

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.



ESCOLA INTERNACIONAL DO ALGARVE®

Examination Results 2011

British examination results were published world-wide in 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 both Advanced and GCSE level with several 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.

Ellis 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 Alexandra Maryan gained one A*, in Design Technology (Graphic Products), an A in Mathematics and Bs in Art and Design and Biology. Alexandra 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.

At GCSE level the International School of the Algarve's students were significantly ahead of UK averages as usual. A clear indication of the School's success comes from comparing the percentage of A* and A grades; UK students achieving 23.2%, the School's students 33.6%.

From the subject point of view there were great results in English, Biology, French, Literature, Geography, History, Science and Business Studies. As to be expected, the Portuguese results were also superb. The School has a policy of pushing students on in Portuguese and this year thirteen of the Year 9 students took GCSE two years early, eleven of them achieving A* or A grades.

Individual students in Year 11 deserving of special mention are: Eloise Seddon, having got A grades in Music and Mathematics one year early, went on this year to win a further A* and 6 more As. At the same time she passed an Advanced Subsidiary level course in Mathematics, a year early. Alice Sanders gained 9 GCSEs with 6 of them being at A* or A grade. Paige Duckenfield was delighted with her 10 GCSEs, 7 being A* or As.

Headmaster John Butterworth said, "These results are a great tribute to the hard work of our students. Here at the International School of the Algarve we are fortunate to have able and hardworking students supported by dedicated teachers. Their parents, teachers and indeed our whole community can be justifiably proud of what they have achieved."

Improved facilities for 40th Anniversary School Year

As the School begins its 40th Anniversary Year there has been further upgrading of the facilities available from which the students can benefit.

The whole school premises have been repainted and look bright and inviting. The main basketball court and the two multisport courts have been resurfaced and repainted. The Primary football pitch has now been upgraded to astroturf. Other exciting improvements to the sports facilities are in progress and will be completed in the coming weeks.

Less noticeable but just as important is the upgrade of the whole School's lighting system. Low consumption lighting systems are now in place in all classrooms. The savings in energy consumption will be significant and will cover the cost of installation within one year. The School operates a careful recycling programme which the whole staff encourages the students to adhere to. These measures are part of the educationally desirable requirement to instill environmental awareness and social responsibility in our young people.



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Established in 1972

Fundada em 1972