

# INTERNATIONAL GENEVA WELCOME CENTRE

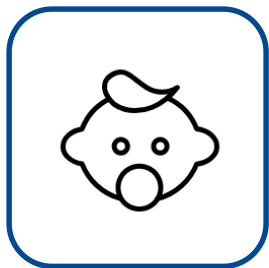


# EDUCATION

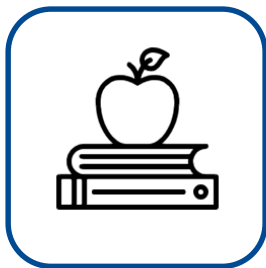
Practical information on education system in Switzerland on CAGI website

Education & Family Life

*Access the full section*



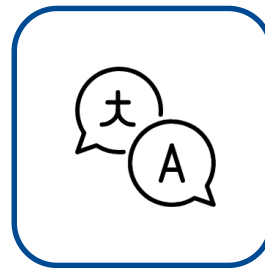
Daycare Centers



Schools



Universities



Language Courses

# NEXT EVENTS & CONFERENCES

---

Saturday, 25 January	Excursion: International's Airport Geneva
Thursday, 6 February	CAGI welcome coffee
Thursday, 13 February	Lunchtime conference: Leisure activities for children

# CONTACT

---

La Pastorale, Maison de Maître  
Route de Ferney 106  
1202 Genève  
Mo-Fr : 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

+41 (0)22 546 14 00

welcome.cagi@etat.ge.ch



[www.cagi.ch](http://www.cagi.ch)

[@CagiGeneva](https://www.instagram.com/CagiGeneva)





# Lunchtime conference: Geneva's Public and Private Education Systems

PRESENTED BY

MRS MARINE LE HÉNANF, EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES (SDPE - BIPE)

# **EARLY CHILDHOOD in the City of Geneva**

**CAGI**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2025**

**Marine Le Hénanf**  
Sociologist  
Service de la petite enfance de la Ville de Genève  
Avenue Dumas 24  
1206 Genève

# Distribution of roles and responsibilities

## Cantonal level

- Define general rules
- Authorise the opening of childcare structures (SAPE)
- Monitor the operations of the structures

## Municipal level

- Provide places from the end of maternity leave until children start school
- Inspect and supervise the operations of the structures
- Approve the quality of the childcare



Canton of Geneva



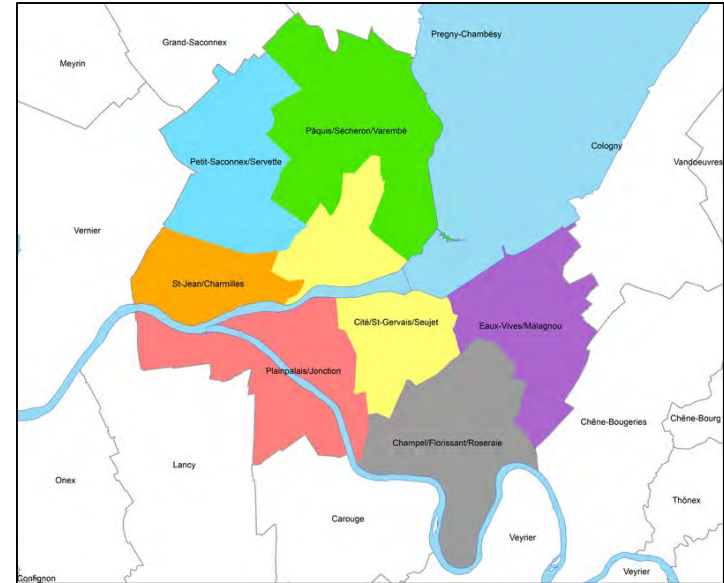
# Early childhood and the Early Childhood Service (SDPE) in the City of Geneva

## Early childhood day-care structures:

- Private legal facilities
- Some of them are subsidised by the City of Geneva
- Organised in the form of an association or foundation caring for children aged between 4 months and 4 years (until primary school)

## Mission of the Early Childhood Service:

- Development and implementation of institutional and pedagogical projects
- Administrative and financial management
- Human resources management
- Compliance with data protection
- Ethical reflection



City of Geneva



# Key figures for 2023-2024

- **86** childcare structures
- **4'302** childcare places
- **More than 4'800** children per week
- **More than 1'800** employees
- Average cost per child: **CHF 46'600**
- The City of Geneva subsidizes up to **75% of the costs**
- SAPE subsidized by the City of Geneva: **> CHF 128 million**
- Projects 2025-2033: an additional capacity of **457 places**
- Coverage rate of demands: **85%**



