



# INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN BARCELONA

PRACTICAL GUIDE  
FOR NEWCOMERS WITH CHILDREN

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# THE PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDE

Barcelona is a captivating, cosmopolitan, Mediterranean city. Barcelona combines beauty, an enviable climate, tourist attractions and a business-friendly side that welcomes you with open arms. It should come as no surprise that Barcelona is among the top European cities chosen by international companies.

Many of the nearly thirty million people that visit us each year do so for professional reasons. Some decide to make Barcelona their home, and those with children are faced with the challenge of finding the right school for their family.

Deciding on a school for your child could depend on their age, previous educational background, and languages spoken; how long you plan to live in Barcelona, and finances, among many other factors.

Those with very young children can often see the advantage of having their children attend local schools for a few years. Many families that plan on settling in Barcelona opt to enrol their children in a school that follows the local curriculum, but also offers quality foreign-language teaching.

For families that relocate with school-age children, finding an international school that follows the same curriculum as their home country can be the most important aspect. The languages spoken at home or during previous schooling will also affect their decision.

Cost can also be a decisive factor, and finding the perfect school might condition where you want to live.

As each family is different, each family will make choices reflecting its own priorities and preferences.

This guide provides key information in order to make this decision-making process as simple as possible.

*The International Schools in Barcelona guide* focuses on international schools in the Barcelona area and features concise, practical information about international schools. It also explains how the local school system works.

In Barcelona and the surrounding metropolitan area there is a wide variety of quality options in terms of schooling, including the more than 40 schools featured here that could be of special interest to the expat community. Having international schools is one of the keys to attracting foreign talent and clearly an asset that helps strengthen the Barcelona brand.

Primary and secondary education constitute an investment in society's future. Education is a key tool for economic development and competitiveness, and plays an essential role in social cohesion and the integration of residents from around the world.

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# OVERVIEW OF THE LOCAL EDUCATION SYSTEM

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In Catalonia and Spain, **compulsory education** spans the ten years from 6 to 16 years of age. A child's year of birth, taken as the calendar year in which they were born, will indicate which grade they will attend, with the cut-off being December 31.

The local education system is broken down into stages, levels and years, or grades, of learning.

The city of Barcelona has a strong network of **Municipal Nursery Schools**, called *Escoles Bressol*, which care for children 4 months to 3 years old. There are also many private childcare centres.

While not obligatory, the vast majority of local children attend **preschool** starting the year they turn 3 years old, until they are 6. Public preschool is free and universal and often referred to popularly as *Parvulari* or *Escola Infantil*.

**Primary school** (*Escola Primària*) lasts six years and runs from *Primer* (First grade) to *Sisè* (Sixth grade).

At the age of 12, children start high school (*institut*), which is a four-year course of **compulsory secondary education** called **ESO** (*Educació Secundària Obligatòria*).

Those who finish compulsory education at 16 may either opt for the two-year pre-university course known locally as *Batxillerat* or for **Basic Vocational Training** (*Formació Professional de Grau Mitjà*).

The **appendix** to this guide provides a more detailed description of the Catalan public education system.

The comparative chart on the next pages shows the equivalencies between the local system and selected foreign school systems.





## SCHOOL SYSTEM EQUIVALENCIES

	CATALAN	GERMAN	US	BRITISH			
0-3 years old	Escola Bressol			Pre-school			
3-4 years old	P3	KINDERGARTEN	Preschool	EARLY YEARS			
4-5 years old	P4				1. Jahr	Nursery	
5-6 years old	P5				2. Jahr	Reception	
6-7 years old	1r Primària	GRUNDSCHULE	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PRIMARY EDUCATION			
7-8 years old	2n Primària				3. Jahr	Kindergarten	Year 1
8-9 years old	3r Primària				Klasse 1	1st Grade	Year 2
9-10 years old	4t Primària				Klasse 2	2nd Grade	Year 3
10-11 years old	5è Primària				Klasse 3	3rd Grade	Year 4
11-12 years old	6è Primària				Klasse 4	4th Grade	Year 5
12-13 years old	1r ESO	GYMNASIUM	MIDDLE SCHOOL	SECONDARY EDUCATION			
13-14 years old	2n ESO				Klasse 5	5th Grade	Year 6
14-15 years old	3r ESO				Klasse 6	6th Grade	Year 7
15-16 years old	4t ESO				Klasse 7	7th Grade	Year 8
16-17 years old	1r Batxillerat				Klasse 8	8th Grade	Year 9
17-18 years old	2n Batxillerat				Klasse 9	9th Grade	Year 10
		Klasse 10	10th Grade	Year 11			
		Klasse 11	11th Grade	Year 12			
		Klasse 12	12th Grade	Year 13			

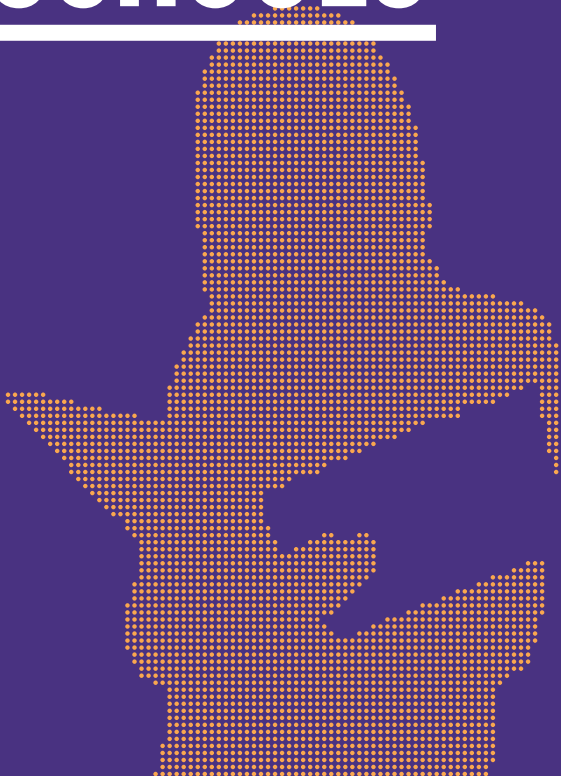
Source: Compiled internally from information provided by the schools

FRENCH		ITALIAN		JAPANESE		SWISS		
		Asilo nido				0-3 years old		
ÉCOLE MATERNELLE	Petite Section	SCUOLA MATERNA	Sezione 3 anni			KINDERGARTEN	P3	3-4 years old
	Moyenne Section		Sezione 4 anni				P4	4-5 years old
	Grande Section		Sezione 5 anni				P5	5-6 years old
ÉCOLE ÉLÉMENTAIRE	CP	SCUOLA PRIMARIA	1° Primaria	SHOGAKKO	1st year	PRIMARSSCHULE	1. Klasse	6-7 years old
	CE1		2° Primaria		2nd year		2. Klasse	7-8 years old
	CE2		3° Primaria		3rd year		3. Klasse	8-9 years old
	CM1		4° Primaria		4th year		4. Klasse	9-10 years old
	CM2		5° Primaria		5th year		5. Klasse	10-11 years old
COLLÈGE	Sixième	SCUOLA SECONDARIA DI 1° GRADO	1° Sec. di 1° g.	CHUGAKKO	6th year	SEKUNDARSSCHULE	6. Klasse	11-12 years old
	Cinquième		2° Sec. di 1° g.		1st year		7. Klasse	12-13 years old
	Quatrième		3° Sec. di 1° g.		2nd year		8. Klasse	13-14 years old
	Troisième		1° Liceo		3rd year		9. Klasse	14-15 years old
LYCÉE	Seconde	LICEO	2° Liceo			GYMNASIUM	10. Klasse	15-16 years old
	Première		3° Liceo				11. Klasse	16-17 years old
	Terminale		4° Liceo				12. Klasse	17-18 years old

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# TYPES OF SCHOOLS

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In Barcelona, as in the rest of Catalonia, there are three main types of schools to become familiar with:

### **PUBLIC SCHOOL (*ESCOLA PÚBLICA*)**

Publicly funded, tuition-free, secular, and owned by the government. The state curriculum is approved by the Catalan Ministry of Education. State-organised enrolment is in spring and is based on your catchment area and other factors. See the Appendix for more information.

