



Music Room



Kindergarten



Primary School

“All three of our children have, at some point, been students at Terra Nova. We chose the school not only because it offers high-quality bilingual education, but also because we were impressed with the personal touch and strong sense of community. Classes are small enough to allow a tailored learning experience. Teachers and staff are highly qualified. Both they and the school principal and her staff are fully present and responsive to all our concerns. Terra Nova has provided a safe and nurturing environment for our children to learn and develop, as well as a partner for us in parenting and educating our children.”

International family with 3 children that attended our school

“The warm, inclusive environment and high academic standards of Terra Nova have inspired our daughters to become avid and successful learners. The teachers and principal are fantastic. They stress being respectful to others and they encourage students to develop themselves. Simply the best bilingual school, we could not have made a better decision!”

International family with 2 children at Terra Nova, member of Terra Nova community for over 8 years

“We initially decided to send our son to Terra Nova so that he could obtain the intercultural competence that we believe is fundamental in this world. What we have received these last 5 years goes beyond our highest expectations. TN provides the space and support for our son to flourish in his own way, whilst at the same time giving an education that fosters a higher level of connectivity and supports the richness of human capacity. This is, in our view, the best way to support our son in moving towards a very uncertain future. Last but not least, it is a happy place. The staff and students encourage each other, understand each other and assist each other. Utopia does indeed exist at Florastrasse 19, 8700 Küsnacht.”

*Swiss Italian-American family with child in primary school
At Terra Nova since Kindergarten 1*



Fact Sheet
Terra Nova Bilingual School, Küsnacht



About Us

Terra Nova Bilingual School at a glance

Terra Nova Bilingual School opens new worlds for your child. Founded in 1996, our day school offers a consistent approach to immersive bilingual education in German and English from kindergarten through to the end of compulsory education. Our bilingual programme is based on the curriculum of the Canton of Zurich (Lehrplan 21) and, in English, on the standards of the Cambridge Curriculum, which affords our students a broad array of options as they transition from primary into secondary schooling.

Academia Group

Terra Nova Bilingual School is part of Academia Group Switzerland. Academia offers a broad portfolio of educational opportunities in over 20 locations in Switzerland, including our English-language high school (short-term Gymnasium), Academia International School located in Zurich and Basel. Entrance to this school is available to Terra Nova students after grade 8 without an entrance exam.

Our partners



SWISS
ACADEMY
ZÜRICH

Entry

How we guarantee academic success

Our dedication to smaller classes compliments our commitment to differentiation and individualisation. Internal assessments support targeted learning against the Swiss standards.

Our optimal learning environment promotes the growth of each student. We nurture talent, bolster persistence, foster the joy of learning and systematically train our students' learning and working techniques.

We enable our students to develop their potential and support them on their way to find the ideal further education solution after primary and secondary school – be it mono- or bilingual, public or private, long-term or short-term Gymnasium. Our students have the opportunity to transfer without an entrance exam into the English-language high schools (short-term Gymnasium) Academia International School or Swiss Academy Zurich.

We welcome new students warmly. Our language support lessons provide additional assistance with laying the foundations of a child's second language. This ensures successful integration, both socially and academically at our school.

Connection to Swiss state schools

Our Swiss and international families appreciate that our bilingual school provides individualised support for their child which prepares them for a globalised world.

Students attending our school are typically successful should they venture into other educational systems during the course of their schooling. Our school is cantonally recognised, meaning that, should a transition to the public-school system be chosen, this change is smooth and unproblematic.

Registration



Contact us

Contact us to arrange an initial consultation meeting.



Initial Consultation

A consultation meeting gives us the opportunity to get to know the student and the family.



Progress Reports

We request the last two Progress Reports from the current or previous school.



Trial week

Students interested in joining our school in Grades 1 or higher are required to visit our school for a few non-binding trial days to get to know Terra Nova.



Decision

The principal, together with the feedback from the teachers, the family and the child, decides whether our school is the right choice for the student.

School life

Our Team

Our teaching team brings a great mix of experience, passion and commitment to our school. We are proud that the majority of our teaching team have been with us for an extended period of time. Swiss, German, French, British, American, Canadian and Australian teachers make up our teaching staff.

Approximately 40 people are employed at our school – fulltime or parttime. About 50% of the employees (management, teachers, specialist teachers and after school care) have been with us for more than six years. All teachers are qualified, certified with an education in their country of origin and teach in their mother tongue (German, English or French).

What makes us unique

- ✔ Small classes with 16 to 18 students
- ✔ Student-teacher ratio: 4:1
- ✔ Differentiated instruction, language support programmes for students new to English or German, gifted and talented programme, special needs support. These additional programmes are all delivered by teachers on our team.
- ✔ Music, sports, handicrafts & art, theater, media & information technology as well as French are taught by specialist teachers
- ✔ Modern technological infrastructure and ICT concept
- ✔ Exam-free transfer to our English-language high school (short-term Gymnasium) Academia International School or to the Swiss Academy Zurich after grade 8

Additional services

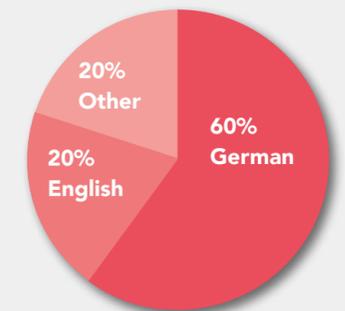
- ✔ School day from 8:30 am to 3:15 pm (on Wednesday until 12:00 noon) including a varied, balanced and healthy lunch based on our nutritional policy. Arrival period between 8:00-8:30 am.
- ✔ Flexible before and after school care from 7:30 am to 8 am and 3:15 pm to 6:30 pm (Wednesday from 12 noon till 6:30 pm).
- ✔ Varied extracurricular programme with approximately 20 clubs each year (e.g., ballet, chess, arts, robotics, yoga, homework or self-defense).
- ✔ Holiday programme during 6 weeks per year: fun and interesting themes with daily or weekly activities.
- ✔ Winter sport camp for grades 4 to 6.

Our community

Student population

We are a small school by design, which enables us to meet the needs of the individual within a familiar learning community. Our school has over 140 students from more than 20 different nations. Interestingly we have noted bilingual education is continually becoming more popular with monolingual families which aligns with the measured success and popularity of such educational programmes.

Languages spoken



Ratio girls to boys

