



# International education offer in Paris Region

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# A growing network of bilingual private nurseries (< 3 years old)

**Bilingual nurseries in Paris Region** are private daycare centers in which spots must be booked by companies for their employees, near their homes or work

- **Benefits for companies and employees**

Creating a better work-life balance

Building loyalty among employees

Making companies more attractive for future talent

- **Attractive pricing for companies**

Spots are co-financed by parents, the CAF (French family benefit fund) and companies

Companies can deduct 83% of the costs incurred (family tax credit, corporate tax savings)

Net cost for the employer: from €150 to €255/month/spot for a full-time daycare spot

## Other childcare options in France for children between 3 months and 3 yo

- ✓ Collective and public daycare centers
- ✓ Private nurseries (French)
- ✓ Certified childminders
- ✓ Home-based childminders
- ✓ Nannies/babysitters
- ✓ Young female/male au pair



Some bilingual daycare centers: People&Baby (12 centers), Little Frogs (6), Crèches Plumes (8), Les Petites Canailles, Babilou...



Paris Region has an affordable selection of bilingual programs and international schools open to foreign and French pupils from kindergarden to high school:

## The French school system, either taught in French or through international programs

For **bilingual or non-French speaking young children**, those parents are planning a long stay in France, wishing **to become fluent in French** and accustomed to **French culture**

- Operated by the French Public Education Authority, **public schools are free of charge**
- Some International Sections are free, for others, fees are between 0 and €6,000 / year, depending on school levels

## The international schools, which enable students to follow the curriculum of another country

**Good alternatives for the expatriates who are only here for a few years** so that their children will easily reintegrate a school back home when they return

- Wide range of private schools including bilingual / international / foreign schools
- **Variety of curriculum:** IB, European Baccalaureate, A-Levels, High School Diploma, Montessori...
- Fees from €5,000 to €40,000 / year, depending on grade levels