### **STATE-SUBSIDISED PRIVATE SCHOOL (*ESCOLA CONCERTADA*)**

These schools are privately owned and run, and may be secular or non-secular. Tuition is subsidised by the government. The curriculum is also approved by the Catalan Ministry of Education and these schools share the state-organised enrolment process with the public schools.

### **PRIVATE SCHOOL (*ESCOLA PRIVADA*)**

While the curriculum (aims, contents, teaching methods and assessment criteria, etc.) must be approved by the Catalan Ministry of Education, these schools do not receive government subsidies and the cost of schooling is covered in full by families.

In Barcelona, all public schools are owned by public bodies – either the Government of Catalonia or the Barcelona City Council – and they are run by the Barcelona Education Consortium (*Consorti d'Educació de Barcelona*).

State-subsidised private schools (*escola concertada*) voluntarily participate in the government subsidy programme by complying with established requirements to receive subsidies from the Catalan government that cover the cost of basic educational needs. These schools do not charge tuition, but any other expenses beyond the scope of compulsory education are paid for by parents on a voluntary basis. In practice, this means a monthly cost of between €80 and €500, depending on the school.



Both types of schools (*pública and concertada*) follow the same pre-enrolment and enrolment criteria and procedures. All of the schools that belong to the Catalan Education Service follow the same curriculum because they are governed by the same legislation. However, each school may employ its own methodology and specific educational programme.

Purely private schools use their own, separate enrolment criteria and procedures which you will need to learn about on a case-by-case basis. For the schools featured in the guide, you will find the address, website, phone number and contact information listed on each school's datasheet.

There is a **registry of all schools** that lists all the centres in the city, whether publicly or privately owned, that offer official schooling.



Catalan registry of schools:

→ <http://ensenyament.gencat.cat/ca/arees-actuacio/centres-serveis-educatius/centres/directoris-centres>  
(available in Catalan)

The Barcelona Education Consortium, located at Plaça d'Urquinaona 6, offers personalised information services in several languages. Consult the website → [www.edubcn.cat](http://www.edubcn.cat) for relevant calendars for enrolment periods, a registry of schools in Barcelona, and other useful information for residents. (website in Catalan)

For schools outside of Barcelona, you can contact either the school, the city council, or one of the appointed offices of the Catalan Ministry of Education.



*Serveis Territorials i oficines gestores del Departament d'Ensenyament / Regional Service offices for the Catalan Ministry of Education:*

→ [http://ensenyament.gencat.cat/ca/serveis\\_territorials](http://ensenyament.gencat.cat/ca/serveis_territorials)  
(website in Catalan)



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# INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN THE BARCELONA AREA

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What do we mean by international schools? An international school is one that uses a curriculum or language of instruction different from that of the local community. Most of these schools are privately owned and operated, meaning that financial issues must be taken into consideration.

## CURRICULUM AND LANGUAGE

Let's take a look at what differentiates international schools:

### LOCAL CURRICULUM, FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Many schools follow the local curriculum, school calendar and holidays but use a foreign language of instruction, either in whole or in part. These schools are generally private, but may be state-subsidised, which will greatly affect the fee schedule.

Students from these schools are both local children looking for an intercultural environment and a focus on foreign language, and the children of expats.

### FOREIGN CURRICULUM, FOREIGN LANGUAGE

The schools that teach a foreign curriculum also use a foreign language of instruction. Some schools are sponsored by foreign governments and give preference to citizens of that country, or students who have previously studied in that country, but are open to all. Other schools are not associated with any government, but simply follow the curriculum of a different country and have been certified by the appropriate body. Other schools have negotiated agreements with local government to offer students double certificates upon graduation.

Barcelona currently has schools that follow the British, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Swiss and U.S. education systems, among others.

Some of these schools opt to transition students to the local system for secondary education to facilitate acceptance at Catalan and Spanish universities. Others continue with the foreign curriculum and their students apply to universities in their home country.



In Barcelona and its metropolitan area there are over 40 international schools. The great majority are purely private, which can be an expensive option, compared with public schools, which are paid for in full with public funds.

The international schools in the city of Barcelona are located mostly in the Sarrià-Sant Gervasi and Les Corts neighbourhoods. There are also quite a few international schools in the surrounding metropolitan area with significant expat communities in cities such as Sant Cugat, Sitges and La Garriga, to name a few.



## CERTIFICATES

The international schools offer different **types of certificates:**

### INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

In 1968 a Geneva-based not-for-profit organisation created a diploma for students that travelled a lot internationally during their teen years. Today, the programme has four top-quality, highly demanding educational programmes for students aged 3 to 19 all over the world. For nearly 50 years, the IB programmes have been renowned for their top-notch academic level and rigour. There are currently more than one million IB students at around 4,500 schools in 148 countries.

Students that successfully finish the IB programme are eligible to apply to universities all over the world. There are currently 12 schools in the Barcelona area that offer the IB, one of which is a public high school. The language of instruction at IB schools varies.



For more information on the International Baccalaureate:

→ [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)

## BATXIBAC

In 2010 the Catalan Ministry of Education and the French Ministry of Education created the *Batxibac* (Catalan *Batxillerat* plus French *Baccalauréat*) programme. The programme follows a mixed curriculum with one-third of the classroom hours taught in French, following the French curriculum, plus classes in French language, literature and history. In order to be accepted in the *Batxibac* programme, students must prove they have basic French, equivalent to B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Students that successfully complete this curriculum earn the Catalan *Batxillerat* certificate and then, upon passing an additional external exam in French, the French *Baccalauréat*.

This option is widely available at both public and private schools.



For more information on the *Batxibac*:  
 → [www.xtec.cat/web/curriculum/batxillerat/baccalaureat](http://www.xtec.cat/web/curriculum/batxillerat/baccalaureat)

## BISA

The Barcelona International Schools Association (BISA) was formed in 2012 so that the international education community could benefit from sharing information, collaborating on projects, and engaging in on-going conversations with each other and leaders in the Barcelona community.

The following logo identifies the schools that belong to BISA.



For more information on the Barcelona International Schools Association:  
 → [www.bisa.info](http://www.bisa.info)



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# DATASHEETS FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

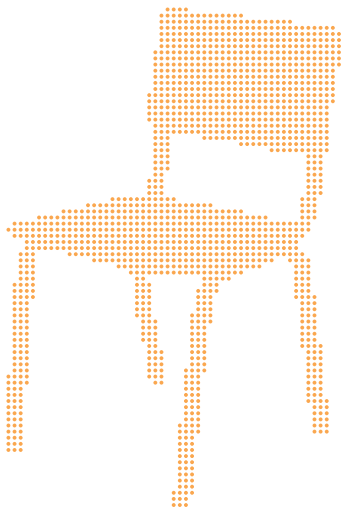
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The chart on the following pages comprises an alphabetical list of international schools, including information on ages of enrolment, languages of instruction and certificates offered.

