

English

The Centrum voor Leerlingen- begeleiding - CLB (Pupil Guidance Centre in 7 questions

What is a CLB?

The CLB is the Pupil Guidance Centre. Every school in Flanders works with such a centre. A CLB is staffed by doctors, nurses, social workers, psychologists and pedagogues. Together with the school, they ensure that your child can develop as much as possible.

Are parents also welcome at the CLB?

Yes, extremely welcome in fact. The CLB gives parents, teachers, children and teenagers information, help and guidance. Some CLBs have an intercultural staff member who makes sure that people from other cultures feel welcome.

With what kinds of problems can I go to the CLB?

- If your child has difficulties with reading, writing or studying
- If you have questions about the choice of courses to be taken, study options, certificates and diplomas
- If your child does not feel comfortable at school and there is stress, fear of failing, bullying, violence, skipping school, etc.
- If your child has health-related issues, so involving vaccinations, growth disorders, drug use, obesity, etc.

How does the CLB work?

If you have questions or problems, talk about them with the school. In most cases, the teacher, the "zorgleraar" (remediation teacher) or headmaster/mistress can help you. However,

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sometimes a visit to the CLB is necessary. The CLB advisor will then examine your question and look for a solution together with you.

In some cases, the CLB will have your child go through additional testing. Or it can happen that the problems are so extensive that specialised help is needed. This is why a CLB works with experts to deal with learning problems, mental health issues, rehabilitation, etc.

Does my child have to consult the CLB systematically?

Yes. Every child in Flanders must attend the CLB consultation in the 1st year of kindergarten, the 1st, 4th and 6th years of primary school and the 3rd year of secondary school. This is obligatory. For the consultation in the 1st year of kindergarten, and the 1st and 6th years of primary school, a parent must also come along.

The CLB doctor tests your child's eyes and ears, and measures and weighs him or her. The CLB doctor also looks at your child's teeth and posture, and determines whether he or she is developing normally. In this way, the doctor can quickly detect illnesses in their early stages and prevent them from getting worse. The doctor also vaccinates your child against certain diseases. Sometimes, he or she also asks about the family's situation, lifestyle and well-being.

Is there a problem? >> Then your child can go to a specialist for a closer examination.

Do you not want the CLB doctor to examine your child? >> Then you can also have the consultations and vaccinations done by your general practitioner. However, he or she has to carry out the same tests and send the results to the CLB doctor.

Do I have to pay for the CLB's services?

No. The support and guidance of your child by the CLB is free of charge.

Where do I find a CLB?

- The CLB's contact details are indicated in the school brochure.
- The CLB staff members often also have office hours at the school.
- Go to your CLB centre. It is open every school day. CLB staff members are also sometimes available during the school holidays.

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