# The Paris Region international schooling offer



## Bilingual programs or international schools open to foreign and French pupils:

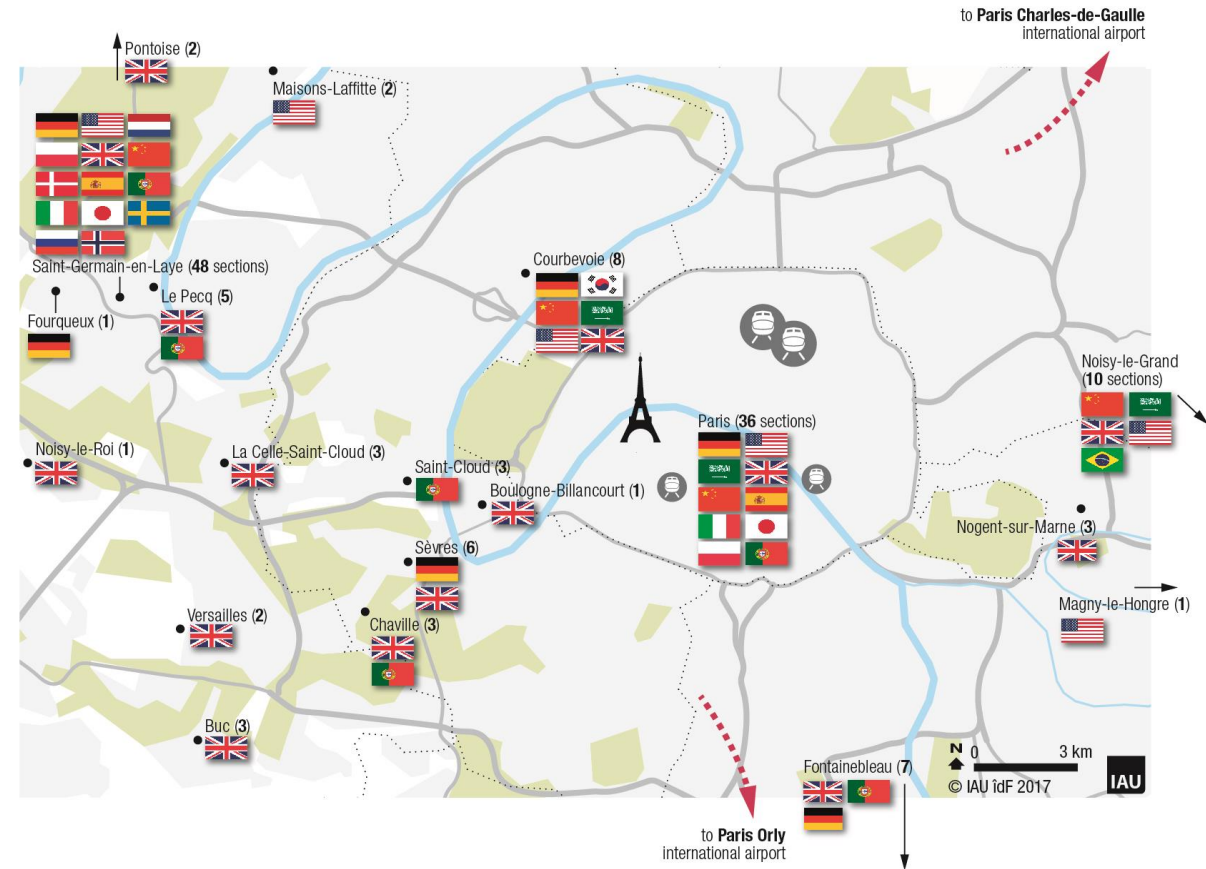
	Number of schools	Kindergarden	Primary School	Second. School	High School	Nb of pupils
More than 120 Public or state-licensed private schools	<b>International Sections - 17 foreign languages available, including:</b>					<b>+13,000</b>
	<i>British</i>		10	20	14	
	<i>American</i>		4	7	5	
	<i>German</i>		6	4	6	
	<i>Chinese</i>		6	7	5	
	<b>Binational Sections</b>					
	<i>French-German</i>				9	
	<i>French-Spanish</i>				12	
	<i>French-Italian</i>				9	
	<b>European School</b>					
<i>French Section</i>			1			
<i>English Section</i>			1			
Private options	<b>International private schools</b>					<b>+10,000</b>
	<i>Wide range of schools incl:</i>	157	98	36	21	
	<i>Schools delivering IB diploma</i>			7		
	<i>US High School Diploma</i>			6		
	<i>Schools delivering A-Levels</i>		3			



# Zoom on French schools with International Sections (state-subsidized)

**French schools with International Sections** follow the national French curriculum and offer an International Section where foreign languages are taught and where some courses such as history, geography, literature are taught in a language other than French

- From kindergarden (3-6 yo) to high school (15-18 yo)
- Intensive schooling with a **weekly basis of 6 to 10 class hours taught in the language of the section**
- Intensive French language instruction over the course of the year for pupils who do not speak French upon admission
- **Diplomas:** International French Baccalaureate
- **Fees** are modest (0-€6,000/year)
- **90 French schools offering International Sections in 17 different languages**

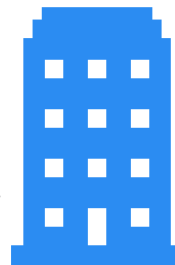


## Zoom on English or American International Sections

- Available in more than 60 schools
- 4 nursery schools / 13 primary schools / 27 secondary schools / 19 high schools
- More than 6,700 pupils

## NEW SCHOOLS!

A new high school with International Sections opened in Palaiseau - Saclay in 2021, and another one will open in Vincennes in 2024



International Sections in Courbevoie, including Korean, Japanese or Arab sections for kindergarden



The Lycée international Saint-Germain-en-Laye has 14 International Sections and educates over 4,000 students



# Zoom on French schools with Binational Sections (state-subsidized)

**French schools with Binational Sections** follow the national French curriculum, welcome French and Foreign bilingual pupils, offering them a bilingual and bicultural education as well as specific courses

- From secondary school (11-15 yo) to high school (15-18 yo)
- Intensive schooling with a **weekly basis of 6 to 10 hours taught in the language of the section**
- A specific 3-year training program going from years 11 to 13 (high school), designed with a partner country  
This entitles its holders to the same rights in both countries, notably in terms on access to higher education
- **Diplomas:** 3 binational sections are available in Paris Region high schools, delivering a double degree