Following the chart, there is a datasheet for each school with a photo and brief description, usually provided by the schools themselves.

The information in the datasheets is merely descriptive and in no way indicates any type of commitment on behalf of the promoter of the guide to the schools, interested parties or third parties. The promoter will not be held liable for the information contained in this guide. Interested parties must verify the information regarding any school they wish to contact.



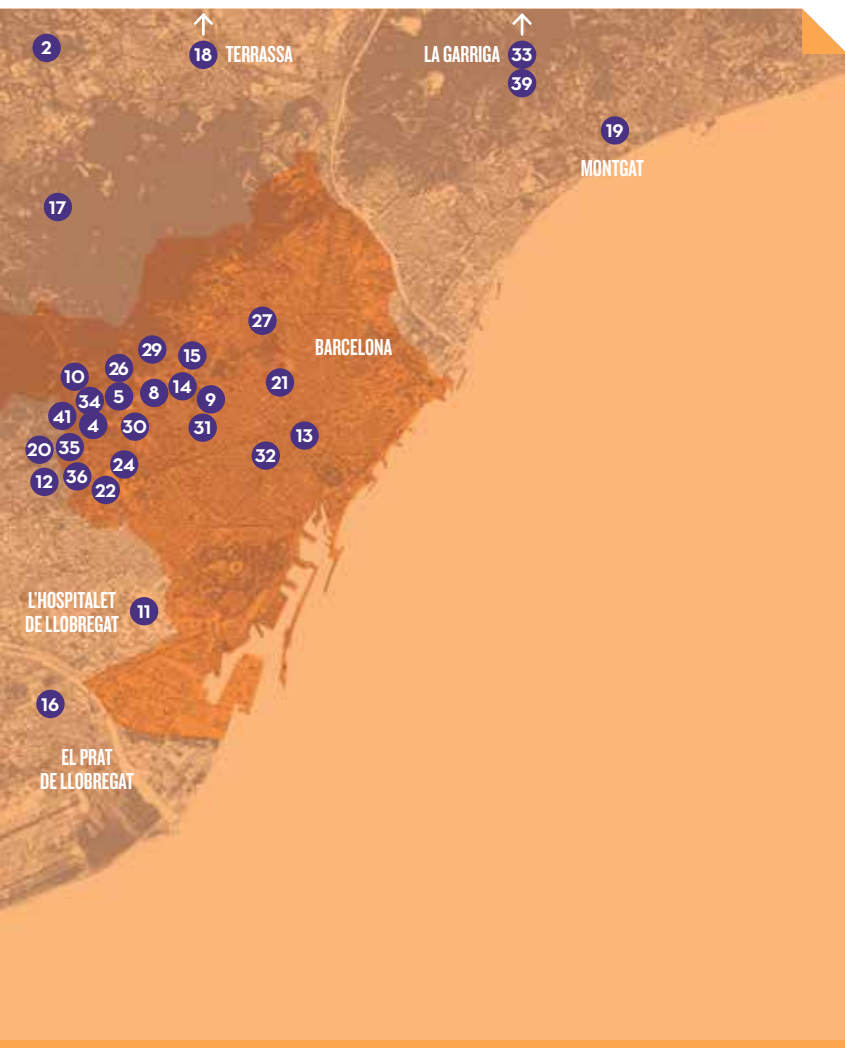
# INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN BARCELONA AREA

SCHOOL	CITY	AGES						LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION						IB*	
		0-3	3-6	6-12	12-16	16-18	SPANISH	CATALAN	ENGLISH	FRENCH	ITALIAN	JAPANESE	GERMAN		
1. Agora International School Barcelona	St. Esteve Sesrovires	2yrs	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						x
2. Agora Sant Cugat International School	St. Cugat del Vallès		x	x	x	x	x	x							x
3. American School of Barcelona	Espulgues de Llobregat		x	x	x	x									x
4. Aula Escola Europea	Barcelona		x	x	x	x	x	x	x						x
5. Benjamin Franklin International School	Barcelona		x	x	x	x									x
6. Colegio Hatikva	Valldoreix (St. Cugat)	2yrs	x	x	x	x	x	x							
7. Colegio Japonés de Barcelona	St. Cugat del Vallès		x	x	15yrs									x	
8. Col·legi John Talabot	Barcelona		x	x	x	x	x	x							
9. Col·legi Mary Ward	Barcelona		x	x	x										
10. Col·legi Montserrat	Barcelona		x	x	x	x	x	x							x
11. Col·legi Xaloc	L'Hospitalet de Llobregat		x	x	x	x	x	x							x
12. Deutsche Schule Barcelona	Espulgues de Llobregat		x	x	x	x									x
13. École Française Ferdinand de Lesseps	Barcelona		x	11yrs								x			
14. English Academy Santa Claus	Barcelona		x	x											
15. English School of Barcelona	Barcelona		x	x	x										
16. ES International School	El Prat de Llobregat			8yrs	x	x									
17. Europa International School	St. Cugat del Vallès		x	x	x	x	x	x							
18. Gresol International - American School	Terrassa		x	x	x	x									x
19. Hamelin-Laité International School	Montgat		x	x	x	x	x	x							x

20	Highlands School Barcelona	Espulgues de Llobregat	1yr	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
21	Institut Moisés Braggi	Barcelona					X		X				X	
22	Kensington School	Barcelona		X	X	X	X							
23	Lycée Français Bel Air	St. Pere de Ribes		X	X	X	X	X	X				X	
24	Lycée Français de Barcelone	Barcelona		X	X	X	X	X	X				X	
25	Lycée Français de Gavà Bon Soleil	Gavà		X	X	X	X	X	X				X	
26	Oak House School	Barcelona		X	X	X	X			X			X	
27	Princess Margaret School	Barcelona		X	X	X	X			X	X		X	
28	Richmond International School	St. Pere de Ribes		X	X	X	X	X	X				X	
29	Salesians Sarrià	Barcelona					X	X		X			X	
30	Santa Clara International School	Barcelona	2yrs	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
31	Schweizerschule Barcelona	Barcelona		X	X	X	X	X	X				X	
32	Scuola Italiana di Barcellona	Barcelona		X	X	X	X				X		X	
33	SEK Catalunya International School	La Garriga		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
34	St. George's School Barcelona	Barcelona		X	X	X	X	X		X			X	
35	St. Paul's School	Barcelona		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
36	St. Peter's School	Barcelona	18m	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
37	The British College of Gavà	Gavà		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
38	The British School of Barcelona	Castelldefels/Sitges		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
39	The International School of Catalunya	La Garriga		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
40	The Olive Tree School	St. Pere de Ribes		X	X	X	X			X			X	
41	Zürich Schule	Barcelona	2yrs	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	

\* International Baccalaureate







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# AGORA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BARCELONA

Carrer Puig de Mira, 15-21  
08635 Sant Esteve Sesrovires  
+34 93 779 89 28  
info@agoraisbarcelona.edu.es  
<http://colegioagorabarcelona.es/>

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

FGC - R6: Sant Esteve Sesrovires  
RENFE - R4, R8: Martorell  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Other languages: French, German, Chinese
- Early drop-off / Late pick-up

Agora International School Barcelona is a private school without state subsidies that belongs to the NACE Schools Group. It offers trilingual, co-ed, secular schooling distinguished by innovative educational practices and high academic and social standards while continuing to focus on values and personalised attention for each student and their needs.

