Feedback from Health & Safety Committee on 05/12/2023

Attended by APEEEL2 Representatives.

Your APEEEL2 representatives attended the Health & Safety Committee held on Tuesday 05/12/23. We are pleased to share with you the main topics which were discussed at this meeting:

Evacuation drills & prevention

- An **evacuation drill** has been recently organized in the secondary building.
- APEEEL2 reported that it was very cold on that day and as many secondary students were requested to leave behind all their belongings (including their coat) in the classroom, **they got cold.**
- The Security Officer explained she never gave these instructions to teachers but agreed that a reminder will be sent to all teachers.
- A member of the school staff has now been **certified first-aid instructor**. He will therefore be available to train teachers and/or pupils on various levels of training. APEEEL2 offered its logistics help to organise trainings for secondary students after school. However, the school could not give us a date as they first must define the priorities (first sport teachers, then…)

Infirmaries

- APEEEL2 asked about the **procedure in place when a pupil visits the infirmary** in secondary. Nurses can discuss many topics with pupils and ask questions. Their decision is based on the dialogue they have with the pupils. If needed, they take pupils' temperature.
- The Security Officer explained they are working on **updating parental authorizations forms for medication** when pupils enter secondary school. Authorizations forms are currently completed when pupils are in primary, but needs may change between primary and secondary (authorization for paracetamol, ibuprofen…).
- APEEEL2 also asked about the **procedure for informing parents in case of a pupil beeing victim of an accident**. The security officer confirmed that if there is no vital emergency, parents are called to accompany their child to the hospital. If there is loss of consciousness, the School calls an ambulance. Nurses are aware they must not stress parents if they call them. However, when a nurse is absent, the School works with interim nurses who do not always know all the school procedures. The School will try to prepare a note with simple instructions for interim nurses.

School policies

- At the last H&S Committee, we were informed that the **draft about illegal substances policy** (working document) had been submitted to the authorities. The School has now received some feedback from the police and is currently analysing the impact of the police's comments.
- APEEEL2 confirmed that we still have not seen the last version of the document.
- APEEEL2 also raised the question about the status of the **Well-Being Policy**. The School answered that it is in stand-by as they first wanted to focus on the illegal substances policy.

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Miscellaneous

- **Incidents in the toilets of the Secondary building**: since they are under surveillance, there are fewer incidents as well as less serious ones. Pupils are reminded that testimonies can be anonymous. They are encouraged to speak out, as only a couple of students are responsible for these incidents, whereas all students are punished when access to the toilets is limited.
- **Non-Smoking school**: Further to complaints APEEEL2 received from some parents, we asked for clarification regarding the bus platforms. Even though they are not within the school premises, students are not allowed to smoke there as they are also used by younger children on their way to/from the school buses. The School Management confirmed that our school is a non-smoking school. They agreed to display "no smoking" signs on the bus platforms and send a communication to all secondary school pupils to remind them about the smoking ban in this area.
- **School entrance for secondary pupils**: Pupils' representatives wanted to understand the reasons behind the decision that they must use Gate 4 to enter the School. The Security Officer explained that separating pupils' flow must remain in place in all European Schools. The School's General Security post is in the Administration building where guards are very busy. They cannot manage at the same time all their tasks and the pupils' flow. The School also confirmed that it is the same distance for pupils to access the secondary building through the Admin building as it is through Gate 4.

The next H&S meeting is foreseen **on Tuesday 19/03/24.**

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