



## MEMORANDUM

### **European Schooling in Strasbourg Roundtable on the Future of European Schools, Brussels 7 December 2007 Sponsored Bike Ride / Bike Festival 2008**

Note for ESK Admin Board meeting on 15 November 2007

For years, Etoile Education has whole-heartedly worked and lobbied for a school which truly corresponds to the needs of families for whom sending their children to a French school is not a realistic alternative.

Etoile Education would like to thank Mr. Hoyem and the school for their efforts to come up with a solution for the younger children from Strasbourg wishing to attend the European school, Karlsruhe but whose parents are reluctant because of the distance. So as to avoid young children between 6 and 9 years old having to take the bus everyday to Karlsruhe, the idea of an annex to the European school, Karlsruhe in Kelh was most welcome. As this did not entail a new school or statutes and as it is even the same Lander, it was an easy immediate solution and families had been waiting long enough and the sooner proper European Schooling is in place the better.

Following the initial announcement of European schooling in Strasbourg by Jean-Pierre Jouyet, Secretary of State for European Affairs, on the 7 September 2007, Mr. Hervé Combaz, Secrétaire général adjoint de l'Académie de Strasbourg, invited Etoile Education to a meeting, Monday 10 September 2007 with M. Pierre Voillery, conseiller du Ministre de l'Education nationale, M. Marc Foucault, directeur des relations européennes et internationales et de la coopération au ministère de l'Education nationale accompanied by M. Vial, Head of the French delegation to the Board of Governors of the European Schools.

At last, Strasbourg, the Capital of Europe, seems to be getting what it has lacked for so long: a genuine European educational institution. Since the Government's announcement, our association has been flooded by requests for information from parents, eager to find out more about the new school and what they might expect from a European school. Many have become new members and want to know more about European schools. In our view, the best way to do this is how we have done it in the past, which is to visit the European School in Karlsruhe and we are looking forward to organising this in cooperation with the school.

Etoile Education is looking forward to the **Roundtable on "The Future of the European Schools: The Way Ahead"** organised by the Central Staff Committee of the European Commission, Brussels on Friday, 7 December 2007. Etoile Education has been an active member of the preparatory group and hopes to see as many representatives of the staff, parents, and students from the European School, Karlsruhe present.

**Sponsored Bike Ride / Bike Festival**, which raised over 3,000 Euros for the Bike and Bus Fund, is again foreseen in 2008 by Etoile Education who hopes to continue its very successful cooperation with the Primary school. Like last year, there will be a particular emphasis on the Strasbourg-Karlsruhe link as wonderfully shown by our T-shirt logo even more symbolic in view of developments for European schooling in Strasbourg.