacallaureate Unit responsible for management of the overall examination.

If there has been a 'procedural irregularity' (i.e., any infringement of the rules governing the Bacallaureate and its implementation, see (<https://www.eursc.eu/BasicTexts/2015-05-D-12-en-41.1.pdf>), which may have been 'prejudicial' to a candidate's performance, then remedial action at the level of the Examining Board and of the Bacallaureate Unit may be taken by the supervising authorities before the proclamation of the Bacallaureate results, without anybody having to file thereafter an official complaint on such irregularity. A range of compensatory measures are in fact available to the subject inspector and to the Chair of the Examining Board.

However, it is generally worth parents and/or their representatives or students sitting for the BAC alerting these authorities informally to any potential procedural irregularity, in case it has not been picked up already. Such procedural irregularities range from a specific examination question being faulty in some way, to some kind of incident occurring in the exam room resulting, for instance, in the examination being

delayed or halted. The concept of 'procedural irregularity' does not cover, though, local situations, for example where a teacher seems not to have covered the syllabus in class or the school bus was delayed, causing a candidate to be late for an exam. However, in such cases, the Director of the Examination Centre may take note and take action where appropriate.

This year, InterParents and the local APEEEs have once again launched an online BAC Support Center. This platform provides parents or pupils with the opportunity to voice their concerns regarding specific Baccalaureate Examinations, directly accessible from our webpage: <http://interparents.eu/bac/>.

Why InterParents is running the BAC Support Platform

InterParents advises parents to address potential concerns regarding examination papers or procedural irregularities, such as faulty questions or translation issues, by raising them with the Chairperson of the Examining Board and the Baccalaureate Unit managing the examination. Alternatively, they can use the BAC platform provided by InterParents for a consistent approach. This ensures any issues affecting a candidate's performance are acknowledged and potentially addressed before the Baccalaureate results are published.

As the coordinator for all Parents' Associations, InterParents will collect feedback via our e-platform (<https://support.interparents.eu>), cross-check situations in other European Schools, analyse crucial facts, consult experts, and decide on the appropriate way forward if necessary.

After recent discussions, it was decided that this year there will be no direct communication between the InterParents BAC Team and the BAC Unit - OSGES during the ongoing BAC examinations. Any system errors affecting all pupils or a significant portion of them will be officially discussed in a meeting between the InterParents BAC Team and the BAC Unit in July to collect best practices. Nevertheless, during the BAC examinations (June 2024), the InterParents BAC Team will unidirectionally forward any systematic mistakes or inconsistencies to the BAC Unit. Your voice will be represented during the ongoing BAC examination 2024 as well!

Feedback reported to our InterParents BAC Team regarding local situations, such as insufficient coverage of the syllabus, difficulty getting to school due to transport problems, and administrative or organisational errors/issues will be addressed by your local parent representatives acting as agents for InterParents.

To provide successful support, we kindly pupils or their parents to:

- Consult with other pupils and parents to see if the concern is shared.
- Seek informal feedback from educational advisors and teachers, if possible
- Clearly detail the problem, providing facts, circumstances, and any relevant background information, including feedback you've already obtained.
- Submit a ticket on our dedicated support platform (<https://support.interparents.eu>).

Parents' Association and InterParents are here to help!
Wishing you a smooth BAC season,

InterParents