*Lycée Franco-Allemand de Buc*



*Lycée Molière Paris*

## **ABIBAC**

**German Abitur  
Allgemeine  
Hochschulreife +  
French Baccalaureate**

8 schools

## **BACHIBAC**

**Spanish Bachillerato  
+ French  
Baccalaureate**

9 schools

## **ESABAC**

**Italian Esame di  
Stato + French  
Baccalaureate**

8 schools



# A European School in Paris-La Défense



- **Plurilingual and multicultural European education, from kindergarden level (4 yo) to university entrance**
- **Two linguistic sections: French and English**
- 280 students in 2022, gradual development **up to 1,000 students in 2028**
- Free of charge and priority admission for children of European / international institutions and organisations staff
- **Diploma: The European Baccalaureate diploma**, recognized as an entry qualification for Higher Education in all the countries of the European Union, as well as in several others
- Easily accessible from the Paris' centre (20 to 30 min by public transport)

Website: [www.ee-parisladefense.ac-versailles.fr](http://www.ee-parisladefense.ac-versailles.fr)

A network of schools established in the EU member states European schools' website: [www.eursc.eu/en](http://www.eursc.eu/en)



*Lucie Aubrac High School – Secondary education*



*Caron site – Nursery and primary education*



# Zoom on international and private schools (not state-subsidized or state-contracted)

**Private schools** are **non-French unilingual schools** teaching a national curriculum or **bilingual/international schools** following the French curriculum or be a mixture of several international curricula, offering instruction in both French as well as other languages

- Private schools may be “*sous contrat*” (**state-contracted private school**, the school must follow the French national curriculum) or “*hors contrat*” (**independent school, not state-subsidized**)
- From kindergarden to high school
- **Diplomas:** International Baccalaureate IB, national diplomas (High School Diploma, A-Levels,...)
- **Curriculum:** International curriculum, Montessori, national curricula (American, British, German,...)
- **Fees** from €8,000 to €35,000/year for not state-subsidized school
- Most schools offer rolling admissions all year long and still have capacity to accommodate new students

**Near 40 international schools in Paris Region**

## Some international schools in Paris Region from 3 to 18 years old

International schools	N° of pupils
International School of Paris	920
British School of Paris	800
ICS Paris / EIB / Hattemer schools	3600
Colegio español Federico Garcias Lorca and Liceo español Luis Buñuel	750
Deutsche Schule Paris	300
American School of Paris	500
Jeannine Manuel	2400
Canadian bilingual school of Paris	
Lycée Italien Léonardo da Vinci	320

### Some expansion plans

- A growing network of bilingual kindergarden & primary schools (mostly Montessori)
- Some **ongoing or upcoming private projects**

# Diplomas in Paris Region's international schools

**10 privately-funded schools enable their students to take IB, High School Diploma or A-levels**

## Schools delivering IB diploma

- International School of Paris (*Paris*)
- ICS Paris (ex-EIB Victor Hugo) (*Paris*)
- Jeannine Manuel (*Paris*)
- Ermitage International School of France (*Maisons-Laffitte*)
- American School of Paris (*Saint-Cloud*)
- Notre-Dame International High School (*Verneuil-sur-Seine*)
- Hattemer (*Paris*)
- *The Lab School Paris (Montreuil) - Accreditation process underway*

## Schools delivering A-Levels

- British School of Paris (*Croissy-sur-Seine*)
- ICS Paris (ex-EIB Victor Hugo) (*Paris*)
- Kingsworth International School (*Paris*)

## Schools delivering US High School Diploma

- American School of Paris (*Saint-Cloud*)
- ICS Paris (ex-EIB Victor Hugo) (*Paris*)
- Jeannine Manuel (*Paris*)
- Kingsworth International School (*Paris*)
- Notre-Dame International High School (*Verneuil-sur-Seine*)
- Hattemer (*Paris*)






The banner features three schoolhouse icons with location pins above them. The first pin is red with a white circle, representing China. The second pin is split into the Union Jack (UK) and the French flag. The third pin is green, white, and red, representing Ireland. The background is a light blue sky with clouds.

