Four Forest

A bilingual education shaped by community, curiosity and integrity



www.four-forestschool.ch



From the Managing Director of Cognita Central Europe

Choosing the right school is a defining moment in a child's journey. At Four Forest, we are proud to be able to provide a bilingual learning environment where children grow into confident, curious, and compassionate individuals. Our commitment to both English and German instruction ensures that our children not only master two languages, but also develop the cultural fluency and adaptability needed to thrive in a global world.

Four Forest is built on the values of community, integrity, and curiosity. We believe that learning flourishes in a warm, inclusive atmosphere where every child feels seen, supported, and inspired. Small class sizes allow us to tailor our teaching to the individual, nurturing strengths and guiding each student to reach their full potential, academically, socially, and emotionally.

Our dedicated team of teachers bring passion and expertise to every classroom, encouraging students to ask questions, explore ideas, and engage deeply with the world around them. Beyond academics, our rich programme of sports, arts, outdoor education, and extracurricular activities fosters teamwork, creativity, and resilience.

I look forward to welcoming you to our school!



Nils Remmel
Managing Director Central Europe

Our Vision & Mission

Vision

Get a bilingual start in life.

Mission

Our nurturing, bilingual community celebrates every child's individuality and equips them with the skills to thrive in an ever-evolving global landscape.



Living Our Values



At Four Forest, our values help shape the way we learn, teach and connect with one another. Curiosity, integrity and community are present in everyday moments – from the way students collaborate in class to how we celebrate achievements across our school.

These values are not abstract ideas; they guide how children approach challenges, how we support one another, and how we build a positive, bilingual school culture from Preschool through Grade 9.

Curiosity fuels discovery, creativity and a love of learning.

Integrity encourages children to take responsibility, act with honesty, and do what's right, even when no one is watching.

Community creates a sense of belonging across languages, cultures and age groups – so that every child feels seen, supported and part of something meaningful.

Across languages, subjects and grade levels, these values help our students grow into thoughtful, capable individuals – ready to contribute with confidence and care.

Why Choose Four Forest?

Top reasons families choose Four Forest:

- **A unique bilingual learning model**, where students are immersed in one language at a time – spending one week learning in English, the next in German. This deepens language acquisition and strengthens confidence in both languages.
- **Teaching rooted in Lehrplan 21, with the English Language following the British National Curriculum**, providing students with strong foundations and flexible future pathways, including Gymnasium (grade-dependent), local Sekundarschule, or international programmes.
- **A small school environment**, where every student is known, supported, and encouraged.
- **Holistic focus on wellbeing and achievement**, supporting both academic growth and personal development.
- **Easily accessible and centrally located campuses in Zug and Lucerne**, easily reached via public transport or by car or bicycle.
- **Part of the Cognita global family of schools,** with access to a worldwide network of educational specialists. Four Forest benefits from shared best practices, international training opportunities, and collaborative problem-solving across pedagogy, wellbeing, digital learning, and more.



Our Academic Journey

Your Child's Journey at Four Forest

Preschool

Our Preschool welcomes children from the age of 3 years old (who no longer wear diapers). Our bilingual approach lays the foundation for confident, capable and curious learners.



1st Kindergarten

Our 1st Kindergarten class is the voluntary year of Kindergarten in the Swiss schooling system. Our English and German learning spaces immerse our young students in both languages, as they learn through themed activities.



2nd Kindergarten

2nd Kindergarten marks the first year of compulsory schooling in Switzerland. In our 2nd Kindergarten, we immerse children in both English and German on alternating weeks, helping children develop confidence and fluency in both languages.



Primary School (Grades 1–6)

Rooted in Lehrplan 21, children receive a well-rounded education in all subjects. English is taught in line with the British National Curriculum, offering robust language instruction that complements our bilingual approach, teaching in German and English on alternating weeks.



Primary School Graduation & Beyond

After Grade 6, many students continue their Four Forest journey in the bilingual Secondary School (Sek I) in Zug or the German-language LMS Secondary School in Lucerne. Others progress to Gymnasium or choose an international pathway.



Secondary School (Grades 7–9)

Our bilingual Secondary School (Sek I) in Zug offers small classes and individual support. It prepares students for Kurzzeitgymnasium, vocational education or an international programme.



