



ACCREDITATION

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Mr. Kevin Bartlett
Director
The International School of Brussels
Kattenberg 19.1170 Brussels
Belgium

8th December, 2014

Dear Kevin,

CIS Response to the 5 Year Report and Visit - The International School of Brussels

The latest report on your school following the recent Five Year Visit conducted on behalf of CIS by Peter Gittins and on behalf of MSA by Jackie Gilbert has been considered by the CIS Accreditation Service and it is my pleasure to send you this summary:

Name of School:	The International School of Brussels (ISB)
Type of Report:	5 Year Visit Report
Date of Report:	1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd December 2014
Outcome:	Continuance within the accreditation cycle

This summary reflects the progress the International School of Brussels has made since the October 2009 Team Visit and the recommendations contained therein. In reading the Five Year Visit Report, it was obvious that ISB is an outstanding international school and one where innovation is highly regarded and the welfare of the students paramount. It was also pleasing to note the significant developments that have taken place since the Team Visit including, but not limited to, the construction of a new Secondary School Building, the implementation of the Common Ground Curriculum, renovations to the Elementary and Middle School Buildings, and the ongoing and ever strengthening commitment to inclusion.

The Five Year Report outlined a number of strengths of the school but, in particular, I would like to highlight the following:

- the massive review of the very fundamentals of teaching and learning culminating in the design and implementation, on a staged basis, of the Common Ground Curriculum;
- the wide degree of alignment to the ISB Mission and the exceptionally positive school culture and climate;
- the individual attention and support that students receive from their teachers coupled with the demonstrated willingness to embrace change and innovation; and

- the outstanding facilities and the excellent financial state of the school which, in themselves, are the end result of prudent financial management over the course of many years.

In identifying areas of focus for the school as it moves towards the Preparatory Visit, the following quotation from the Five Year Report best summarises the key priorities.

'Moving forward, translating the vision of the CGC into demonstrated and embedded practice, ensuring that the respective divisional plans are effectively implemented, further developing the character learning aspect of the CGC and identifying meaningful metrics to further measure conceptual understanding, competency and character will be enough to keep the school busy in the period up to the Preparatory Visit.'

Please note that the full text of the report should be used as the basis for planning, and not this summary letter alone. The school should now proceed by addressing the Visitors' recommendations. The next stage of the accreditation process will be the submission of the school's Prior Information and Reflections documents by the beginning of October 2017. This will be followed by the Preparatory Visit which is scheduled to take place at the end of October 2017.

May I wish you, Kevin, and the entire school community, every success as you continue working on the issues identified in the Five Year Report and prepare for the Preparatory Visit. Please do not hesitate to contact Peter Gittins, the CIS Regional Accreditation Officer responsible for your school (petergittins@cois.org) or me (grahamranger@cois.org) if we may be of further help.

On a personal note I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing the CIS Director of Educational Recruitment Services, Pauline O'Brien to join Peter Gittins on the visit and for so generously giving of your time to meet with her and discuss recruitment-related issues. Further, and noting that you will be leaving ISB in July after fourteen years, I would simply like to wish you all the very best for the future and thank you for your on-going support of the CIS accreditation process.

With my best wishes,



Dr Graham Ranger
Director of School Support & Evaluation
Council of International Schools (CIS)

Cc Jackie Gilbert, Associate Director, MSA
Peter Gittins, CIS Regional Accreditation Officer
Tamara De La Loza, CIS School Services Advisor

Please note: You should have received the Five Year Visit Report to which this letter refers. If this is not the case, please contact accreditation@cois.org.