# Main types of childcare structures

	SAPPE	SAPPR
Full name	Early childhood day-care structure offering <b>extended services</b>	Early childhood day-care structure offering <b>limited services</b>
Childcare structures concerned	Nursery (“crèche”/EVE), family day-care (“crèche familiale”)	Kindergarten (“jardin d’enfants”), part-time nursery (crèche à temps partiel), eco-nursery (éco-crèche)
Age group	0 to 1 year 2 to 3 years 1 to 2 years 3 to 4-5 years	2 to 3 years 3 to 4-5 years
Attendance rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Full-time</b> or <b>part-time</b>.</li> <li>• Children must be present <b>at least 2 full days a week</b> or <b>3 or 4 half-days per week</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Half-day only.</li> <li>• Children must be present between <b>2 and 5 half-days</b> per week.</li> </ul>
Weekly schedule	At least 45 hours per week	Less than 45 hours per week
Yearly schedule	45 weeks – 225 days per year	According to the school calendar
Meals and naps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balanced meal at lunchtime</li> <li>• Nap at a set time for babies and on request for older children.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meals not included in structures that close at midday. Morning and afternoon snacks.</li> <li>• Nap not mandatory.</li> </ul>

# Other types of structures (SAPE)

- Halte-jeux:
  - Occasional child day-care solution for a few hours only. Without registration.
- Espaces enfants-parents:
  - Place for children and parents/caregivers (for parental support and playground). Without registration.
- More informations:
  - <https://www.geneve.ch/fr/halte-jeux-manege>
  - <https://www.geneve.ch/fr/themes/structures-accueil-enfance-activites-extrascolaires/lieux-rencontre-parents-enfants>

# Early childhood information bureau (BIPE)

- Takes registrations for all early childhood day-care structures located within the municipal territory and subsidised by the City of Geneva
- Manages a waiting list based on the allocation criteria
- Sends active applications to the childcare structures according to the available places.

## Registrations:

- **Online (if resident in the City of Geneva):**

<https://demarches.ville-geneve.ch/demandepetiteenfance>

- **By e-mail:**

[infobipe@geneve.ch](mailto:infobipe@geneve.ch)

- **By phone:**

+41 (0) 22 418 81 81 - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:00-12:00

- **Reception on site (with appointment on <https://bipe.agenda.ch>):**

Rue du Cendrier 8, 1201 Genève - Tuesday 08:30-12:00 and Thursday 13:00-17:00

# Early childhood information bureau (BIPE)

- Specifications
  - Registration from the twelfth week of pregnancy
  - Registrations must be renewed every six months (not automatic)
  - Applications are handled on a first-come, first-served basis
  - No guaranteed places. Other possibilities:
    - Approved child minders (list available from the BIPE)
    - Approved parental assistants “Mary Poppins” (list available at <https://www.022familles.ch/famille/garde-enfants/> )
    - Emergency childcare : Chaperon rouge (<https://www.croix-rouge-ge.ch/>)

# Place allocation and priority criteria

- Resident or working in the City of Geneva
- Both parents working (employment, training, unemployment or job-seeking registered with the ORP)
- Brother or sister already registered with a SAPE

NB:

- If a family moves outside the city limits during the course of the year, the children cannot retain their spot after the end of the school year.
- “Ô comme 3 pommes” (52 places) primarily welcomes the children of staff of IOs, NGOs and diplomatic representations.

# Annual Fees

- Calculation of fees adapted to the financial capacity of the users according to a [price chart](#) available online:
  - Minimum price of CHF 1,163 for a relevant income of CHF 16,000 or less\*
  - Maximum price of CHF 25,120 for a relevant income of CHF 220,000 and more\*
- For siblings:
  - Half-price for the second child
  - Free for the third child

