



Bilingual school launches in Lausanne

| 12h05 A private institution providing lessons in English and French to primary students is set to open in September.

Photo: Eric Roset | Tina Roessler is ready to open her bilingual school.

A new school offering instruction in English and French to primary students is opening in Lausanne this fall. The Bilingual school of Suisse Romande (BSSR) will operate out of the ground floor of the Lemania School in the city center, starting Sept. 3. BSSR aims to insure fluency in French and English by the age of 10.

Anglophone and francophone children will be mixed together with courses in both languages. But students will also receive specific training in their mother tongue. The school's opening hours will be flexible to accommodate parents with full-time jobs. "The school will be open from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. including optional classes and sport activities," said Tina Roessler, BSSR's director.

Roessler founded the school with the support of her mother, Aries Roessler, who recently published a book called "Bilingual at 10! The advantages of early language immersion". Tina Roessler is trilingual (French-English-German) and holds an MA in philosophy and languages.

The school will be open to children aged six and seven with up to 18 pupils in the first class. Plans call for a second class to be launched in January 2008. Roessler says the school is geared to children from families of international Swiss people or Anglophones living in the region. Tuition fees range from SFr 15,000 to SFr 20,000, according to the teaching options. Over the long term, BSSR aims to provide education for students up to the senior high school level.

For more information: www.ecole-bilingue.ch/index.php