The objective is to prepare students academically and as people to become world citizens in a competitive, ever-changing, globalised world. To do so, real experiences are offered through a series of multicultural group events that foment academic excellence, well-rounded preparation and rigorous extracurricular programmes in music, sport and other creative areas.

**Outstanding projects:** Academic Olympics, International Music Week, Olympic Games.

2



**Agora san**  
INTERNATIONAL

# AGORA SANT CUGAT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Carrer Ferrer i Guàrdia, s/n  
08174 Sant Cugat del Vallès  
+34 93 590 26 00  
info@agorasantcugat.edu.es  
www.agorasantcugat.edu.es

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

FGC - S2, S55: Sant Joan  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Additional languages: French, German, Chinese
- Early drop-off / Late pick-up

**Agora sant cugat**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Agora Sant Cugat International School is a private, co-ed, secular school which belongs to the NACE Schools group. The education provided to students is known for being innovative and leading to high academic results, giving priority to personal attention and each student's needs. A trilingual education is offered in English, Catalan and Spanish with the option of French, German and Chinese. Importance is given to human and social values. The school offers an education for children ranging from 0 to 20 years of age and follows a curriculum with an international projection. Students can experience different international activities such as language and cultural exchanges or the Comenius Project. Since 2012 the school offers the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. The music project is linked to the Liceu Conservatory in Barcelona, and it provides all students the opportunity to learn a musical instrument at school. ICT's are used in all areas of the curriculum.

**Outstanding projects:** Tablets used in Early Education to Middle School, Computer Science, School Counsellors.

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# AMERICAN SCHOOL OF BARCELONA

Carrer Jaume Balmes, 7  
08950 Esplugues de Llobregat  
+34 93 371 40 16  
info@asbarcelona.com  
admissions@asbarcelona.com  
www.asbarcelona.com

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan
- Early drop-off

The American School of Barcelona (ASB), founded in 1962, is an independent school offering an educational programme from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade for students of all nationalities. ASB is committed to a rigorous international curriculum that effectively prepares students to enter some of the best universities in the United States, Spain, and other countries in Europe. The school offers the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) in the last two years of high school and is fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and by the Spanish Ministry of Education. ASB has a full selection of after-school activities and is involved in a wide range of community service projects, both locally and internationally.

**Outstanding projects:** iPad from K5, new International Baccalaureate subjects options. In 2018 a new Gymnasium auditorium and a new building for Middle School will be inaugurated.





# AULA ESCOLA EUROPEA

Avinguda Mare de Déu de Llorda, 34  
08034 Barcelona  
+34 93 203 03 54  
secretaria@aula-ee.com  
www.aula-ee.com

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

BUS - 113

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Languages of instruction: Catalan, Spanish, English, French



Founded in 1968, Aula Escola Europea is a private, co-ed plurilingual school that seeks excellence in the intellectual, ethical, creative, artistic and physical development of young people. Aula has elaborated its own educational project that has shown to be successful both on an academic and personal level.

Students reach a high level of spoken and written Catalan, Spanish, English and French. From 3 to 6 years old, they are progressively introduced to each language. All 4 languages are used as languages of instruction for content courses throughout the curriculum.

The school currently has about 1,250 students divided into 15 levels, from 3 to 18 years old.

Starting in 2012, students in post-obligatory education study a double title curriculum through the local *Batxillerat* as well as the International Baccalaureate system, allowing them to apply to universities in Spain and throughout the world.



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# BENJAMIN FRANKLIN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Carrer Martorell i Peña, 9  
08017 Barcelona  
+34 93 434 23 80  
info@bfischool.org  
www.bfischool.org

#### 🚌 TRANSPORT

BUS - V7 and 66  
FGC - L6: Sarrià  
School bus service available

#### 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, French
- Early drop-off



Benjamin Franklin International School (BFIS) is an American school in Barcelona from nursery to high school. Affiliated with the US Department of State Office of Overseas Schools, the school embraces American educational principles and methods, within the context of a truly international environment. English is the language of instruction, with language courses offered in Spanish, Catalan and French. The teaching approach at BFIS is based on differentiated instruction and places the student at the centre of the learning process. BFIS encourages and supports students to be curious, independent learners who pursue their passions and understand the beauty and power of knowledge. The school also supports their emotional needs so that they may develop into creative, self-confident, and responsible individuals. BFIS graduates receive offers of acceptance and merit-based scholarships from some of the most prestigious universities in the world.

**Outstanding projects:** Inquiry-Based Learning, Literacy Program in Elementary, completed implementation of Inquiry Math from grades 6 to 10.

6



# COLEGIO HATIKVA

Avinguda Mas Fuster, 128  
08197 Valldoreix  
+34 93 211 91 16  
info@colegiohatikva.com  
www.colegiohatikva.com

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

FGC - S1, S2, S5, S55: Valldoreix  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Religious school
- Languages of instruction: Spanish, English
- Other languages: Hebrew, Catalan



COLEGIO HATIKVA  
Better Education. Better People.

Hatikva, previously the Sephardic School, has been committed to educational innovation and excellence since 1972. The school's philosophy states that education is a comprehensive training process based on values and the development of multiple intelligences. Learning is built on constructivism, guiding students to be qualified, independent, dynamic and audacious, able to succeed in a changing world. Creativity and development of critical thinking are highly valued, and the immersion method is used to give a multilingual education in English, Spanish, Catalan and Hebrew. The curriculum framework established by the local Education Department, along with the legacy of the Jewish people, form the basis of the teaching style. At Hatikva, the mission is to form responsible and proactive citizens of the world, with a strong sense of identity, and democratic values.

**Outstanding projects:** Advanced coursework in mathematics, Reading buddies, Exchange programmes.

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# COLEGIO JAPONÉS DE BARCELONA

Camí de Can Graells, 61  
08174 Sant Cugat del Vallès  
+34 93 589 32 47  
info.c@colegiojaponesbcn.org  
www.colegiojaponesbcn.org

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

FGC - S2, S55: Sant Joan  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

• Language of instruction: Japanese



The Japanese School of Barcelona follows the curriculum and instructional period of schools in Japan. The Japanese Ministry of Education oversees the quality of teaching and the educational and management team. The academic programme is divided into two levels. “Shogakko” – from 7 to 12 years of age- and the “chugakko” – up to 15 years age, which is the finishing age of obligatory education in Japan. Japanese is the language of instruction, and the teaching of contemporary subjects is complemented with traditional studies such as calligraphy, Japanese cooking or practices of the tea ceremony. In 2015, the school celebrated its 30th anniversary.