LMS Track (German Only)

LMS is offered at Primary level in Zug and Lucerne. At the LMS Campus Lucerne, students can continue into Secondary School (Grades 7–9), with an optional Grade 10. Following Lehrplan 21, the programme provides individual preparation for each student's next educational pathway.



Talentia Programme

Our Talentia enrichment programme takes place on a Thursday morning, at our Zug campus, and is suitable for highly gifted children in Primary school.





Preschool and 1st Kindergarten



Your child's bilingual education starts at Four Forest at the age of 3 years. Our Early Years programme begins with Preschool and continues into 1st Kindergarten (1KG), laying the foundation for confident, curious, and capable learners. Set in a caring, bilingual environment, each stage is thoughtfully designed to meet children's developmental needs while celebrating the joy of discovery.

Our distinctive bilingual approach ensures that children alternate between Swiss German and English teaching days, led by teachers and assistants who work in their native language or a language in which they are fluent. This immersive experience builds a strong foundation in both languages, fostering confidence and communication skills in a playful, engaging way.

Our programme blends elements of the Swiss curriculum (Lehrplan 21) with aspects of the British Early Years Framework, focusing on key areas such as personal, social and emotional development, language and literacy, physical growth, mathematics and the creative arts.

We adapt these frameworks to meet children at their developmental stage – whether they're just beginning group life in Preschool or ready for deeper exploration in 1st Kindergarten.

2nd Kindergarten

At Four Forest, our 2nd Kindergarten marks the first year of compulsory schooling in Switzerland.

Children enter this grade at 5 years old (according to the age guidelines set out by Canton Lucerne and Zug respectively), ready to embark on a structured yet adventurous educational journey that blends rigorous academics with playful exploration. We offer a full-time programme giving children a balanced schedule that fosters both learning and play.

Each week, children alternate between English and German instruction, helping them build strong communication skills in a nurturing bilingual environment.

Our curriculum is rooted in Lehrplan 21 for all subjects, whilst for English, we align with the British National Curriculum.

With small class sizes and individualised attention, we ensure that every child thrives, developing a love for learning that will carry them through the rest of their schooling journey.



Primary School



Four Forest Primary school offers a full-time, bilingual education from Grade 1 to Grade 6, building on the foundation established in Kindergarten. With a focus on both academic excellence and immersive language learning, our programme prepares children for the challenges ahead.

Children alternate weekly between English and German instruction, guided by our experienced teachers who are fluent in the language they teach. This approach ensures deep linguistic immersion and helps children develop fluency in both languages.

Our primary school curriculum is designed to challenge and inspire young minds. Following Lehrplan 21, our programme ensures that children receive a well-rounded education in all subjects. English is taught in line with the British National Curriculum, offering robust language instruction that complements our bilingual approach.

With small class sizes and a focus on individualised learning, we provide each student with the attention and support they need to thrive academically and personally. Our primary school programme prepares children not only for the challenges of Gymnasium, Secondary School or an International Pathway, but also for a future as confident, capable, and inquisitive global citizens.

Life After Four Forest Primary School

As children approach the end of primary school, the transition process to secondary school begins in Grade 5, following public regulations in Switzerland. During this time, children and their academic performance are closely observed and evaluated to determine the best educational pathway. We support families through this process by hosting annual information evenings and providing regular opportunities for parents and children to discuss the options with their teachers. Whether children transition to public or private secondary schools, gymnasiums, or international programmes, we work closely with families to ensure a smooth and successful transition.





Four Forest Secondary School

Zug Campus

Our secondary school programme in Zug offers classes in Grades 7, 8 and 9 (Secondary 1, 2 and 3), and is designed to prepare children for the next stage of their education, whether that be entry to short-term gymnasium, or an apprenticeship. Our curriculum focuses on providing children with the academic and linguistic tools they need to excel in both pathways, and learning goals are tailored to meet the needs of each individual student.

Following Lehrplan 21, our secondary school students continue their bilingual education in a slightly different manner to primary school, with each subject assigned a specific language of instruction (either German or English). This method ensures that children not only deepen their understanding of academic content but also acquire a broad and sophisticated vocabulary in both languages. By the end of the programme, children will have developed strong linguistic skills that prepare them for further education or entry into the working world.