## International education in Paris Region

Find the most appropriate  
language education offer in Paris Region

[Start](#)



**A dedicated guide and single point of contact to help families gain insight on French education, particularly regarding languages.**

Visit our Guide to International Education in Paris Region:  
<https://internationaleducation.parisregion.eu>

Do not hesitate to contact us:  
[ce.contactinternational@ac-versailles.fr](mailto:ce.contactinternational@ac-versailles.fr)

**This guide provides a mapping of the various schools, from kindergarden to high school, according to the intensive nature of the training and the language taught (17 languages)**

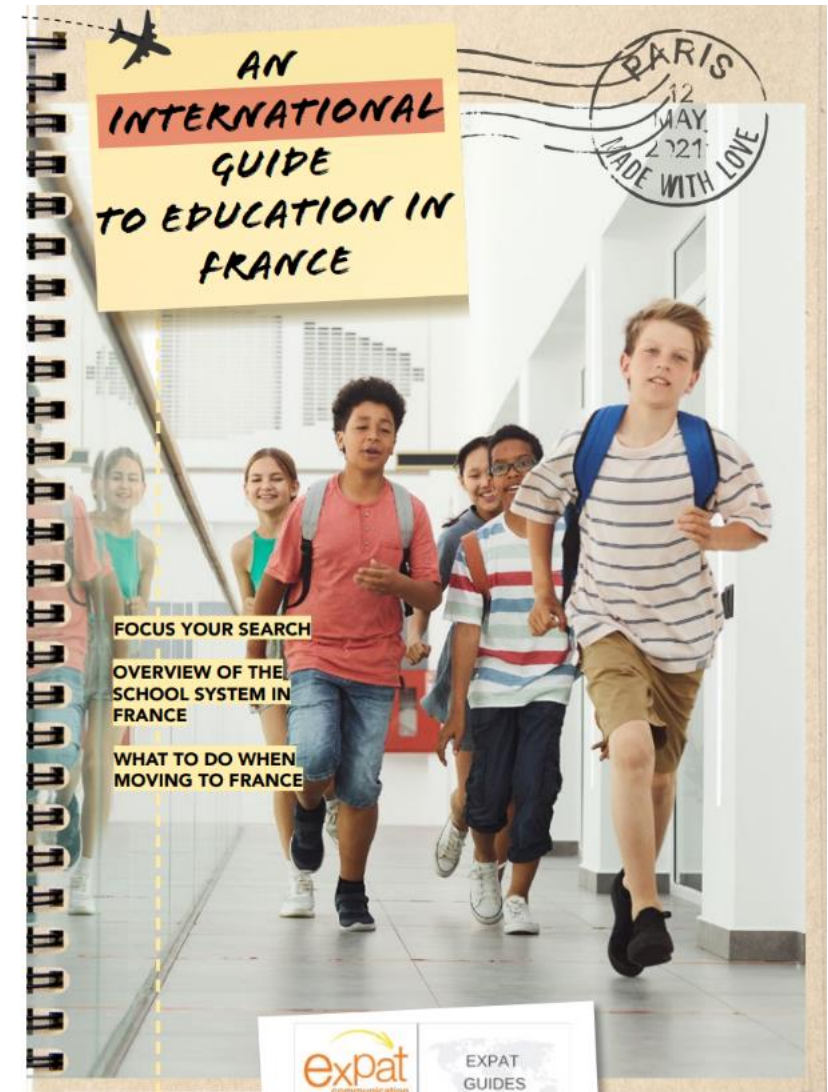


A 70-page booklet, published by Expat Communication, aims to support families in school searching by exposing the different opportunities available in Paris Region. A unique guide to the diversity of the international schools and their practical modalities.

To download the booklet:

- ✓ Click here:  
<https://www.expatscommunication.com/en/guide-to-international-education-in-france/>
- ✓ Fill in the form with your email address and you will access the booklet for free

*Expat Communication provides employees and spouses with personal and flexible support tailored to the situation and needs, to help the expatriates adapt and integrate with greater ease, ensuring a successful expatriation experience at a personal, family and professional level.*



