

CONCEPT OF SECULARISM AT SCHOOL

The mission of the school is to promote values of the republic

The republic respects the concept of secularism

The school is a secular place

1. France is a **republic** which considers itself as **inseparable, secular, democratic and social** state and as such it puts equality on the top of its priorities, i.e. equality with regard to the law, territorial equality and equality of all citizens. The state respects all religions.
2. A secular republic guarantees **separation of religion and state**. The State is neutral with regard to religion and other spiritual convictions. There is no state religion.
3. The concept of secularism allows everyone the freedom of consciousness. **Everybody has the right to have or not to have a faith**. The concept of secularism allows the freedom of expression of one's convictions but with respect to other convictions and within the limits of public order and peace.
4. Secularism promotes citizenship by conciliating the **freedom of each citizen with the equality and brotherhood of all citizens**, for the benefit of all citizens.
5. The Republic is supposed to assure the respect of all citizens of the concept of secularism at school.
6. The concept of secularism at school offers students the possibility of personal development and free choice teaching them the principles of citizenship. **The concept of secularism protects students against proselytism and any other kind of pressure** which might prevent them from taking their own decisions and making their own choices.
7. The concept of secularism gives students access to a **common culture**.
8. The concept of secularism grants students the **freedom of expression** within the limits of good school conduct and respecting republican values and existing faiths.
9. The concept of secularism **rejects any kind of violence or discrimination**, it is based on **female and male equality** and promotes a culture of respect and comprehension of your fellow citizen.
10. **The entire school staff has the obligation of teaching children the sense and value of the secularism concept** as well as all other republican principles. Each school employee has to pay attention to the pupils applying the concept of secularism at school and during their school activities. He or she is supposed to keep the parents informed about it.
11. **The school staff is committed to strict impartiality** : nobody of the school staff is allowed to express his or her personal political and religious convictions at working place i.e. at school, and during school activities of any kind.
12. **Teaching is secular. Each subject undergoes scientific and pedagogical questioning**, in order to guarantee to the pupils, as objectively as possible, an access to the variety of world visions and knowledges. Pupils are not allowed to contest a teacher's subject or question of any kind, and this because of religious or political convictions.
13. Nobody is allowed to refuse to respect the rules of the school because of religious affiliation.
14. All public schools respect the concept of secularism as main part of their school rules. **The wearing of religious signs or clothes with which pupils express their religious affiliation in an explicit manner is not allowed**.
15. The pupils **live the concept of secularism** through their opinions and activities at school.