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COLLEGE  
**JOHN  
TALABOT**

# COL·LEGI JOHN TALABOT

**Kindergarten:** Carrer Quatre Camins, 83  
08022 Barcelona

**Primary & Secondary:** Carrer de les  
Escoles Pies, 136  
08017 Barcelona  
+34 93 212 34 99  
info@johntalabot.com  
www.johntalabot.com

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

FGC - L7: Avinguda Tibidabo (Kindergarten);  
L6: Sarrià (Primary & Secondary)  
School transport available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Early drop-off



John Talabot is a secular and multicultural state-subsidised private school that offers a solid education in academic, cultural and human values, based on the curriculum established by the Generalitat of Catalonia and with an exclusive project in the English language that is backed up by 40 years of experience. Enrolment spans 3-16 years of age. Students experience a cultural richness that allows them to grow and learn in an international environment where English, Spanish and Catalan are used in different subjects. All English language teachers are native speakers. There is only one group per grade, which allows faculty to get to know each and every one of their students and offer personalised attention. Teachers contribute to each child's development as a person and throughout their entire school life, motivating them to be excited about learning, teaching them to think, to decide, to talk things out and to be conscious of their own abilities. At John Talabot, students strive for academic excellence and achieve excellent results. Students experience the rewards of trying their best from an early age.





# COL·LEGI MARY WARD

Carrer Copèrnic, 55-59  
08006 Barcelona  
+34 93 201 85 55  
centre@marywardbcn.com  
www.marywardbarcelona.net

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

FGC - S1, S2, S5, S55: Muntaner; L7: Pàdua

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Religious school
- School uniform
- Language of instruction: Catalan
- Other languages: Spanish, German, English
- Early drop-off / Late pick-up



COL·LEGI  
**Mary Ward** Barcelona

The Mary Ward School of Barcelona, also familiarly known as the “German nuns”, belongs to a group of Christian Schools of Catalonia.

It is a small school with one class per age group, and a notable involvement and commitment by the entire educational community. Classes are taught to students from the age of one (P1) to 16 years old (4th ESO). The school's first foreign language is German, which starts in P1. English is introduced in the 5th grade, and students reach high proficiency as proven by the results of standardised CB testing (*Competències Bàsiques*).

Secondary students (ESO) can choose German or English as their first foreign language. New students are offered free German language lessons if they do not speak German.

The Mary Ward School of Barcelona helps their students to become competent learners with a well-rounded education.

**Outstanding projects:** Exchange programmes with Germany, Reading buddies, Maths programme (EntusiasMAT) starting in P3.

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# COL·LEGI MONTSERRAT

Avinguda Vallvidrera, 68  
08017 Barcelona  
+34 93 203 88 00  
secretaria@cmontserrat.net  
www.cmontserrat.org

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

FGC - S1, S2, S5 and S55: Peu del Funicular  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Religious school
- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: Spanish, Catalan, English
- Other languages: French, German, Chinese
- Early drop-off



Col·legi Montserrat

The educational project ranges from 0 to 18 years of age and accompanies each student in achieving their personal excellence. The educational system is based on the Early Stimulation and Multiple Intelligences theory and it uses proactive methodologies for a student-centred learning.

The school encourages autonomy, commitment, cooperative learning and collaboration with the aim of improving the social environment.

The integration of technologies facilitates personalised learning which is contextualised in real life.

The presence of art, music, drama and visual media in the curriculum contributes to the enhancement of self-expression and aesthetic sensitivity.

The centre is trilingual using Catalan, Spanish and English and also teaches French, German and Chinese.

**Outstanding projects:** Be an entrepreneur, Design for Change, EntusiasMAT, Ludiletras.

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# COL·LEGI XALOC

Can Tries, 4-6  
 08902 L'Hospitalet de Llobregat  
 +34 93 335 16 00  
 xaloc@xaloc.org  
 www.xaloc.org

## 📍 TRANSPORT

METRO - L9S: Europa-Fira, Can Tries-Gornal  
 FGC - R5, R6, R50, R60, S4, S8, S33,  
 L8: Europa-Fira  
 RENFE -R2, R2 Nord, R2 Sud: Bellvitge

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Religious school
- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: Catalan, Spanish
- Other languages: English, French
- Early drop-off



Xaloc is a private school founded in 1964 which not only imparts formal education but also offers the option of the International Baccalaureate. Xaloc's educational project is based on boys-only single-sex education, which encourages each student to develop his abilities, and aims to give students a firm grounding that spreads to all the students' dimensions, in an atmosphere of freedom and responsibility. It provides a solid education to fulfil students' personal development such as mastering good habits and manners, order, effort, perseverance, respect and solidarity; new technologies integration and good command of his native languages as well as English and French. Personal attention is given to every student and family by a personal tutor. The education offered at school is inspired by a transcendent vision of human existence in accordance with the Catholic Church.

**Outstanding projects:** "English week", English speaking conversation partners, Robotics in Primary and ESO.

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# DEUTSCHE SCHULE BARCELONA

Avinguda de Jacint Esteva Fontanet, 105  
08950 Esplugues de Llobregat  
+34 93 371 83 00  
dsbarcelona@dsbarcelona.com  
www.dsbarcelona.com

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

BUS: JM  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: German
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, English, French
- Early drop-off (nursery school)



The Deutsche Schule Barcelona (DSB), founded in 1894, is a private German school abroad, which offers a future-oriented education in a tri-cultural environment.

The DSB provides a complete education ranging from nursery to high school / Abitur for German, Spanish and Catalan-speaking children. The campus, which currently has about 1,400 students, includes a spacious building with modern facilities. It also owns attractive sports facilities and much more.

The German School of Barcelona stands for:

- Technical and methodical learning at a high level of performance
- Intercultural encounters and cooperative school environment
- Consistent education in values: respect, tolerance, openness and fairness are particularly important
- Education for self-reliant, dedicated people
- Promoting creativity and a high level of education

### **Outstanding projects:** Peer

Tutoring Programme, Competitions  
"Jugendmusiziert" (music), "Jugendforscht"  
(research), "Jugenddebattiert" (debates),  
Mathematik-Olympiade (mathematics),  
Erasmus+ Programme.





# ÉCOLE FRANÇAISE FERDINAND DE LESSEPS

Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 707  
08013 Barcelona  
+34 93 232 16 12  
lesseps@lesseps.net  
www.lesseps.net

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

METRO - L2: Tetuan, Monumental  
BUS - H12, V21, 6, 7, 54, 62  
RENFE - R1, R3, R4: Arc de Triomf

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: French
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, English
- Early drop-off



Founded in 1859, École Française Ferdinand de Lesseps is the oldest French educational establishment on the Iberian Peninsula. Enriched by its long history, the school continues to pursue its academic mission and promote both local and European culture.

580 children attend the French School Ferdinand de Lesseps starting from the first year of nursery school (3 years old) up to fifth grade (11 years old). It is a private institution, part of the AEFÉ network (Agency for French Education Abroad). In accordance with the agreement signed with the AEFÉ, the school strictly adheres to the syllabus set by the French Ministry of Education. In addition, both Spanish and Catalan are included in the school curriculum.

Pupils who then wish to pursue their education can do so by attending the French Lycée in Barcelona (LFB), also a member of the AEFÉ school network.



# ENGLISH ACADEMY SANTA CLAUS

Carrer Lleó XIII, 12  
08022 Barcelona  
+34 93 417 18 47 / +34 620 01 08 31  
mail@academysantaclaus.com  
www.academysantaclaus.com

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

METRO - L3: Vallcarca  
FGC - L7: Av. Tibidabo  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Other languages: Chinese
- Early drop-off

English Academy Santa Claus (EASC) is a trilingual school for Early Years and Primary Education. The school is characterised by high-quality teaching and individualised attention. It has just one classroom per grade, allowing for personalised education and close student supervision. The goal is to ensure that all students discover their strengths and gain a solid base to learn how to confront future challenges. At EASC, English, Spanish and Catalan are used equally. In the Early Years there is a total immersion in the English language. In Primary, the school follows the official, local curriculum, maintaining a good level of English. The students successfully pass official English exams and are capable of communicating fluently in English, Catalan and Spanish, both orally and in written form. EASC is proud of its work over the past 50 years and continues to be a strong and innovative educational project, which is both accessible and affordable for families. It is a plural school open to anyone interested in a good academic education together with values.

