Parents and school discuss crisis plans, student accident numbers, new bus access road, COVID safety and first-aid training for children

A summary of the School Health and Safety Committee meeting

March 29, 2022

APEEEL2 was represented by Didier Hoareau, Chris Knight, André Schmutz and Roberta Zani.

Plans in case of a nuclear alert / crisis

There is an existing stock of iodium pills to cover the School's population. In case of such an emergency, the instructions to be followed are the ones from the government. Pupils/students would be provided with pills and allowed to leave the School which would be evacuated.

Statistics on accidents and visits to the infirmary

Records of all accidents occurring at school are kept by nurses, including all visits and emergencies they manage. Statistics show that a huge number of pupils are visiting the infirmary. Although some pupils have visited twice, probably for different reasons, a few of them have been making recurrent visits (sometimes more than 6 times) since the beginning of the school year. Statistics also show that September, October, and January are the months with the highest number of visits to the infirmary. The School will continue to monitor its records, but to draw accurate conclusions, it will be necessary to cross-check data over several periods. Furthermore, School staff is prepared to face emergencies and ambulances can intervene promptly if needed. All procedures in place work smoothly.

Accidents during the breaks and surveillance of the playground

The School has reorganised the playground and the breaks for both primary and nursery pupils in such a way that there are now less pupils in the playground at the same time. This has led to a different organisation during these periods, particularly regarding staff management of incidents. So far, there seems to be a reduction in the number of incidents/accidents. Therefore, the School will continue working in this way in the future, keeping the current separate slots to maintain the same level of gatherings in the playground.

Events within the School premises

One-day School trips are allowed again. Some events will soon be organised within the School premises, such as the end of year Ceremony for P5 pupils and the BAC Ceremony.

Cleaning

The School will ask its cleaning company to improve efficiency and ensure that soap dispensers are frequently checked.

Access to School

A new School access plan is getting implemented, with works due to start before the end of this school year. An upcoming meeting is scheduled with the authorities to discuss the plan details. At this time, and during further meetings, the School will raise the topic of pedestrian access, to ensure a safe access for pedestrians and bikes.

Cycle paths, issues during winter

Cycle paths were not always well salted last winter. The School cannot take any direct action on this, as this is not part of their responsibilities. However, the School management has contacted the Bertrange commune on this issue and assured us they will take action next winter so this will not happen again.

Parking

The School explained that with new regulations in force, pupils are not allowed to park their cars in the parking areas. They also reminded that parents are requested to respect “Kiss and Go” restrictions, and that they are not allowed to bring their child to the secondary gate.

Anti-bullying

The schedule for planned activities in the secondary cycle has been respected. Next year, the School will resume activities to also prevent bullying in primary. The “Prevention Week” will take place again, with other similar initiatives aimed at preventing bullying and cyberbullying.

First aid training

The School will organise first aid training again, inviting School staff, teachers and some APEEEL2 staff to participate. In collaboration with APEEEL2, the School is also planning to offer first aid training to students. More information to follow.

Covid

This topic was not discussed much during the meeting. Although we have not addressed the issue of rising Covid cases among pupils at school for the past couple of weeks, we will raise

it in a separate meeting with the School management. On this point, teachers expressed their concerns about potential situations when many pupils and teachers are together in the same room and asked if stricter mask rules could then be implemented. Moreover, some teachers' mask wearing concerns are not being respected. The School confirmed that they will provide masks for future events. However, they cannot implement stricter rules relating to Covid at the moment, as they are following the indications from the government.

If you have questions or comments about health and safety, COVID, first-aid training, our meetings with school management, or if you have ideas for a project, we are always happy to get feedback. Please write our health working group at healthandsafety@apeeel2.lu.

APEEEL2 Health & Safety Committee – April 2022