# Annex - School grade equivalents

AGE	UK	USA	FRANCE	EUROPEAN SCHOOL
	Primary	Kindergarten	Maternelle / Kindergarten	
2 - 4	Nursery	Preschool	Petite Section	
4 - 5	Reception	Pre-K	Moyenne Section	Early education
5 - 6	Year 1	Kindergarten	Grande Section	Early education
			Primaire / Elementary or primary school	
6 - 7	Year 2	1st Grade	CP	1st
7 - 8	Year 3	2nd Grade	CE1	2nd
8 - 9	Year 4	3rd Grade	CE2	3rd
9 - 10	Year 5	4th Grade	CM1	4th
10 - 11	Year 6	5th Grade	CM2	5th
	Secondary	Middle School	Collège / Secondary school	Secondary
11 - 12	Year 7	6th Grade	6ème	1st
12 - 13	Year 8	7th Grade	5ème	2nd
13 - 14	Year 9	8th Grade	4ème	3rd
14 - 15	Year 10		3ème	4th
			Lycée / High School	
14 - 15		9th Grade		
15 - 16	Year 11	10th Grade	Seconde	5th
16 - 17	Year 12	11th Grade	Première	6th
17 - 18	Year 13	12th Grade	Terminale	7th

## In France, compulsory schooling starts at 3 years old

Some private nursery schools accept children from 2 years of age:

To be accepted, children must be 2 yo at the start of school in September (some schools require that children be potty-trained), and when there are more children than places older children are given preference.

Pupils are admitted to the nursery school at the beginning of the school year in September of the calendar year in which the child reaches four years of age.

# FAQ





- What pre-school options (under 3 years old) exist?
- If my child does not speak French, can he/she be enrolled in a French school? What help can be provided? What are the best options?
- What might be the estimated budget of school tuition fees?
- How can I enroll my child? Whom should I contact? Is there a specific procedure for children from abroad?
- What are the diplomas offered by the Paris Region's international high schools?
- Are there facilities or services for pupils with special educational needs?
- Are there higher education options for international or non-French speaking students?



# What pre-school options (under 3 years old) exist?



Several types of childcare exist in France for children between 3 months and 3 years old

*\*Options offering English-speaking or bilingual childcare*

## Crèches

or daycare centers with qualified professionals and equipped sites

### Collective crèches

Run by the local authority (town hall) or a private association.

#### How to register?

At the town hall with a proof of address.

The allocation commissions are held 3 or 4 times a year as of May.

Places are limited and waiting lists may be long!

### Parental crèches

Run by the parents' association. Parents participate in the educational development. Few places only!

#### Where to look?

On your town hall's website (section *Petite Enfance*)

### Micro-crèches

Private and smaller crèches that usually accommodate up to 10 children.

### Halte-garderies

Drop-in daycare services for children from 2.5 months up to 6 years old on a part-time or occasional basis.

### Enterprise crèches\*

Private daycare centers in which spots must be booked directly by companies for their employees, near their homes or work. Spots are co-financed by parents, the CAF (French family benefit fund) and companies. Companies can deduct 83% of the costs incurred. The remaining cost for the employee is usually the same as in a collective crèche.

Most **bilingual (French/English) crèches** in Paris Region (People&Baby, Little Frogs, Crèches Plumes, les Petites Canailles...) are enterprise crèches!

## Childminders

### Certified childminders

Childminders (or *Assistant(e) maternel(le)*) have certifications allowing them to supervise children (1 to 4) in their own homes.

#### Where to look?

Contact your town hall to get a list of registered childminders. It is necessary to call them and arrange to meet.

### Home-based childminders or nannies\*

To hire nannies who look after children in your own home (*garde à domicile*) or to opt for sharing childcare with another family (*garde partagée*).

### Childminders agencies\*

Families use these agencies either to find the childminder only, or also to be the employer of the childminder and manage the administrative formalities.



## International Schooling

## Options for non-French speaking children

**If my child does not speak French, can he/she be enrolled in a French school? What help can be provided? What are the best options?**

**In France, all children aged 3 to 16 are guaranteed instruction once they are in the country**, regardless of their nationality and whatever their mastery of the French language.

Thus, **the French national education system guarantees newly arrived pupils who do not speak French access to French education** and special teaching units are offering dedicated learning support in French language for the newcomers.

Private schools may not propose such a support service.

Some **International Sections** could enroll pupils who do not speak French upon admission. These pupils could receive **intensive French language instruction** over the course of one year and then join regular French classes in their second year.