**Outstanding projects:** Art exhibition, trip to Great Britain, race against hunger.



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# ENGLISH SCHOOL OF BARCELONA

Carrer Montornès, 37  
08023 Barcelona  
+34 93 284 30 50  
englishschool@colegioingles.net  
www.colegioingles.net

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

METRO - L3: Penitents  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Language of instruction: English
- Early drop-off



The English School is a unique, friendly, international school which offers an exceptional level of linguistic and cultural education.

It is an open, secular, non-elitist school. Children here start their full English immersion at 3 years of age. Individualised linguistic support programmes are provided; a specialty shaped by years of integrating children from all over the world. Children from 3 to 16 years of age may enrol. Students start learning French as their 4th language in secondary school, offering them the perfect foundation to take the International Baccalaureate (IB) or the *Batxibac*.

Student support services include psychologists, art therapists and speech therapists. The extra-curricular activities include chess, tennis, basketball, ballet, arts & crafts, robotics, skating, yoga and drum lessons.

**Outstanding projects:** Theatre (as an important educational tool), music and instrument training, year-long and quarterly multidisciplinary projects, singing at Barcelona's LAuditori.



# ES INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Autovia de Castelldefels (C-31), km 191  
08820 El Prat de Llobregat  
+34 93 479 16 11  
info@es-school.com  
www.es-school.com

## 🚗 TRANSPORT

METRO - L9: Mas Blau  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan



ES International School



Since 1999, ES International School has been offering an American elementary, middle, and senior high school programme. The school's endeavour is to provide students with an international experience that broadens their horizons, creates a positive learning experience, and affords each student the opportunity to excel both academically and athletically. All students receive individual attention, close academic guidance and personal counselling, in order to ensure both the acquisition of academic competencies and the development of individual strengths and talents. The student population is very international, and the predominant language on campus is English. ES International School follows the American system and operates very much like any elementary, middle or senior high school in the United States but with an important emphasis on promoting the relationship between academics and athletics. Sports are an essential part of the curriculum.

**Outstanding projects:** Use of electronic texts and BYOD programme (Bring your own device) option of AP classes (Advanced Placement), Emerging Scholars Program for gifted students.



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# EUROPA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Avinguda Pla del Vinyet, 110  
08172 Sant Cugat del Vallès  
+34 93 589 84 20  
info@europais.com  
www.europais.com

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

FGC - S1, S5 and S2: Sant Cugat  
RENFE - R8: Sant Cugat  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Other languages: French, German, Chinese
- Early drop-off / Late pick-up



“An educational project that goes far beyond the ability to speak five languages fluently.”

With an international, global and practical spirit, aimed at satisfying today's and tomorrow's needs, the school helps the students to develop their potential and capabilities by encouraging learning and fostering the students' natural abilities and gifts.

From 0 to 18 years-old, the project begins in Infant School and is consolidated in Baccalaureate with a wide range of educational offerings (Spanish, American and British curriculums) and the participation in a large number of academic and international sporting events. The school is a member of the ECIS (European Council of International Schools), the CIE (Cambridge International Examinations) and EDEXCEL (IGCSE Exams and International Advanced Levels).

**Outstanding projects:** Programme for Gifted Students, High Performance Programme (for professional athletes), EAL (English as an Additional Language), MUN (Model United Nations).

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# GRESOL INTERNATIONAL-AMERICAN SCHOOL

Ctra. Sabadell a Matadepera (BV-1248),  
 km 6  
 08227 Terrassa  
 +34 93 787 01 58  
 info@gresol.net  
 www.gresol.net

## 🚗 TRANSPORT

FGC - S1 and S5: Terrassa  
 RENFE - R4: Terrassa  
 School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Secular school, although the possibility to take Catholic religion classes and prepare for First Communion and Confirmation is available.
- School uniform (except for *Batxillerat*)
- Languages of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan
- Early drop-off / Late pick-up



Gresol International-American School is a private institution offering education to students from ages 3 to 18 in Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle and High School.

Since being founded 50 years ago, the school has always strived to be on the cutting edge of pedagogical innovation in order to ensure that each student reaches their full potential, not only in academic studies but also in personal development.

The school applies an innovative educational approach that prepares students for the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century; it provides the knowledge, skills and understanding students need to be competent, creative and goal-driven. Gresol places great value on arts, music and sports as an essential part of the learning process, as well as the acquisition of technological skills.

**Outstanding projects:** Currently going through accreditation process for the MSA and the IB diploma, Reggio Emilia (Arts & Crafts), HOUSE system, STEAM.



# HAMELIN-LAIE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Ronda 8 de Març, 178-180  
08390 Montgat  
+34 93 555 22 96 / +34 93 555 67 17  
hamelin@escolessas.com  
laie@escolessas.com  
www.hamelinlaie.com

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Other languages: French, German, Chinese
- Early drop-off



The secret of Hamelin-Laie International School radiates from the global vision of educating a human being by putting their potential, their natural solidarity, their curiosity and continuous interest in learning in the centre of their education. Enrolment is available from nursery school up through secondary school, with the option of the national or International Baccalaureate degree from 16 years on. The school strives to help students become open-minded, tolerant citizens of the world, who have strong values based on intercultural respect, solidarity and their own good judgement. To achieve this, the school focuses on educating in values, working on skills and promoting talent, giving their students as many opportunities as possible to express themselves and take action. The results are backed up by academic excellence. Not only do Hamelin-Laie students receive the tools and opportunities to make the world a better place, the final goal is for them to want to do so.

**Outstanding projects:** Big Band as part of curriculum, special focus on languages at all age levels, hands-on work in science labs.

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# HIGHLANDS SCHOOL BARCELONA

Carrer Manuel Florentín Pérez, 26  
08950 Esplugues de Llobregat  
+34 93 418 09 00  
admissions@highlandsbarcelona.es  
www.highlandsbarcelona.es

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

METRO - L3: Zona Universitaria + bus  
BUS - From Barcelona: 63, 67, 68, L51, L57 /  
From Esplugues de Llobregat: JM, EP1, EP2  
FGC - L6: Reina Elisenda + bus  
TRAM - T1, T2, T3: Can Clota  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Religious school
- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: English, Spanish
- Other languages: Catalan, French, German
- Early drop-off

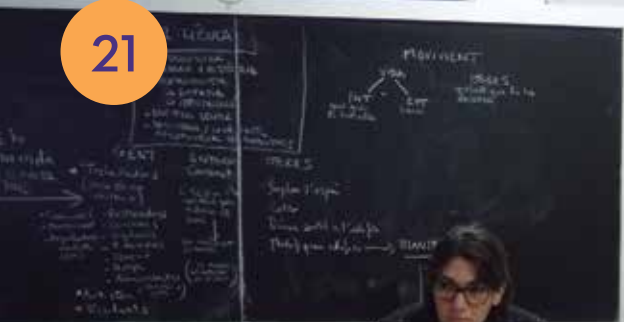
Highlands School Barcelona is the only private, Catholic, bilingual (English-Spanish) school in Barcelona offering the Spanish and British (Cambridge) curriculum, as it forms part of the network of Cambridge International Schools. It covers all educational levels from 1 year old up to 18 years old. The educational approach seeks academic and personal excellence through active learning applying study techniques, cooperative tasks, reflection, problem-solving and personal guidance. Students are instilled with a passion for learning. The school has new, spacious premises in a pleasant, healthy and friendly environment on the outskirts of Barcelona. Bus service available to and from different locations in and near Barcelona.