\*Depending on the status



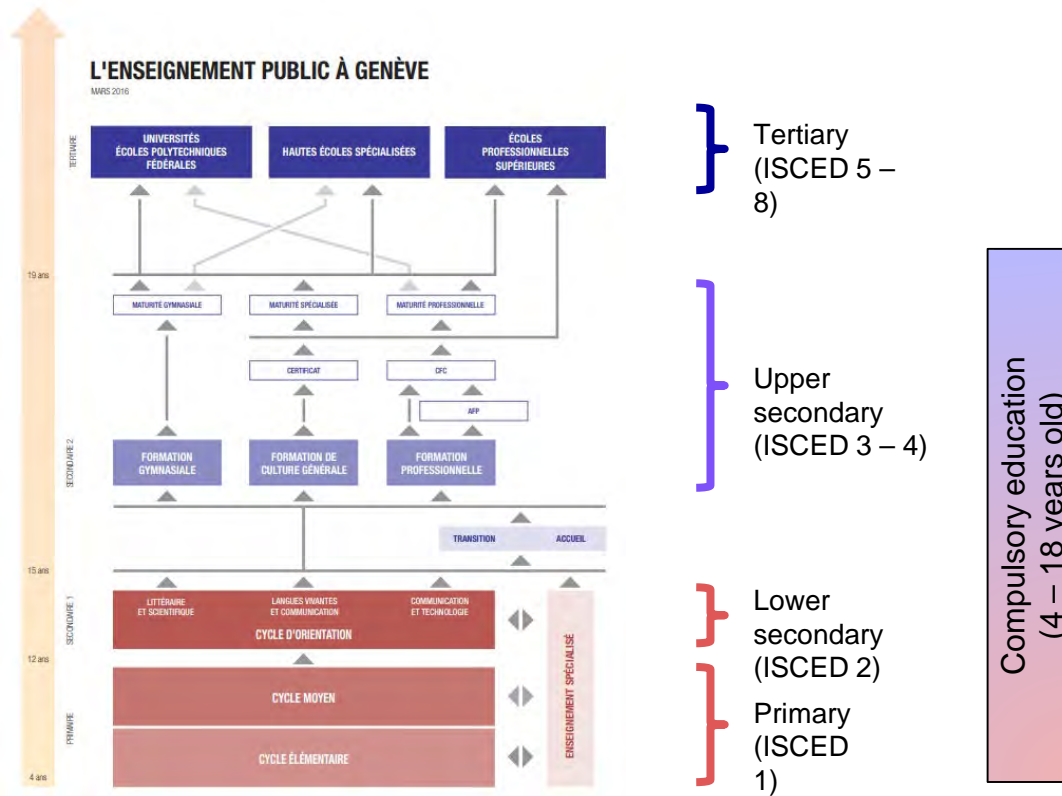


# Lunchtime conference: Geneva's Public and Private Education Systems

PRESENTED BY

MR DAVID RIGOLET AND MRS HELENI HOLLAND SILVA, GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR EDUCATION (DIP)

# The public educational system in Geneva



## Nombre d'élèves selon le degré d'enseignement, 2023

## VUE D'ENSEMBLE

	Enseignement public	Enseignement privé
Enseignement primaire	39'342	7'039
Enseignement secondaire I	14'330	3'363
Enseignement secondaire II	25'403	4'067
Enseignement tertiaire	24'143	—
Enseignement spécialisé (public et subventionné)	2'200	—
<b>Total des élèves</b>	<b>104'884</b>	<b>—</b>

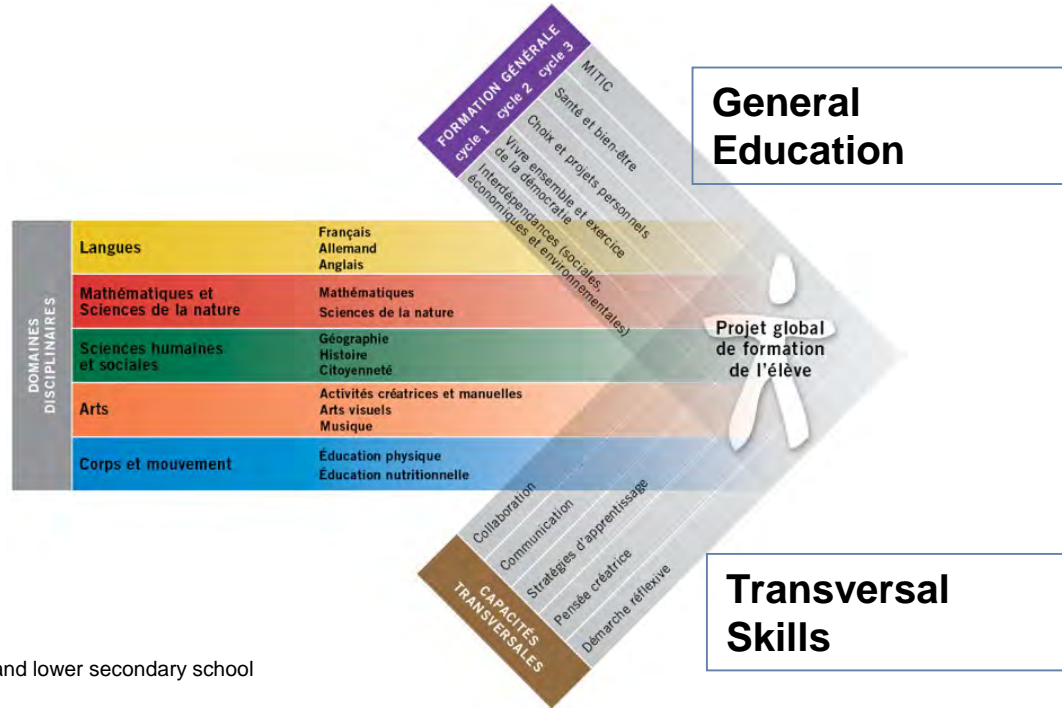
### N.B.1. Enseignement public :

