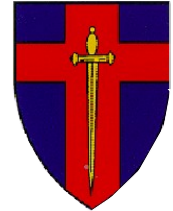




**Headquarters European Support Group
British Forces Post Office 140**

Telephone +49 (0)2161 4722197 Military 94872 2197
Fax +49 (0)2161 4722584 Fax 94872 72 2584
E-Mail [RESG-HQ-\(Mailbox\)](mailto:RESG-HQ-(Mailbox))



See Distribution

Reference: J1/10004

Date: 6 Jun 11

**SCHOOLING PROVISION FOR DEPENDANTS OF UK PERSONNEL SERVING IN
NATO AND EU APPOINTMENTS IN BELGIUM**

1. This letter details current schooling provision for the dependant children of military personnel at NATO and EU locations in Belgium. Addressees are requested to distribute this letter within their organisations to ensure that it is made available to those who are planning for, or considering, accompanied tours in Belgium.
2. At SHAPE, the primary school, is MOD-run and, until **2012-13**, secondary provision at SHAPE will be at MOD-run Windsor School (boarding) in Rheindahlen, Germany. All other provision is and will be made through independent international schools.
3. Parents coming to SHAPE in 2011-13 with secondary age children should be aware that their children will be given a 'split offer' and may be required to spend some of their time as boarders at Windsor School before transferring to its replacement (for SHAPE personnel), The British School of Brussels, as day pupils¹. Further details are at the Annex.
4. Parents should be aware that, while fees are publicly-funded (within certain limits), neither European Support Group (ESG) nor Service Children's Education (SCE) 'endorses' any of the schools listed. A specialist from SCE has, however, visited the British School of Brussels, and a copy of the visit report is enclosed.
5. The educational offer at non-MOD schools is different from what parents could expect in the UK or at SCE schools in the larger overseas garrisons. While some of the schools used are attractive in many ways, their curricula and approaches may not be suitable for every child. Parents must make a careful decision about whether taking their children to Belgium is in their best interests: the schools used are only supported on the basis of **informed parental choice**.

¹ In accordance with ESG J1 10004 dated 8 Mar 11.

7. For other aspects of family support in Belgium and other European locations, personnel are advised to consult 2011DIN01-069.

Pp'd by DCOM ESG

M Lavender
Gp Capt
Comd

APC-MS-DMS-SO1 (Lt Col Chynoweth)
CO UKJSU SHAPE
DNPERS EA
WO StanEval & Trg, Air Command

Annex:

A. School Information.

Enclosure:

1. SCE School Visit Report – The British School of Brussels

SCHOOL INFORMATION

SHAPE

The British Section, SHAPE International School

1. The British Section of the SHAPE International School (SIS), provides primary education to the resident dependant children of all UK personnel serving at SHAPE. Its website is at: <http://www.britishsection.be/omegaindex.html>

Windsor School, Rheindahlen

2. This is a secondary school with a boarding element run by SCE (Service Children's Education). The school follows the English curriculum and further details can be found in its website: <http://www.scewindsorschool.com>

3. Windsor school will **close at the end of the Summer Term 2013** and the last GCSE and A Level cohorts will start in Sep 11. Secondary age children of personnel posted to SHAPE will attend Windsor as boarders until Summer 2013. After this, they will be offered places at the British School of Brussels (see below). Children who are due to commence GCSE or A Level course in Sep 12 will also be offered places at the British School of Brussels from that date.

The British School of Brussels (BSB)

4. BSB is a private-sector international school which broadly follows the English curriculum, offering IGCSEs at 16 and a choice of A Levels and IB at 18. Full details are available in the attached report and the school's website is at: <http://www.britishschool.be>

5. BSB will be the secondary education provider to all resident dependant children of personnel serving at SHAPE from 2012-13 (see para 3 above). Bussing will be provided from the SSFA in Mons to the school, which should take around an hour in each direction.

6. BSB is also the main provider of primary and secondary education for resident dependant children of personnel serving in Brussels. Bussing is funded, with timings depending on SSFA location.

7. Personnel serving in Brussels *may* choose to send their children to one of the other schools listed below, but the fees paid by ESG will be capped at the level charged by BSB.

Other Providers

8. With the exception of St John's International School, the following schools have not been assessed by SCE. The visit report for St John's is available on request from UKJSU SHAPE (see 2011DIN01-069 for contact details). Personnel serving in Brussels may choose to use one of the schools below, on the understanding that they do so as a matter of personal choice and that fees and bus charges will be capped at the BSB rates, which may mean additional costs to parents in some (but not all) cases²:

St Paul's British Primary School: <http://www.stpaulsbps.com>

Brussels International Catholic School: <http://www.bicschool.be/en/primary.html>

International School Brussels: <http://www.isb.be>

British Junior Academy: <http://www.bjab.org>

St John's International School: <http://www.stjohns.be>

Tervuren Montessori School: +32 (0)2-7676360

BEPS International School: <http://www.beps.com>

British International School Brussels: <http://www.bisb.org>

² This stipulation applies to new arrivals in Brussels. Parents with children at these schools at the date of this letter will be provided full funding.