**Outstanding projects:** Enjoy2Read Programme, Building Maths, Musical educational programme affiliated with the Liceu Conservatory in Barcelona.





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# INSTITUT MOISÈS BROGGI

Carrer de Sant Quintí, 32-50  
08041 Barcelona  
+34 93 436 89 03  
a8013135@xtec.cat  
www.institutbroggi.org

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

METRO - L4: Guinardó-Hospital de Sant Pau;  
L5: Camp de l'Arpa, Sant Pau-Dos  
de Maig  
RENFE - R1, R2 and R2 Nord: Barcelona -  
Clot - Aragó

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: Catalan
- Other languages: Spanish, English, French



Moisés Broggi is the only public high school in Barcelona authorised to offer the International Baccalaureate (IB), a demanding, well-respected degree accepted by universities all over the world. IB students at Moisés Broggi follow a demanding curriculum and choose to specialise in either Science & Technology or Social Sciences. Upon graduation from this dual-degree programme students obtain both the IB and the local *Batxillerat*. Students can also opt for the *Batxibac* in Arts, Science and Technology, and Humanities and graduates can take the official exam for the *Baccalauréat*. The school strives to give students the competencies necessary to develop as individuals, both personally and professionally, and become active citizens that reflect the culture around them and are capable of making a place for themselves in the professional world.

**Outstanding projects:** Project-based approach, Magnet School (MACBA), Global Scholars programme.

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# KENSINGTON SCHOOL

Carrer dels Cavallers, 31- 33  
08034 Barcelona  
+34 93 203 54 57  
info@kensingtonschoolbcn.com  
www.kensingtonschoolbcn.com

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

METRO - L3: Zona Universitària

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, French



Kensington School was founded in 1966 to provide a British education to the international community in Barcelona. Its current size is 250 students between the ages of 3 and 18.

The school is academically non-selective, it achieves remarkable examination results at both GCSE and Advanced Level. This is due to the dedication of its teachers and the small class sizes which allow pupils of all abilities to develop their full potential. Apart from Spanish and French, all lessons are taught in English and follow the National Curriculum of England and Wales. Fluency in English is important to access the curriculum so support is provided for those needing additional help to improve their linguistic capacity. Kensington School graduates gain access to prestigious universities all around the world with the majority reading for degrees in the United Kingdom.

The school encourages a friendly atmosphere and promotes a common sense approach to behaviour and learning, thereby stimulating motivation for study. The aim is to achieve a high level of understanding, independent reasoning and cooperation between staff and pupils.

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# LYCÉE FRANÇAIS BEL AIR

Ctra. C-246 Km.42 - Vilanoveta  
08810 Sant Pere de Ribes  
+34 93 896 22 67  
info@ecole-belair.com  
www.ecole-belair.com

#### 🚌 TRANSPORT

School bus service available

#### 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: French
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, English
- Early drop-off



Lycée Français Bel Air, established in 1992, is a privately owned and operated school which receives no state funding nor subsidies. It has been and recognised and certified by the Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale Française. Students commence their schooling in Nursery school (P3) and continue until their university preparatory studies in secondary, achieving diplomas in both the French and Spanish education system upon graduation. Lycée Français Bel Air is a secular, multilingual and multicultural school proud of its achievements and recognition. Lycée Français Bel Air has been registered as a foreign-based school in Spain and has been authorised by the competent authority. The possibility to teach both the Catalan and Spanish language and culture was attained through an agreement between France and Spain. Lycée Français Bel Air is already a preparation centre for Cambridge English examinations and has also taken the initiative to provide training for other international exams such as TOEFL and Oxford.

**Outstanding projects:** Action Against Hunger project, Linguistic projects (French, English, Spanish), Arts and crafts project.



# LYCÉE FRANÇAIS DE BARCELONE

Carrer Bosch i Gimpera, 6-10  
08034 Barcelona  
+34 93 203 79 50  
lfb@lfb.es  
www.lfb.es

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

METRO - L3: Maria Cristina  
FGC - S1, S2, S5 and S55: Sarrià  
BUS - 34, 6, 63, 78, 64  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: French
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, English



The Lycée Français de Barcelone opened its doors in Barcelona in 1924. It is managed by the Agency for French Education Abroad (AEFE). The curriculum is certified by the French Ministry of Education and, in accordance with the French education system, goes from nursery to *Baccalauréat*. The LFB is recognised and authorised by the Spanish government, and incorporates all the programmes required by the Franco-Hispanic cultural agreements. The school philosophy is based on the shared values of a democratic society: respect for others, autonomy, responsibility, trust, respecting differences, secularism, solidarity, equity and tolerance. The overall goal is for each student to be an actor of:

- Their learning and education
- The elaboration of their personal and professional project
- Their participation within an open society

**Outstanding projects:** School radio station.



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# LYCÉE FRANÇAIS DE GAVÀ BON SOLEIL

Camí de la Pava, 15  
08850 Gavà  
+34 93 633 13 58  
courrier@bonsoleil.es  
www.bonsoleil.es

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

RENFE - R2: Gavà  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: French
- Other languages: English, Spanish, Catalan



Lycée Français de Gavà Bon Soleil, near Barcelona, is a French school based on multilingual language learning (French, English, Spanish and Catalan) where great emphasis is placed on new technologies applied to all fields of education and also practising sports from an early age. Close cooperation with families combined with an established and experienced team is the school's greatest asset. Students are drawn from a wide background and the resulting experience enriches their school life.

It is a people-centred school with a European outlook. Student care is a priority and the prime objective is to educate future European citizens with sound values.

The final two years of school enable the students to obtain both French and Spanish baccalaureate, which therefore entitles them to study at French and Spanish universities.



# OAK HOUSE SCHOOL

Carrer de Sant Pere Claver, 12-18  
08017 Barcelona  
+34 93 252 40 20  
sec@oakhouseschool.com  
www.oakhouseschool.com

## 📍 TRANSPORT

BUS - V7, 60, 66  
FGC - L6: Sarrià

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, French, German



Oak House School is a co-ed Primary and Secondary school for children from 3 to 18 years of age. In Primary, the study programme follows the National Education Curriculum for England and Wales. Primary pupils study Spanish and Catalan languages, and Humanities is also given in Spanish.

Oak House Secondary school is authorised by the Catalan regional government and pupils are taught in English, Spanish and Catalan. A fourth language (French or German) is also introduced in Secondary. The study programme for Secondary pupils is based on the local Compulsory Secondary Education (ESO) curriculum, as well as a range of subjects through the established British Cambridge Examination Board (IGCSEs). During the final two years of their education, our pupils can either follow the regional *Batxillerat* courses or the International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB), taught in English. Oak House School pupils receive a broad and balanced trilingual education and are thus prepared for further study in any of the three languages.



