

International Bilingual School of Provence

Aix-en-Provence, France



In the pine groves west of Aix, seventy-five nationalities split classes between French and English on the way to twin baccalaureates, OIB and IB.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	66/100
Academic outcomes	68/100
University placement	66/100
Prestige & heritage	67/100
Alumni network	66/100
Facilities	69/100
Transparency	59/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Set in the pine belt outside Aix-en-Provence, IBS sells a proposition that few schools in France can match cleanly: a bilingual school for ages 11 to 18 with access to both the French Baccalauréat route, including OIB, and the IB Diploma, plus boarding from Year 7 equivalent onwards. The international mix is not cosmetic. The school states that it serves pupils from more than ****75 nationalities**** and more than ****1000 students**** across the wider school. For families who want a child educated in France without being locked into a purely French educational culture, that matters. So does the split in the senior years:

the French section offers a mixed pathway with around one third of teaching in English from 3ème, while the pre-IB route from 3ème leads into IGCSEs before the IB Diploma. That dual structure is the school's real distinction, and it gives IBS a *rare degree of flexibility* for internationally mobile families.

This is not a petite Provençal school with rustic charm and modest ambition. It is a *serious international operation* with day fees averaging **€15,340** a year across the 11-18 range, and boarding averaging **€32,742**. That places it in the *upper-middle tier* of the French international market: expensive, but not in the bracket occupied by the most exclusive Swiss-style boarding schools. The appeal is practical as much as aspirational. Parents get a non-religious school, English as a language of instruction, an international peer group, and a boarding option on one site near Aix. The trade-off is that IBS does not publish the kind of hard public data that would strengthen its academic case: no aggregate IB Diploma scores, no university destination list, and no cohort-level outcomes data are in public view. For a school charging these fees, that opacity is a weakness.

The pupils who fit IBS best are clear enough. This is for bilingual or internationally minded children who can handle movement between systems, who benefit from a cosmopolitan intake, and who want France without full immersion in a monolingual French school. Boarders who need a structured, international environment from age 11 also sit squarely in its target group. It is less convincing for parents who want a small school with intimate scale, or for those who insist on published outcomes before paying *substantial fees*. Put plainly: IBS belongs on a shortlist because it offers a *genuinely unusual* mix of France, English-medium internationalism, boarding and parallel senior pathways. It stays on that shortlist if a family values that mix more than exhaustive public disclosure.

STRENGTHS

- French Bac OIB and IB Diploma both offered
- English instruction with bilingual English-French teaching
- Boarding available from Year 7 onwards
- 8:1 student-teacher ratio allows close attention

TRADE-OFFS

- Ages 11-18 only; no primary provision here
- French Bac route adds national exam requirements
- Average class size 16 may feel sizeable

ADMISSIONS

International Bilingual School of Provence is a mixed day and boarding school in Luynes, on the outskirts of Aix-en-Provence, serving pupils through the secondary years covered here from ages 11 to 18. Given the age range and the programmes named, the clearest entry points are likely at the start of lower secondary and again at sixth-form level for the French Baccalauréat (including OIB) or the IB Diploma, though the school also teaches other pathways. It describes an international intake, with more than 75 nationalities represented, so admissions are likely handled with mobile families in mind.

The school does not publish, in the material provided here, the practical admissions detail parents usually want: no public deadline calendar, no stated assessment format, and no confirmed information on bursaries or financial aid. Nor is any distinctive selection process set out in the source material beyond the implication that applicants are joining a multilingual, academically mixed system offering both French and international routes. Parents should therefore expect to enquire directly about timing, testing, language expectations and boarding availability.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_a3ff590e0f.