- Le système d'enseignement et de formation amène certains élèves à suivre deux formations simultanées, soit dans deux établissements de même degré, soit dans l'enseignement régulier et dans l'enseignement spécialisé. Ainsi le nombre total d'élèves affiché est inférieur à la somme des élèves par degré d'enseignement.
- L'enseignement secondaire II public comprend les structures d'accueil, les formations préqualifiantes, la formation générale, la formation professionnelle ainsi que les passerelles qui donnent accès aux formations de niveau tertiaire. L'enseignement tertiaire comprend les formations professionnelles supérieures, les formations dispensées par les hautes écoles spécialisées et l'Université de Genève.

**N.B.2. Enseignement privé :** l'enseignement secondaire II comprend la formation générale, ainsi que la formation professionnelle à plein temps des écoles délivrant des CFC (commerce et informatique). Les autres formations professionnelles privées de niveau secondaire II et les formations tertiaires privées ne sont pas enregistrées dans la nBDS.

Sources: SRED/nBDS (état au 31.12), HES (état au 1<sup>er</sup> semestre) et Université de Genève (état en novembre)

# Swiss French curriculum (PER) for Compulsory Education : Global Education Project



Curriculum for primary and lower secondary school

# Primary school

8 years **primary school** 4 – 12 years old

**MIDDLE CYCLE**  
5P, 6P, 7P, 8P

**ELEMENTARY CYCLE**  
1P, 2P, 3P, 4P

# Lower secondary

3 years **orientation cycle** (lower secondary school), 12 -15 years old

	<b>Enseignement secondaire II</b>		
	<b>Enseignement secondaire I – Cycle d'orientation</b>		
<b>11CO</b>	<b>Section CT</b> Communication et technologie	<b>Section LC</b> Langues vivantes et communication	<b>Section LS</b> Littéraire-scientifique
<b>10CO</b>	<b>Section CT</b> Communication et technologie	<b>Section LC</b> Langues vivantes et communication	<b>Section LS</b> Littéraire-scientifique
<b>9CO</b>	<b>R1</b> Regroupement 1	<b>R2</b> Regroupement 2	<b>R3</b> Regroupement 3
<b>8P</b>	<b>Enseignement primaire</b>		

# Upper secondary

- 1 to 4 years, 15 years old and more

**General education**

College of Geneva  
General culture school

**Professional education**

7 pôles de  
formation  
professionnelle





# ***What shall I do on arrival ?***

- **Primary school**

- Arrange an appointment at the primary school facility closest to the child's residence area/district
- <https://www.ge.ch/inscrire-mon-enfant-ecole-primaire>
- Email or call the general direction (DGEO) to identify the closest school facility
  - [admissions.DGEO@etat.ge.ch](mailto:admissions.DGEO@etat.ge.ch), tel. 022 327 04 00

- **Orientation cycle**

- <https://www.ge.ch/inscrire-mon-enfant-au-cycle-orientation>
- Email or call the general direction (DGEO) for information
  - [admissions.DGEO@etat.ge.ch](mailto:admissions.DGEO@etat.ge.ch), tel. 022 327 04 00