Our secondary school balances academic rigour with real-world preparation. Whether children are preparing for short-term gymnasium or exploring Apprenticeship opportunities, we provide the guidance and support they need to make informed decisions about their future.



LMS is the German-Language Track of the Four Forest Schools

LMS (Lernen Macht Spass) is the German-language track of Four Forest Schools, offering a high-quality education based on the official Swiss curriculum (Lehrplan 21) and accredited by the Cantons of Lucerne and Zug.

The Zug and Lucerne campuses offer a German-language Primary School class for students from Grades 1 to 6. Students benefit from a small mixed-grade class, personal attention, and a nurturing environment that supports both academic and personal growth. Lessons are taught in German by qualified native-speaking teachers.

The Lucerne campus is also home to our LMS Secondary School (Grades 7 to 9), which is taught in German, and also offers an optional 10th School Year.

Throughout the LMS track, students are supported by a dedicated team of educators and benefit from our group-wide focus on community, curiosity, and integrity. With integrated wellbeing and study skills programming, we help each child develop into a resilient, independent learner ready to thrive within the Swiss education system and beyond.

Our LMS Primary and Secondary school ensures that your child receives a high-quality education aligned with Swiss educational standards, preparing them for continued study within the extensive Swiss system. By meeting all the required curriculum elements, our students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to pursue various pathways in further education and beyond.

Talentia Programme



We know that every child has talents and gifts, and it is important to us to encourage and develop these. For this reason, we offer a special Talentia enrichment programme for gifted children.

Our Talentia enrichment programme replaces normal school lessons one morning a week. Students receive support under the guidance of experienced and dedicated teachers. They engage in a specific project of their choice, researching the topic and developing skills that involve carrying a project through from start to finish.

This programme takes place at our Zug campus, and is suitable for highly gifted children in Primary school. Talentia is offered in German only. The Talentia programme is offered to both internal pupils of Four Forest and LMS Schools, as well as external pupils who have been proven to be gifted.

Entry to the Talentia programme is discussed during the Admissions process, and a Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC-V) Test is required as part of the assessment for suitability of attending the Talentia programme.

Life Beyond the Classroom

Outdoor learning – the importance of movement and outdoor play

The philosophy of an outdoor classroom is to encourage and inspire children through positive experiences and participation in engaging and achievable tasks and activities in a natural environment, helping to develop personal, social and emotional skills.

Children need time to thoroughly explore their thoughts, feelings and relationships. This develops understanding of the world, the environment and everything within it through use of their emotions, imagination and senses. On our Forest days, children gain confidence in their own ability and learn to treat the environment and every kind of life with respect. Kinaesthetic learners are particularly suited to learning in this woodland outdoor environment. The children are supervised by fully trained and qualified specialists.



Life Beyond the Classroom

Creating a Supportive Environment

We offer our students an optimised learning environment by creating a familial atmosphere. Learning should take place naturally as part of a child's wider interests and life experiences. We support and promote children's progression in a targeted manner and discuss their progress with them and their parents.

Children should be able to grow as a result of successful experiences and thereby reach their full potential. Our teachers model different learning styles and methods through their teaching, in order to allow each child to individually develop their own study skills.

By keeping class sizes small, students' individual needs can be addressed during lesson time. When required, additional support and support teaching is used.







Language Support



Four Forest offers extra language support in both German and English, as required. Our specialised team of language experts significantly enhance the language learning experience for students, and they support each child as they settle in to our bilingual way of learning.



Healthy Eating at Four Forest

At Four Forest, we place great importance on promoting healthy eating habits. In support of this, each child is required to bring the following to school every day:

- A water bottle (no other beverages permitted)
- A healthy morning snack

Please note that due to allergies, we have a strict no-nut policy. This includes all nut products.

To ensure consistency and promote health, soft drinks, fizzy drinks, iced teas, milk drinks, and similar beverages are not allowed at school.

All students eat lunch at school in our mensa. Families have two options:

1. Home-packed lunch: Children may bring their own lunch from home. Microwaves are available for warming up food at lunchtime.
2. Catered school lunch: A healthy meal can be provided through our school lunch service at an additional cost.