## International Schooling

### Options for non-French speaking children

**If my child does not speak French, can he/she be enrolled in a French school? What help can be provided? What are the best options?**

**If a pupil is about to complete his/her secondary school studies, the choice made by the family regarding the type of school will play a key role:**

- ✓ If the pupil is **enrolled in a state school or in a state-funded school**, the student will need the appropriate academic background to take the baccalaureate exam, and in particular **an adequate level in French**. A teaching support might be given with intensive courses in French.
- ✓ If the pupil is **enrolled in a non-contracted private school**, he might prepare for a diploma and sit tests or exams (A-level, IB...) that **will not necessarily require the same prerequisites in particular as regards the level in French**.



## International Schooling

### Tuition fees

## What might be the estimated budget of school tuition fees?

The cost might vary greatly depending on the type of school chosen by the family.

**State-schools are free of charge**, families only contribute to the cost of school meals and extra-curricular activities.

Some **International Sections** are free, and other that are hosted in French state schools are run by parents' associations and are partially fee-paying programs. In general, the fees are range **from €0 to €6,000 per year**, depending on grade levels.

Regarding **private schools**, families are advised to check school fees and tuition with the schools they are interested in. The fees can range **from €5,000 to €40,000 per year**, depending on grade levels.

Not to mention non-refundable application fees and capital assessment fees that means the one-off payment for new pupils, or extra-curricular activities.



## International Schooling

### Enrollment

## How can I enroll my child? Is there a specific procedure for children from abroad?

**Deadlines vary according to school levels**, places, etc.

Families need to contact schools or educational facilities directly or check their websites for dates and application procedures.

Usually the sooner the better (as of October for some schools, as of January for others), but even if a deadline has been missed, an application form could be processed if justified by context (family move for instance).

Whether or not your child will have to take an **entrance exam / French level test** or sit for an interview will **depend entirely on the school** he or she is applying to.

Note that the major international and bilingual schools are in high demand and waiting lists can be long.



## International Schooling

## Enrollment

### Whom should I contact?

#### State-run French schools

Parents are usually required to send their child **to the school nearest to their home**. It is occasionally possible to apply for a place in a state-run school outside the family's chosen residential area (authorization must be obtained from the town hall or from the educational district's administrative head (*Rectorat*)).

For [kindergarten](#) and [primary school](#), contact the school service at your local town council

For [secondary school](#), contact the educational district's administrative head

To apply for an [International Section](#), contact the school

#### International private schools

**In some of them, it is possible to enroll any time during the school year.** These schools are full of expatriate pupils and try as much as possible to adapt to the special circumstances international parents are facing.

Note that most of these schools have waiting lists!



# What are the diplomas offered by the Paris Region's international high schools?



## International diplomas offering by public schools

### EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE

European School Paris-La Défense (*Courbevoie*)

### ABIBAC – German Abitur Allgemeine Hochschulreife + French Baccalaureate

Public high schools located in *Paris (3), Combs-la-Ville, Le Raincy, Dourdan, Courbevoie, Enghien-les-Bains, Rueil-Malmaison, Buc*

### BACHIBAC – Spanish Bachillerato + French Baccalaureate

Public high schools located in *Paris (3), Noisy-le-Grand, Maisons-Alfort, Montigny-le-Bretonneux, Sartrouville, Dourdan, Bois-Colombes, Sceaux, Ermont, Pontoise*

### ESABAC – Italian Esame di Stato + French Baccalaureate

Public high schools located in *Paris (3), Saint-Denis, Saint-Maur-des-Fossés, Rambouillet, Massy, Bois-Colombes, Sarcelles*

### INTERNATIONAL FRENCH BACCALAUREATE

Public high schools located in *Paris (10), Buc, Courbevoie, Fontainebleau, La-Celle-Saint-Cloud, Maisons-Laffitte, Nogent-sur-Marne, Noisy-le-Grand (2), Pontoise, Saint-Cloud, Saint-Germain-en-Laye, Sèvres, Versailles*