- **Upper secondary school**

- <https://www.ge.ch/inscription-enseignement-secondaire-ii>
- Email or call the general direction (DGESII) for information
  - [Inscriptions.es2@etat.ge.ch](mailto:Inscriptions.es2@etat.ge.ch), tel. 022 327 37 54

# Inscriptions 2025 à l'enseignement secondaire II (ES II) des élèves issus d'une école soumise à des normes d'admission (AGEP, Education Nationale (F) ou école publique Suisse)

				
<b>20 janvier au 28 février 2025</b> <b>INSCRIPTION AU CONCOURS POUR UNE FORMATION PROFESSIONNELLE EN ECOLE</b> <small>(Les CFP Arts, Construction, Nature et environnement, Santé, Social et Technique)</small>	<b>3 au 25 mars 2025</b> <b>OUVERTURE DU DOSSIER D'INSCRIPTION</b> <small>(Collège, école de culture générale, CFP Commerce, CFP)</small>	<b>25 mars au 3 avril 2025</b> <b>INSCRIPTION à UNE FORMATION GENERALE</b> <small>(Collège, école de culture générale, CFP Commerce)</small>	<b>10 au 23 juin 2025</b> <b>EN VUE D'UNE FORMATION GENERALE</b> <small>(Collège, école de culture générale, CFP Commerce)</small>	<b>26 juin 2025</b> <b>POUR TOUS LES ELEVES</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Saisir les données administratives</li> <li>- Téléverser les documents demandés</li> <li>- Choisir une à deux formations professionnelles (par ordre de priorité)</li> </ul> <p><i>-&gt; Attention aux délais !!</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Créer l'identification du répondant légal de l'élève</li> <li>- Saisir les données administratives</li> <li>- Demande de pré-inscription (collège, ECG, CFP com)</li> <li>- Téléverser les documents et bulletins demandés</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Choisir une formation A (dans laquelle l'élève est admissible)</li> <li>- Choisir les options (langues, etc.)</li> <li>- Choisir une formation B</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Téléverser le bulletin scolaire annuel 2023-2024</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consulter la confirmation d'inscription</li> <li>- Vacances !</li> </ul>
<b>20 janvier 2025 :</b> ► Compte e-démarches requis	<b>3 mars 2025 :</b> ► Compte e-démarches requis	<b>25 mars 2025 :</b> ► Invitation par e-mail	<b>10 juin 2025 :</b> ► Invitation par e-mail	<b>26 juin 2025 :</b> ► E-mail de confirmation Juillet : ► Envoi par courrier de l'établissement définitif



# ***How can I get the school supplies ?***

- **Primary school**

- Manuals and school supplies are provided for free by the school staff
- Provided by the family : sports outfits and shoes, slippers, "basane" (ballerinas), gymnastic slippers in lower grades



- **Orientation cycle**

- Manuals and school supplies are provided for free by the school staff
- Provided by the family : sports outfits and shoes, backpack and pen case

- **Upper secondary school**

- Manuals and school supplies are to be bought by the family, according to teacher's instructions

# ***What grade will my child be assigned to ?***

- **Primary school**

- Decision based on date of birth (DOB) and educational background
- Possible admission tests to determine the assigned grade
- <https://www.ge.ch/document/depliant-bienvenue-ecole-primaire>

- **Orientation cycle**

- Decision based on DOB and educational background
- Possible admission tests to determine the assigned group / section
- <https://www.ge.ch/document/depliant-bienvenue-au-cycle-orientation>

- **Upper secondary**

- Depends on admission tests results and the student's professional project
- <https://www.citedesmetiers.ch/>
- <https://www.orientation.ch/>

# Welcoming non French speaking pupils in Geneva's educational system (Welcome classes)

# Primary school Welcome classes

- **Pupils grade 1P-3P** : 100% regular class, with individual support if needed
- **Pupils grade 4P-8P** : 50% in regular class, 50% in welcome class for 12 months, essentially dedicated to French language
- No formalized assessment for max 24 months after arrival

# Orientation cycle Welcome classes

- Schooling : 100% in a Welcome class
- 10/33 periods (45 minutes) dedicated to French courses
- 3/33 periods dedicated to mother language courses, if available
- Progressive integration into regular class



# Upper secondary school Welcome classes

- Schooling : 100% in welcome class for 1 year. Can be extended in some cases. Then, transition class for 1 year to prepare access to academic or professional training
- 11 periods dedicated to French courses
- 2 periods dedicated to mother language courses, if available
- 12 facilities in Geneva
- [ACCES II - Accueil | acces-ii \(ge.ch\)](#)

