

Interparents position on the changed weightings counting for the final result of the European Baccalaureate (EB).

This paper suggests a modified version of option 1 suggested in the document 2020-03-D-44-en-1 “Consequences of COVID-19 - Risk Assessment and proposed Actions”, section V “Organisation of the European Baccalaureate (EB)”, pp. 14-20.

It rests on the following basic assumptions:

- We share the OSGES’ assessment that no written or oral EB exams will be possible by the end of this school year;
- We share the OSGES’ concern that the negative impact of any changes on this year’s EB candidates should be limited to a minimum;
- The weighting of subjects chosen by the pupils, as would result from the normal rules, should under no circumstances be affected by these changes;
- We are concerned that pupils should still have a fair chance to improve on their A1 and B1 grades in an meaningful way, by granting A2 a more substantial weight;
- We are concerned that this mid-course change to EB marking rules could run counter to the twin general principles of legal certainty and legitimate expectations if the adverse effects of this change to pupils are not kept to a minimum.

Based on those principles, we suggest the option below:

	A1	A2	B1	B2	W	O
Current system	10%	10%	21-23%	7-9%	35%	15%
OSGES Option 1	20%	20%	60%	-	-	-
OSGES Option 2	10%	10%	80%	-	-	-
IP option	20%	30%	50%	-	-	-

We feel our option would to a higher degree maintain the pupils’ right to a fair chance to improve on their 1st semester results – A1 & B1 – while giving a commensurate weight to the partially harmonised¹ pre-bac tests. Options 1 and 2 we fear give very little weight to efforts that pupils would have expected to step up in the 2nd semester, and could, in the shared view of parents and pupils, turn into a huge disincentive to study further during this 2nd semester.

A crucial element in our proposal is that the weighting afforded to the pupils’ subjects under the current normal system will be respected to the full, since the weighting of each subject would remain the same, with only the relative weight of A and B grade departing from the current situation

In the annex below, Interparents and COSUP present an indicative outline of how their weighting proposal would look like per subject, depending on the number of subjects chosen, calculated along the lines provided by Annex IV to the Arrangements for the Implementation of the EB Regulation.

¹ Only the 5 long pre-bac tests are harmonised. The shorter tests were not.

Annex

For a pupil with 9 subjects excluding religion:

The total weighting (last column) of each subject is the same as the one under the (current) normal system. The 20%/30%/50%-weighting per A1/A2/B1 is provided for each subject.

	A1	A2	B1	Total
Oral & Written bac - subject 1	3,51%	5,27%	8,78%	17,56%
Oral & Written bac - subject 2	3,51%	5,27%	8,78%	17,56%
Written bac – subject 1	2,51%	3,77%	6,28%	12,56%
Written bac – subject 2	2,51%	3,77%	6,28%	12,56%
Written bac – subject 3	2,51%	3,77%	6,28%	12,56%
Oral bac – subject 1	2,11%	3,17%	5,28%	10,56%
Continuous 1	1,11%	1,67%	2,78%	5,56%
Continuous 2	1,11%	1,67%	2,78%	5,56%
Continuous 3	1,11%	1,67%	2,78%	5,56%
Total	20%	30%	50%	100%

For a pupil with 10 subjects excluding religion:

	A1	A2	B1	Total
Oral & Written bac - subject 1	3,40%	5,10%	8,50%	17%
Oral & Written bac - subject 2	3,40%	5,10%	8,50%	17%
Written bac – subject 1	2,40%	3,60%	6%	12%
Written bac – subject 2	2,40%	3,60%	6%	12%
Written bac – subject 3	2,40%	3,60%	6%	12%
Oral bac – subject 1	2%	3%	5%	10%
Continuous 1	1%	1,50%	2,50%	5%
Continuous 2	1%	1,50%	2,50%	5%
Continuous 3	1%	1,50%	2,50%	5%
Continuous 4	1%	1,50%	2,50%	5%
Total	20%	30%	50%	100%

For a pupil with 11 subjects excluding religion:

	A1	A2	B1	Total
Oral & Written bac - subject 1	3,31%	4,96%	8,27%	16,55%
Oral & Written bac - subject 2	3,31%	4,96%	8,27%	16,55%
Written bac – subject 1	2,31%	3,46%	5,77%	11,55%
Written bac – subject 2	2,31%	3,46%	5,77%	11,55%
Written bac – subject 3	2,31%	3,46%	5,77%	11,55%
Oral bac – subject 1	1,91%	2,86%	4,77%	9,54%
Continuous 1	0,91%	1,36%	2,27%	4,55%
Continuous 2	0,91%	1,36%	2,27%	4,55%
Continuous 3	0,91%	1,36%	2,27%	4,55%
Continuous 4	0,91%	1,36%	2,27%	4,55%

Continuous 5	0,91%	1,36%	2,27%	4,55%
Total	20%	30%	50%	100%

For a pupil with 12 subjects excluding religion:

	A1	A2	B1	Total
Oral & Written bac - subject 1	3,23%	4,85%	8,08%	16,17%
Oral & Written bac - subject 2	3,23%	4,85%	8,08%	16,17%
Written bac – subject 1	2,23%	3,35%	5,59%	11,17%
Written bac – subject 2	2,23%	3,35%	5,59%	11,17%
Written bac – subject 3	2,23%	3,35%	5,59%	11,17%
Oral bac – subject 1	1,83%	2,75%	4,59%	9,17%
Continuous 1	0,83%	1,25%	2,09%	4,17%
Continuous 2	0,83%	1,25%	2,09%	4,17%
Continuous 3	0,83%	1,25%	2,09%	4,17%
Continuous 4	0,83%	1,25%	2,09%	4,17%
Continuous 5	0,83%	1,25%	2,09%	4,17%
Continuous 6	0,83%	1,25%	2,09%	4,17%
Total	20%	30%	50%	100%