

9 CSI International Activities and Cooperation

Czech School Inspectorate Involvement in the European Schools in the School Year 2014/2015

In the school year 2014/2015 the Czech Republic was chairing the Board of Governors of the European Schools for the first time. Priorities of the Czech presidency were approved before the beginning of the school year by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and presented to the administrative bodies of the European Schools during their October meetings. The Czech delegation at the Board of Governors of the European Schools was composed of the members of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport as well as representatives of the Czech School Inspectorate, who were responsible for implementation of the approved priorities.

During the Czech Presidency in April 2015, Prague became a place of meetings of the Board of Governors of the European Schools, and there were several working groups established.

The national inspector for primary and nursery section and the national inspector for the secondary section of the European Schools were responsible for implementing priorities in the field of education.

The Czech School Inspectorate is – through the activities of the inspector for primary and nursery section - involved in several key international working groups. The main task of these groups is the development of the European Schools in the following areas: pre-school education, the education of pupils with SEN, pupil assessment and designing a new curriculum for the school subject music.

International Schools

International schools which are established in the Czech Republic are monitored and regularly checked by the Czech School Inspectorate for meeting the conditions for compulsory school attendance of pupils. The outcome of the inspection activities is an evidence form of inspection.

In the school year 2014/2015, six out sixteen international schools, which are authorized to provide compulsory education, were inspected.

Unlike previous years, only sporadic violations of § 38a paragraph. 6 point. d) concerning publication of educational programs in the Czech language have been found. The inspected international schools where violations were detected cooperated with the inspection staff and the deficiencies in the publication of educational programs in the Czech language were removed within the specified period. Other monitored or inspected conditions for teaching/learning were kept. Moreover, in comparison with schools that are entered in the register of schools and educational institutions, the international schools generally demonstrated superior quality of education. Furthermore, the international schools routinely used modern methods and forms of pedagogical work and very effectively met the standards defined by their educational programs.

Participation in International Surveys, Mapping of Knowledge and Skills of Pupils

The Czech School Inspectorate holds responsibility for the Czech Republic's involvement in international surveys, which aim at determining the level of knowledge and skills in mathematical, scientific, reading, computer and information literacies. The Czech Republic has participated in surveys organized by the IEA (International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement) and the OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) since 1995.