

Vilnius Balsiai School,
Lithuania



Our school is very young. The modern school building was completed in 2011. Altogether, we have 1176 students. There are 682 students, 29 classes in primary education program (1–4 grades), 494 students, and 19 classes in lower secondary education program (5–8 grades).

Eighty-three teachers teach at our school, following formal and informal programs. We have seven support professionals who take care of students with special needs and help with learning or behaviour problems. In our classes, 12 teacher assistants assist teachers and help them to deal with problems in the classroom.

We have 63 pupils with special educational needs: 11 of them having severe and 48 students with mild disorders. All the students with special educational needs are taught in mainstream classes. Some of them have extra classes with specialists, depending on their needs.

Teachers G. Vaišnoraitė and A. Antulienė say that:

“It is a challenge for us and many of our colleagues to include students with special needs into mainstream classes, as both the teachers and the students encounter many barriers. Given that, one of our main purposes is to ensure every student’s success”.

It is important to mention that our school provides a variety of extra curriculum education in a form of 51 clubs, which helps to foster and develop different competences and personal skills of our students.

Our headmistress L. Kačiušytė admits:

“Our school strongly represents the needs of the Community of Balsiai. All this leads to the community's determination to develop the school towards the individual success of each child. Not without reason our vision is a modern school— open to change, focused, and constantly learning community.”