

## BACK TO SCHOOL

# Purpose to improve language and mathematics for the new school year

A total of 11,352 students from the Principality inaugurated the first classes of the year last Monday

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«Get a good rest, because tomorrow you're going back to school and you'll have to wake up early.» Surely this is one of the phrases that more than a hundred parents will have repeated to their children on Sunday. A public holiday, by the way, as is known in Meritxell. If Sunday was already a day to rest and gather strength in a last breath of the holidays, last Monday was the turn for many children in the country to close their backpacks and go back to the classrooms. An illusion that some of them certainly conveyed with phrases like «I expect more learning and more fun from this school year because I love my French teacher», or others who know that it will be «more difficult but looking forward to doing math exercises again». Some start fifth, others sixth and some in the first year. In addition, it seems that most were able to «sleep well, without suffering from many nerves» and ready to start this new school year 2024-25.

An opportunity that, apart from congregating dozens of boys and girls at the doors of the Primary School of Santa Coloma, also served for the Minister of Education, Ladislau Baró, to appear in front of its doors and give welcome to the new quarter. «Today begins a new school year and this is always good news, both for our ministry and



Dozens of parents and children gathered at the entrance of the Andorran Primary School in Santa Coloma.

for all the education systems in the country», he emphasizes. Baró assured that «there are no major movements in terms of the number of staff in Andorran educational centers» and that the number of students in the Andorran system this year is 4,653, in Spanish 3,060 and in French 3,379, with some another 200 more students destined for the 'British' program. The total, thus, rises to 11,352 students in the schools of our country, a figure practically identical to that of the previous year.

On the other hand, the head of Education commented that

one of the goals to be improved by the ministry is to «strengthen mathematics, reading and writing, and science, thus allocating more teaching hours to their teaching by parts of the different departments», paying special attention to the new Educational Improvement Plan. He

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**The Educational Improvement Plan envisages allocating more teaching hours to the subjects that «need to be covered»**

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also called on teachers to provide a better service for learning these subjects and to influence «how to articulate the contents for better competence development», alluding to one of the demands stipulated in the PISA report corresponding to the plan mentioned. In the same vein, Baró justifies that he wants to consolidate with «about 15 or 20 more places» the teaching of sciences and the study of Catalan, and he trusts that the problems caused by the structural internship of teachers with «a major attack».

Finally, during the round of questions to the press, the mi-





## Ladislau Baró

MINISTER OF INSTITUTIONAL  
RELATIONS AND EDUCATION

«We believe that teachers must articulate the content in a better way for a more efficient reception»

nister stated that he wanted to «convey the solving of mathematical problems, as well as the promotion of reading comprehension and writing», specifying that «during the school hours of the school year, these subjects will gain a lot of weight». An express proposal from the ministry. When asked about digitization, Baró expressed that what they will not do «is completely eradicate this tool, since it would be to close our eyes to a reality of our world», despite not wanting them to become a «monopoly» for children. With regard to the obstacles for the recruitment of professionals, he lamented the problem of housing, adding that «it is added to that marked by the new Catalan Law, which requires more teachers», which he does not attribute to the lack of competitiveness of wages. ●



ANA / M.R.

The Minister of Institutional Relations and Education, Ladislau Baró, this morning at the entrance of the Andorran School of Santa Coloma.

## The Uda kicks off the new academic year with simultaneous welcome sessions

►► The University of Andorra (UdA) kicked off the 2024-2025 academic year on Monday with the start of regular face-to-face study classes. The classes for the Bachelors in Nursing, Education Sciences, Business Administration and Computer Science, as well as those for the Advanced Professional Diploma in Administration and

Finance, have thus begun. In addition, classes have started for the master's in Data Analytics, and next Thursday, the master's in Education. It is worth noting that both master's degrees are taught in a semi-face-to-face format, with face-to-face sessions in the afternoons. On September 25th, classes will begin for the virtual

studies that are held in collaboration with the Open University of Catalonia: Communication, Law, Humanities and Catalan language. The initial day had four simultaneous welcome sessions, during which the new first-year students got to know each other. The rector of the center, Juli Minoves, welcomed them.

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