<https://www.ge.ch/organisation/departement-instruction-publique-formation-jeunesse-dip>

**Do you have any questions?**





# Lunchtime conference: Geneva's Public and Private Education Systems

PRESENTED BY

MR SEAN POWER, PRESIDENT AGEP

# Geneva Private Schools

Sean Power

President of AGEP and Director General of Institut Florimont

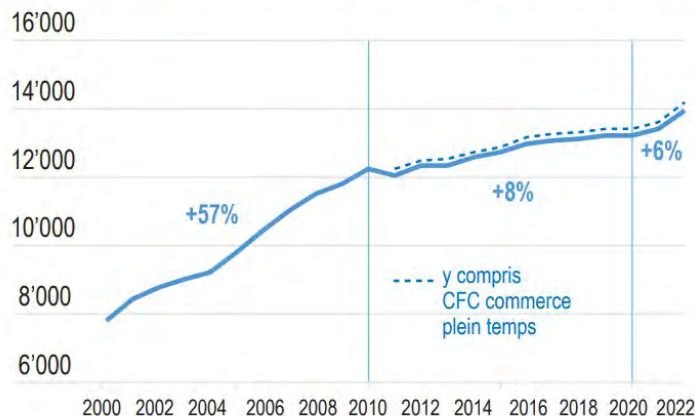


Association Genevoise  
des Ecoles Privées



# Nearly 1 in 5 students attend one of Geneva's 67 private schools

## Évolution des effectifs de l'enseignement privé

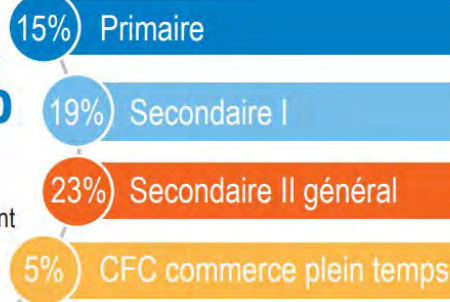


Primaire, secondaire I et secondaire II (formation générale et CFC commerce plein temps [données disponibles depuis 2011]).

Source : SRED

# 17%

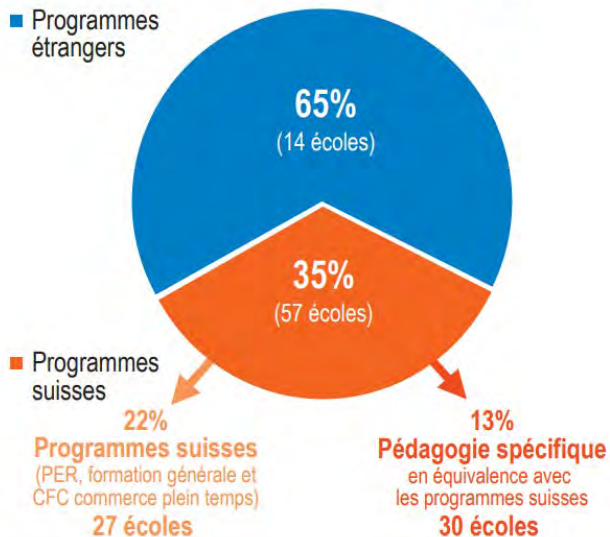
des élèves  
sont dans  
l'enseignement  
privé



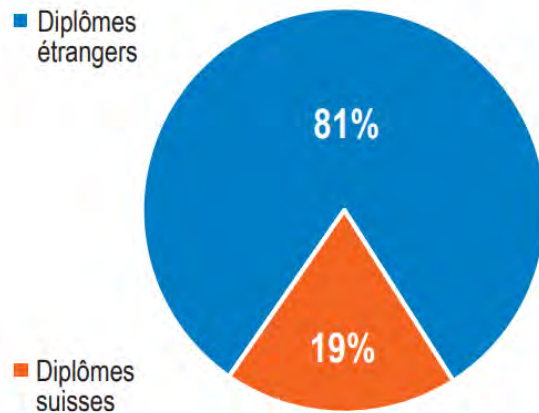
Source : SRED, 2022

# Private schools offer both Swiss and international programmes

Répartition des élèves  
selon le type de programmes suivis



Diplômes délivrés  
selon le type de programmes



# AGEP: a guarantee of quality

- ❑ AGEP: Geneva Association of Private Schools, founded in 1959
- ❑ 45 schools and institutions, adhering to quality certification procedures and a code of conduct
- ❑ From nursery to higher education, including language and business schools
- ❑ A variety of pedagogical approaches, including:
  - ❑ Montessori
  - ❑ Pédagogie active
  - ❑ International education
  - ❑ National curricula (France, Germany, UK, Switzerland)
- ❑ Programmes taught in French, English, German or bilingually
- ❑ Children permitted to join a private school if they will be 3 years old by December 31st (2 years 8 months) - vs. 4 years old to join a public school