Find them on the online guide: <https://internationaleducation.parisregion.eu>

## 10 privately-funded schools enable their students to take IB, High School Diploma or A-levels

### IB DIPLOMA

- International School of Paris (*Paris*)
- ICS Paris (ex-EIB Victor Hugo) (*Paris*)
- Jeannine Manuel (*Paris*)
- Ermitage International School of France (*Maisons-Laffitte*)
- American School of Paris (*Saint-Cloud*)
- Notre-Dame International High School (*Verneuil-sur-Seine*)
- Hattemer (*Paris*)

### A-LEVELS

- British School of Paris (*Croissy-sur-Seine*)
- ICS Paris (ex-EIB Victor Hugo) (*Paris*)
- Kingsworth International School (*Paris*)

### US HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

- American School of Paris (*Saint-Cloud*)
- EIB Victor Hugo (*Paris*)
- Jeannine Manuel (*Paris*)
- Kingsworth International School (*Paris*)
- Notre-Dame International High School (*Verneuil-sur-Seine*)
- Hattemer (*Paris*)

# Are there facilities or services for pupils with special educational needs?



The **French National Education** has a comprehensive set of resources available online (in English), including policies to **provide better facilities for disabled pupils**:

[www.education.gouv.fr/cid130236/provide-better-facilities-for-disabled-pupils.html](http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid130236/provide-better-facilities-for-disabled-pupils.html)



An « **inclusive school** » **hotline service for concerns related to education and disability** is available in each Paris Region « *département* ».

Its purpose is to advise families on the existing facilities and to respond to them on their child's case:

- [Paris inclusive school service](#)
- [Hauts-de-Seine inclusive school service](#) Mail: [ecoleinclusive92@ac-versailles.fr](mailto:ecoleinclusive92@ac-versailles.fr)
- [Yvelines inclusive school service](#)  
Mail: [ecoleinclusive78@ac-versailles.fr](mailto:ecoleinclusive78@ac-versailles.fr)

# Are there facilities or services for pupils with special educational needs?

**Some support networks for English-speaking or multilingual families of children with complex learning, medical, or physical needs:**

## **SPRINT France**

<https://sprintfrance.org>

**A non-profit organization of English-speaking professionals who work with children of all ages with special needs.**

*They give advice about the French health and/or school system and help find the appropriate educational, medical, and therapeutic services or referrals.*

*They inform parents about programs offered in various international and bilingual schools and connect parents to support networks.*

## **Extraordinary Kids in Paris...Parents too!**

<https://extraordinarykidsinparis.blogspot.com>

**A parent support network for families of children with complex learning, medical, or physical needs.**

*They provide information on navigating the MDPH (Departmental home for people with disabilities - Organization recognizing disability for the purposes of receiving any sort of benefits or allowances: educational accommodations, a state-funded assistant, and so on); support regarding school choice and in-school accommodations, information on medical assessments, funding sources...*

*+ Newsletters, information sessions, playgroup mornings...*



## International Schooling

## Higher education

### Are there higher education options for international or non-French speaking students?

The excellence in higher education and research in France is widely acknowledged around the world and numerous Paris Region prestigious universities and higher education institutions stand out in the most reputable international rankings:

- Public universities
- Business schools offering Masters and MBAs, Engineering schools
- Political and social sciences schools, art schools and cultural courses...

**Paris Region plays host to  
96,400 foreign students**

*14% of students in Paris Region  
31% all foreign students in French  
higher universities*

**including  
7,500 foreign PhD students**

*32% of PhD students in  
Paris Region*





## International Schooling

## Higher education

## Are there higher education options for international or non-French speaking students?



**The one-stop shop for all students seeking to study in France**

**Campus France helps students prepare their period of study in France:**

- Guidance in selecting institutions and programs,
- Practical tips on planning their stay,
- Information on application and admission procedures,
- Life in France, French courses, housing,...

**More than 500 English-speaking programs:**

An online catalogue to find out programs taught in English:  
<http://taughtie.campusfrance.org/tiesearch/#/catalog>

For each program, find information about duration, degree or level obtained, admission requirements (academic level, English and French proficiency), tuition fees,...



**There are 260 Campus France offices around the world!**

Contact or visit the nearest office: [www.campusfrance.org/fr/espaces](http://www.campusfrance.org/fr/espaces)

# Your contacts



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