

Muslim pupils must shake hands – ‘no ifs and buts’

From the Swiss edition of [ruled that the boys must shake their teachers' hands or face disciplinary measures](#), as well as a fine (issued to their parents) of up to 5,000 francs.

The disciplinary measures could take the form of an oral warning or debate with parents, and would aim to educate pupils on the subject, they said.

At the time the canton's education department said: "The public interest with respect to equality between men and women and the integration of foreigners significantly outweighs the freedom of conscience (freedom of religion) of the students."

In November the canton will consider a bill to amend Basel's education laws to "provide future clarity" on the issue, she added. The proposed law would make it obligatory for schools to report any pupils who refuse to shake hands to the Swiss migration office (SEM). Since the case erupted, the family involved have had their application for Swiss citizenship suspended, pending further discussion.