



Collège épiscopal  
**sem**  
de **Walbourg**  
*Construire l'avenir l'esprit ouvert*



Sem' de Walbourg is a state-licensed Catholic school. It delivers its academic mission under the auspices of the diocesan church and in accordance with the Statutes for Catholic Education adopted by the Plenary Assembly of the French Bishops' Conference on 18 April 2013 and amended on 7 November 2018.

As an episcopal college, it is under the direct supervision of the Archbishop of Strasbourg, with the assistance of a Council of Trustees in contact with the bishop, which is led by the Diocesan Director of Catholic Education for Alsace and presided over by the relevant bishop.

Its academic project is to educate students in accordance with the ethos of the Gospel. It affirms the spiritual dimension of each individual and commits the school community to helping everyone discover Jesus Christ.





## An academic project based on the Gospel and a shared commitment

Located in the Northern Vosges, **Sem' de Walbourg** is a Catholic school. It accepts both boys and girls, as boarding, day or half-board students, from CM1 (ages 9–10) through to Terminale (ages 17–18).

For the young people and their parents, as well as teachers and educators, joining **Sem' de Walbourg** means adhering to a moral contract and an academic project based on the Gospel in a spirit of shared commitment.

Beside their school work, the young people also get involved in the extracurricular activities available. The idea is to underpin success in their studies with personal development and good interpersonal skills.

Parents, as the first educators of their children, play their part in this project through constructive dialogue – based on trust – with the educational team.

The teachers and educators at **Sem' de Walbourg** are called upon to learn about and abide by this project, so they can live it out together and for real on a daily basis.





# Personal development: our ambition for every student.



If I hadn't been at boarding school, I wouldn't have been able to do so many activities and get such good results.

So I do feel proud of myself!

Lara

We regard success as human development in all its dimensions, i.e. physical, emotional, relational, intellectual, moral and spiritual.

Inspired by this conviction, our school community is committed to developing, for our students, an approach to education based on four main principles:

- Cultivating an open mind,
- Making learning meaningful,
- Achieving autonomy,
- Learning how to live with others.

A tailored approach to education and personalised support are necessary for each individual to develop. With this in mind, every student participates in religious education.

In addition, everyone is invited to explore their faith, and those who wish to do so have the opportunity to live out and deepen their Christian faith at the school.

Musical show.  
On stage at the  
Castine venue and in  
rehearsal.



TOWN

Edgware  
Branch

← Way out

CAMDEN TO



Language trip to London





# An open-minded approach to education



Never be afraid to try something new, remember the Titanic was built by professionals, but Noah's ark was built by an amateur.

Father Brown

We believe that open-mindedness is essential for personal development.

Opening up to the world means acquiring knowledge and skills.

It also means taking an interest in the different cultural and religious traditions and the various technologies and issues of our time.

So we make sure we offer our students a wide range of activities. The idea is to stimulate their intelligence, their curiosity and their ability to engage in the kind of dialogue where all parties learn about and grow from each other's differences.

As a Catholic school, our educational project is enlightened by the Gospel and encourages exchange and debate. It also aims to develop each individual's capacity for critical thinking and promote respect for others and freedom of thought.

Tell from Thailand, Max from the USA, Sofia from Brazil, and Yu and Yanzhen from China – all at Sem' for a year's immersion at a French school.





Group and accompanied study time.





# A meaningful, project-based approach to education



At Sem', we are encouraged to work hard, both at things we are passionate about and the subjects essential to our studies.

Louis

A solid and sustainable approach to learning is needed in order for knowledge and skills to actually mean something.

With this in mind, our teachers and educators are committed to developing a project-based approach to education, both at school and during the various extracurricular activities.

This includes personalised support, so each person has the means to take in what is being communicated at their own pace and in accordance with their own aptitudes.

This kind of internalisation – enhanced by the Christian dimension to which we bear witness – helps young people become aware of their potential and develop a sense of their future direction.

Modelling by budding astrophysicists from the 6<sup>e</sup> (ages 11–12) science class at Sem'.



Meeting between the local Member of Parliament and some older students on the subject of school reforms.







# An approach to education based on autonomy and responsibility



When we are elected as a delegate or member of the CVC\* or CVL\*, this gets us used to the democratic process and to making actual decisions.

Gaëtan

\* Conseil de la Vie Collégienne - \* Conseil de la Vie Lycéenne (school councils).

Education is about increasing personal autonomy.

It involves responsibility and respect, towards both oneself and others.

So we make sure our students take care of their body, dress, language and behaviour.

This way, they feel responsible for the image they present of themselves and the school.

Autonomy is the ability to evolve in a constantly changing world and to “learn to learn” throughout one’s life.

But it also means acquiring the moral and civic values needed to fully participate in social life and to demonstrate solidarity and care for one’s neighbour.

A mixed outfit in keeping with the image of Sem’.

Academic project

**sem**  
de Walbourg




Wednesday afternoon table football tournaments.

The festival of lights warms us up in the heart of winter, with bible readings for our spiritual side and a friendly tea to help us celebrate!







# An approach to education based on “living together” and respect for the environment



We are one family at Walbourg, and that means both teachers and students.

The year is broken up by numerous fun, sporting and festive activities.  
It's really nice!

Camille

First and foremost, a school is where people spend their lives.

“Living together” requires a bit of effort.

It is something we can learn.

The events where we come together provide an opportunity to unite our community and highlight its spiritual dimension.

We also think a lot about the quality and integrity of interpersonal relationships and particularly the ratio between girls and boys. Specific measures help raise awareness of emotional, relational and sexual dimensions.

“Living together” is a kind of social learning process and must incorporate awareness of environmental challenges and an eco-citizen take on education.

The green surroundings at our school are just perfect for this.







## The spirit of success

Ultimately, the academic project we share with our students, their parents and our teachers and educators is geared towards success in life.

This success is based on knowledge, but also on “knowing how to live”, which means opening up to the world and others in order to become a better person.

This spirit of success requires everyone to subscribe to common values, rules and activities.  
It is a challenging commitment.

But surely trust is built in challenging circumstances?



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