

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF THE ALGARVE®

Bilingual Education for 3 to 6 year olds

A unique fusion of Portuguese and English curricula designed to enhance each child's learning.

Ours is the first and only truly bilingual school in the Algarve. It is fully licensed and accredited and regularly inspected by the Ministry of Education.

Bilingual education is in the vanguard of educational innovation and gives a unique preparation for an increasingly globalised world. Each class is led by two highly qualified and experienced professionals with proven success in the Portuguese and English systems. The curriculum is inspiring, incorporating the UK Foundation Stage's Areas of Learning as well as the Portuguese National Curriculum.

There are individual learning programmes for each child with bilingual evaluations. There is age appropriate curriculum planning, hands-on experience, plenty of enthusiasm and encouragement so that the children experience both the challenges and rewards of bilingual achievement.

Successful and experienced specialist teachers work with the children for ICT, Music and Physical Education.

The environment is stimulating and caring. The children can be relaxed, happy and fully engaged in stimulating learning activities within safe areas for work and play.

Complete flexibility allows children to continue into either Portuguese or English educational systems at age 6.

This highly innovative way of learning has been so successful that enrolment has grown by 50% since its introduction in September 2010.

The Arts

Art, Graphic Design, Music and Drama all play an important part in the curriculum for every student up to the age of 14. After this they become options for those students wishing to pursue them to examination level.

In addition there are many opportunities for students to develop, display and perform their acquired skills in the Arts.

Over 50 students are currently learning musical instruments in the Instrumental Music Programme. Visiting teachers give lessons in piano, guitar, drums, violin, saxophone, voice and a variety of woodwind and brass instruments. In recent years scores of music students have successfully entered for grade examinations set by the Associated Boards of the Royal School of Music.

Concerts, musicals and exhibitions are presented in the School's own drama studio theatre or the Library. In addition special events in large venues are arranged. The annual Christmas Concert is greatly appreciated and takes place in Lagoa Church. Large scale musicals have been presented in the Municipal Auditorium in Lagoa, the Convento de Lagoa, the Hotel Tivoli Almansor and the Cultural Centre in Cascais, Lisbon.

All the school's music comes under the direction of Ms Gita Nasta. She spent seven years at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London studying pianoforte, singing and composition. Winner of many prizes and scholarships, she completed her studies with Master Classes under Edith Vogel and began a concert career.

However, her great love of composition and children led her to devote more and more of her time to working with children and she founded choirs and opera groups wherever the family's travels led her, performing in Singapore, the UK and Brussels where she opened an opera school. The Brussels Youth Opera became very well known during their 15 years of public performances.

She has composed many works for children, including 5 operas, a choral drama and 3 musicals. It is this wealth of talent and experience that she brought to the school some 12 years ago.



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Established in 1972

Fundada em 1972

ESCOLA INTERNACIONAL DO ALGARVE®

STOP PRESS: A Level Results 2011

British A Level results were published world-wide on the 18th August and, once again, there was good news for the senior students of the International School of the Algarve. There was a 100% pass rate at A Level with three students performing outstandingly well.

Head Girl Olivia van Roijen achieved three As and a B, in Mathematics, ICT, Business Studies and Economics. She is deferring university entry and will apply for a place either in the UK or Holland after taking a gap year.

Eilis Bragginton also won three As and a B, in Mathematics, Biology, Geography and Chemistry. Her fine grades secured her a place at Birmingham University to read Biochemistry and Genetics, which she will take up in September.

Head Boy Alexanda Maryan gained one A*, in Design Technology (Graphic Products), an A in Mathematics and Bs in Art and Design and Biology. Alexanda is a keen and accomplished musician and in a few weeks time will take up his place at the Brighton Institute of Music to do an Honours Degree in Modern Music.

Many congratulations to all of our A level students on their success.

The Great Summer Event

Few here in the Algarve can have failed to be aware of Event 29 organised at the International School of the Algarve on the 29th of July as the curtain-raiser to the School's 40th Anniversary Year.

Word had been spread not only by newspaper advertising but also via social media and we were delighted that, following all the excitement in the build-up to the big day, some 5000 (yes, 5000) people attended the Event.

With all-night live music, DJs, lounge areas, bars, displays, sophisticated catering and a huge amount of goodwill, Event 29 became THE event of summer 2011 in the Algarve.

It was attended by hundreds and hundreds of ex-students of the school, their parents and children and friends, all of whom enjoyed visiting their old school and meeting once again with ex-colleagues and teachers. The School would like to thank all involved in the mammoth task of organising such a huge event as well as all the people who attended and enjoyed themselves so much.

Event 28 is already being planned, for the 28th July 2012. Be there!!!

Sport

Sport is an integral part of the curriculum for all students. The school campus boasts a full size soccer pitch, three multi-sport hard-surfaced courts, a grass pitch and two gymnasias. As well as sport delivered through the normal timetable, there are also many fantastic opportunities for students to excel through team sport.

School teams compete against other schools in the official school sport organisation (Desporto Escolar) at Soccer, Tennis, Basketball and Gymnastics. All these sports, plus Karate and Roller Blading, are also included in a very active after school Sports Club.

The School is proud to have had hundreds of regional titles over the years in basketball, tennis and athletics. There have also been successes at National Level over the years. The Roller-Blading Club has most recently produced an incredibly successful Junior Girls speed skating team. They are Portuguese National Champions in both street and track speed skating for the second year running and they currently hold both indoor and outdoor national titles. They will now be competing at European level. One Girls' Basketball team was ranked second in Portugal two years running.

The annual ski trip and outward-bound style camping and multi-activity holidays complete a varied, popular and unrivalled Sports Programme.