# Thinking about a private school?

## First things to think about...

- ☐ Your child's age and previous educational background
- ☐ Your family situation, including languages spoken at home
- ☐ Your professional context (How long will you be in Geneva? Will you be moving soon? Where will you likely move next?)
- ☐ Your budget

## ...then identify the key elements that are important to you in choosing a school

- ☐ A curriculum based on a particular educational philosophy / methodology
- ☐ Where your child is likely to study after completing their compulsory education
- ☐ Whether you want your child to follow a national or international system
- ☐ Whether certain areas of study are more or less important
- ☐ Which languages you/your child speaks or wants to speak
- ☐ Support structures (e.g. for special educational needs, language acquisition skills)
- ☐ Availability and range of Extra-curricular activities, including childcare outside of regular school hours

# Finding the right school

- ☐ Visit the AGEP website, where you will find all our member schools: [www.agep.ch](http://www.agep.ch)
- ☐ Take advice from friends, colleagues, your/your partner's HR team or relocation contacts
- ☐ Visit the schools' websites and social media pages to get a feel for the school culture
- ☐ A few things to bear in mind:
  - ☐ Does the school have a clear mission and educational philosophy - and does it align with your beliefs?
  - ☐ Does the school have strong academic results?
  - ☐ Does the organisation of the school day (and provision of outside of hours childcare) align with your needs?
  - ☐ Is the school's location convenient for your home or workplace (bearing in mind Geneva traffic!)
- ☐ Select the schools which are the best match for your child
- ☐ Contact the schools to arrange a visit and meet the admissions team

# Areas to probe during your visit

## Academic

- ☐ Questions about the curriculum (place of languages, technology, arts, sports...) and academic results
- ☐ Is there a university guidance/counselling service?
- ☐ Where do students go after graduating? (What % go to higher education, to which universities?)
- ☐ What services/resources are in place to support children with additional needs?

## Practical

- ☐ How is the school structured? Who would be your contact person?
- ☐ How is pastoral care organised?
- ☐ How are parents involved in the life of the school?
- ☐ What is the discipline policy?
- ☐ What costs are involved beyond the tuition fees? (Cafeteria, transport, trips, compulsory equipment...)
- ☐ What are the admissions criteria and procedure?

# Final considerations

- ❑ It's always better to visit a school during school hours
- ❑ Make sure your child visits the school and sees a classroom in action if you can
- ❑ Try to speak to staff who will be working with your child, not just the admissions team

# Useful links

- ❑ [AGEP](#)
- ❑ [CAGI](#)
- ❑ [Département de l'Instruction Publique](#)
- ❑ [Education nationale](#)
- ❑ [International Baccalaureate Organisation](#)
- ❑ [Abitur](#)



# Lunchtime conference: Geneva's Public and Private Education Systems

PRESENTED BY

MRS JENNIFER HOLLOWAY, ASK (ALL SPECIAL KIDS)





Dr. Jennifer Holloway

C.Psychol., Ps.S.I., BCBA-D Chartered Psychologist



## Children and Adults at ASK

ASK serves **ALL** children and adults with neurodevelopmental differences.

- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Specific Learning Difficulties
- Mental Health Issues- such as anxiety, depression
- Intellectual Disabilities

Our primary focus is on supporting meaningful **inclusion** within schools, communities and the workplace





## History of ASK

- ASK is a non-for-profit association founded in 2003 to **serve families of children with neurodevelopmental differences**
- 2019 **ACCESS program** was launched for young adults to support their integration within the community and workplaces
- 2021/2022- ASK was professionalized and now provides a **range of clinical services** to children, adults and parents
- We continue to **evolve** with the needs of the community