Full Day Care

Four Forest is a **day school** offering early morning care and after school care, from **07:30 to 18:00**, Monday to Friday, during the school term. We follow the official school calendars from the **Canton of Zug** and the **Canton of Lucerne**, depending on each school location.

Daily Schedule

- **School Day:** 08:30 to 15:15 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (may vary depending on the school timetable in the senior grades).
- **School Day on Wednesday:** 08:30 to 12:00.
- **Early Morning Care:** Available from 07:30 (free of charge).
- **After School Club:** Available until 16:30 or 18:00 (additional cost).

During the After School Club, children are **supervised on-site** and may also participate in a variety of **optional extracurricular activities,** at an additional fee.

A **separate price list** is available for after school care and extracurricular activities. Please contact the school office for further details.



Extracurricular Activities and Programmes

Finding a passion outside the classroom

Our diverse extracurricular programme enhances learning beyond the classroom, offering students the chance to explore their passions or try something new.

With a focus on Social-Emotional Learning, students develop essential life skills as they build friendships across grades, collaborate with inspiring leaders, and grow in a fun, supportive environment.

Our extracurricular programme offers age-appropriate activities for children from Preschool to Grade 6. To afford children the opportunity to be exposed to a wide range of new experiences, we refresh the activities available every few months, whilst keeping core programmes for the whole school year.

Extracurricular activities offered are campus-specific, but our range includes:

- Art classes
- Drama classes
- Dance classes
- Sports activities (such as Playball)
- Music lessons (guitar, piano)
- Extra language classes
- Science/technology activities (Robotics, Coding, Science Club)
- Karate/Kung Fu

Our Community

At Four Forest, we proudly serve international, multilingual, and Swiss families, placing a strong emphasis on regular parent-school communication and mutual respect. We are dedicated to supporting each student on their unique educational journey.

Our vibrant **Four Forest community** reflects both our Swiss heritage and our global outlook. Approximately 45% of our families have Swiss and German roots, while the remainder represent a diverse international background, with around 40 nationalities represented in our student base.

We take pride in our deep Swiss roots and our truly international character, creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for families from around the world.

Our **Parents' Association** organises regular coffee mornings and events throughout the school year, fostering a strong sense of community and encouraging parent involvement.

Each year, we host a special Four Forest Community event that brings together families, students, and staff – an opportunity to connect, celebrate, and create lasting memories that become a treasured part of each child's school experience.



Admissions Process

We understand that choosing the right school for your child is a significant decision, and we're here to support and guide you every step of the way through our admissions process.

We look forward to getting to know your family and introducing you to Four Forest.

We accept applications throughout the school year, and our experienced team excels at helping children integrate seamlessly, no matter when they join us.

Feel free to contact us to arrange a visit – we would love to meet you, show you our school, and introduce you to our dedicated team.

Please email admissions@four-forestschool.ch to arrange a personal tour.





Key Info

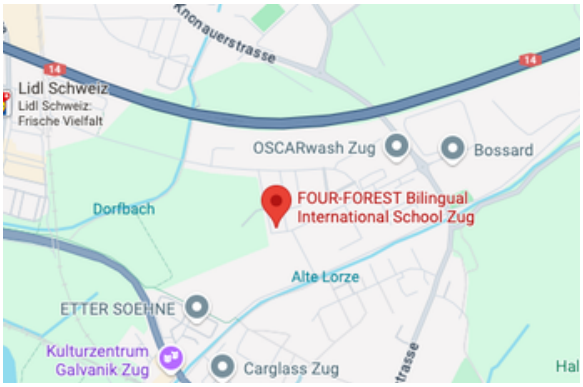
Quick Facts	Details
Age range	3 to 15 years
Languages of instruction	English and German
Curriculum	• Swiss Curriculum (Lehrplan 21) • British Curriculum for English language
Language support offered	English and German
School opening times	07:30 to 18:00
Extracurricular activities	Varied programme available
Campuses	Zug and Lucerne
Lunch	Catering option available or bring own lunch
School calendar	Following calendars of Canton Zug/Lucerne

Locations



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