# ASK Mission

- ASK **supports children and adults with learning differences** and special educational needs and their families.
- ASK is committed to **delivering evidence-based interventions** and services to target socially significant goals for the individual.
- ASK is dedicated to ensuring it is responding to the needs of the community, with the goal of achieving **meaningful social inclusion for all** individuals with differential needs and abilities.
- ASK **promotes both public and professional awareness of differential diagnoses** and the importance for early detection and diagnosis, appropriate recommendations and specialist evidence-based support.
- ASK aims to increase parental and professional **awareness** of additional services available within the community
- ASK **bridges the gap** between parents, educators and specialists, creating a support network to share information and learn from others their experiences to find the best solution for each child and adult – both academically and socially

# Our Team



**Dr. Jennifer Holloway**

C.Psychol., Ps.S.I., BCBA-D  
Chartered Psychologist  
ASK/ACCESS Director



**Kavita Singh**

Clinical Psychologist, MA



**Tanya Esmeral**

Psychologist, MSc



**David Pollard**

Psychologist,  
MSc ABA



**Milla McNally**

Masters in Child and adolescent  
psychology



**Grainne Wood**

Psychologist, MSc ABA



**Dr. Dearbhaile Mohan**

Behavioral Psychologist,  
Msc ABA



**Eirini Foteinou**

Masters in Sciences of Education



**Lionella Bragoi**

Psychologist



**Maggie Reggi**

Access Placement Coordinator



**Renata Cavalli Pessa**

HR Manager



**Nadine Nuwayhid**

Financial Manager



**Jacqueline Martin**

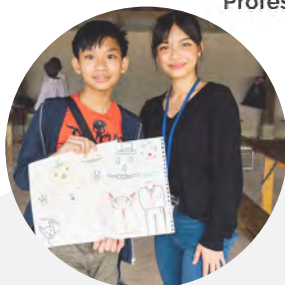
Chair, Fundraising Committee

# Current Services

## CHILDREN/ADULTS

### ACCESS

Social Skills Programs  
Early Intervention Program  
Educational Assessments  
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy  
Positive Behavior Support  
Bilingual Summer Camp  
ACCESS Summer Club



## PROFESSIONALS & SCHOOLS

Specialised Training Workshops  
Specialist Networks & Referrals  
Professional Training Modules

## PARENTS

Parent Consultations  
Coffee with Experts  
Parent Workshops



# Positive Behavior Support: School Inclusion

## Program Goals:

- 1. Promote Social Inclusion:**  
Encourage meaningful peer relationships and social participation for learners
- 2. Enhance Social Skills:** Develop social communication, emotional regulation, and cooperative play skills.
- 3. Foster a Supportive Environment:**  
Create a school culture that celebrates diversity and promotes understanding of neurodiverse needs.
- 4. Reduce Behavioral Barriers:**  
Implement proactive strategies to minimize behaviors that may hinder social engagement.

## Program Elements:

- Individualized Behavior Support Plans
- Peer Buddy Systems
- Social Emotional Learning Groups
- Positive Reinforcement
- Inclusive Classroom Strategies
- Family involvement
- Regular monitoring and evaluation



## For Parents

- Monthly **parent group** meetings
- Online **parent consultations** or in person parent-child consultations with our psychologists
- **School advocacy support**
- **Website** which hosts information on understanding learning differences and local resources
- Monthly **newsletter**
- **Parent representatives** available to meet, support and share their experiences
- **Counselling** colleges available for in person sessions

# Our Partners and Sponsors

Yatouland

coop

m<sup>séum</sup>  
genève

Worthy  
Children  
Foundation

CARITAS Genève

Teamco  
Foundation  
Schweiz

ManpowerGroup

Fondation  
Anita Chevalley

faf  
Fondation Andrea Ferrari

partage  
La banque alimentaire genevoise

LES JARDINS  
DE VOLTAIRE  
JARDIN SOLIDAIRE

UNITED  
FOR  
U

Commune de Bellevue  
République et Canton de Genève

Fondation  
assura.

LOTÉRIE  
ROMANDE

Refettorio  
Geneva

COMMUNE DE  
CHOULEX

ARMÉE  
DU  
SALUT

Fondation  
TDAH-InSight

SIMPLY  
THEATRE

Genèveroule!  
VÉLO & INSERTION

Geneva  
Wellbeing Alliance

"Working together to improve community wellbeing"

ask  
all around kids



Contact us for questions or to get  
involved

[info@allspecialkids.org](mailto:info@allspecialkids.org)

[Jennifer.Holloway@allspecialkids.org](mailto:Jennifer.Holloway@allspecialkids.org)