*Princess  
Margaret  
School*

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# PRINCESS MARGARET SCHOOL

Passeig de la Font d'en Fargas, 15-17  
08032 Barcelona  
+34 93 429 03 13 / +34 609 66 71 98  
colegio@princessmargaret.org  
www.princessmargaret.org

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

METRO - L5: Vilapicina, Horta  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Other languages: French, German, Chinese
- Early drop-off



Princess Margaret School is a private school founded in 1967. The school's focus is on developing well-rounded students that contribute positively to society, by motivating them to discover and achieve their full potential, forging their identity while respecting their environment and themselves.

Princess Margaret School offers different stages from Early Years Education, to Primary and Secondary Education. The innovative vision, continuous education for the teaching staff, and an IB methodology integrated into the centre set the school apart.

Students obtain extraordinary academic results, which combined with the solid values taught, prepare them to successfully take on the challenges of a globalised world.

**Outstanding projects:** Save the Children (global ambassador centre), Cambridge University examinations, Vex Robotics Competition.

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RICHMOND

# RICHMOND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Rambla del Garraf, 14-16  
08812 Sant Pere de Ribes  
+34 93 893 67 12  
administration@richmondinternationalschool.com  
www.richmondinternationalschool.com

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, French
- Early drop-off



Richmond International School is the first school in Catalonia of its kind. The school provides internationally-relevant world class education in a familiar atmosphere. Located next to the capital of el Garraf, in Sant Pere de Ribes, students get to take advantage of the proximity to the city of Barcelona to explore its history, architecture, art and music, the golf courses of the picturesque town of Sitges, the beautiful vineyards of Penedès, and the everyday coastal lifestyle of Vilanova. British Early years and Primary curriculum are currently offered, and Secondary and 6th Form Programme to be advised. Behind its modern style façade, Richmond houses a charming environment, created to serve its higher purpose, education, by providing a welcoming atmosphere to students, teachers and parents alike. Richmond International is most definitely not a typical school. There is a bright uniform which reflects the centre's energy and passion, the admission process requires qualities in addition to academic attainment and students are encouraged to be thinkers through a multitude of projects.





# SALESIANS SARRIÀ

Passeig Sant Joan Bosco, 42  
08017 Barcelona  
+34 93 203 11 00  
salesians.sarria@salesians.cat  
www.salesianssarria.com

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

METRO - L3: Maria Cristina  
FGC - S5, S55 and L6: Tres Torres; S1, S2, S5,  
S55, L6: Sarrià

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Religious school
- Language of instruction: Spanish
- Other languages: English



**salesians**  
SARRIÀ

Salesians Sarrià is a private high school in Barcelona that offers first-class education and vocational training, delivered in accordance with the Don Bosco system, for students 16 to 18-years old. Students can opt for the Spanish *Batxillerat*, or the International Baccalaureate (IB) degree programmes, as well as vocational education and training. The school boasts a long history of outstanding levels of academic, technical and cultural achievement. Comprehensive cultural and professional training are provided together with the International Relations Department to prepare students for the European job market and the international academic world. Learning support and counselling services are also available to students and families in order to promote educationally and psychologically healthy environments. The Career Service Department guides students in job seeking and also helps them to develop their career management skills.

## Outstanding projects

“Share The Light” (volunteering in Zambia);  
“Repassem Junts” (a learning support scheme run by volunteers); sustainable, supportive and healthy school.

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# SANTA CLARA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Carrer Pomaret, 17-19  
08017 Barcelona  
+34 93 212 35 93  
secretaria@santaclaraic.com  
www.santaclaraic.com

#### 🚗 TRANSPORT

FGC - S1, S2, S55 and L6: Sarrià  
School bus service available

#### 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Other languages: French, German, Chinese
- Early drop-off



Santa Clara International School is a centre of excellence in education that offers personalised education for each student, to encourage them to discover and develop their talents. It is a trilingual school where the working languages are English, Spanish and Catalan. The approach to teaching and training is always unique and holistic, thereby enabling students to develop academically, emotionally, socially and to acquire universal human values. The school's faculty seek to inspire the love of learning, develop individual talent in and outside the classroom, and promote autonomy in an environment which fosters freedom of thinking and new ideas. The school's main objective is to create a happy, stimulating environment in which students can reach their potential both academically and personally. The staff maintain high expectations and are committed to helping each student achieve academic and personal excellence.

**Outstanding projects:** Linguistic project authorised by the Generalitat, Key programme, London programme, Finland Maths Project.

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# SCHWEIZERSCHULE BARCELONA

Carrer Alfons XII, 95 - 105  
08006 Barcelona  
+34 93 209 65 44  
info@escuelasuizabcn.es  
www.escuelasuizabcn.es

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

METRO - L3: Fontana  
FGC - L7: Plaça Molina; S5, S55, L6: Sant  
Gervasi; S1, S2, S5, S55, L6: Muntaner

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Languages of instruction: German, Spanish
- Other languages: Catalan, English, French
- Early drop-off / Late pick-up



The Swiss School of Barcelona in Plaça Molina, in the centre of Barcelona, is a Swiss Government approved school that follows the Swiss Curriculum. The school is multicultural and multilingual and is open to children from 3 to 18 years old from all nationalities. The language of instruction is German but all students will also learn Spanish, Catalan, English and French. The students leave the school with a Swiss and Spanish double degree. In addition to the academic programme focusing on a balanced intellectual, emotional, social and physical development, the school is well-known for its personal approach towards students and their families. The highly-qualified and experienced staff keeps the children motivated and eager to learn.

**Outstanding projects:** Pfade (Programme for Emotional Education), group and personalised exchange programmes, Biking and Ski Camps.

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# SCUOLA ITALIANA DI BARCELONA

Scuola primaria e Scuola secondaria di 1° grado: Carrer Setantí, 10 - 08034 Barcelona  
 Liceo scientifico: Passatge Méndez Vigo, 8 08009 Barcelona  
 +34 93 487 46 65  
 preside@liceoamaldi.com  
 www.scuolaitalianabarcellona.com

## 📍 TRANSPORT

METRO - L4: Girona; L3: Passeig de Gràcia (Liceo scientifico)  
 FGC - L6: Reina Elisenda; S1, S2, S5, S55: Sarrià (Scuola primaria e Scuola secondaria). S1, S2, S5, S55: Provença (Liceo scientifico)  
 RENFE - R2, R2 Nord, R2 Sud, R11, R13, R14, R15, R16: Passeig de Gràcia (Liceo scientifico)

## 📄 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: Italian
- Other languages: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Early drop-off / Late pick-up

The official name of the school is “Istituto Italiano Statale Comprensivo di Scuola primaria e di Scuola secondaria di 1° e di 2° grado”, but it is also known as the Scuola Italiana di Barcellona. “Maria Montessori” is the name of the primary school, and enrolment is for students in Scuola Infantile (3-5 years old) and Scuola Primaria (6-10 years old). From 11 to 13 years old, the children attend the “E. Amaldi Scuola secondaria di 1° grado”, middle school located on the same campus as the primary school. 14 to 17-year-old students attend the secondary school “Liceo Scientifico E. Amaldi” at a different location. Italian is the language of instruction, and total enrolment is just above 600 pupils. Spanish, Catalan and English languages are also taught. The qualifications are recognised by the Spanish education system.

**Outstanding projects:** MOF (Miglioramento dell’offerta formativa), Tutoring, UNESCO Associated Schools.





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# SEK CATALUNYA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Avinguda dels Tremolencs, 24  
08530 La Garriga  
+34 93 871 84 48 / +34 682 78 26 74  
admissions-catalunya@sek.es  
www.sekcatalunya.es

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

RENFE - R3: La Garriga  
(25 min. walk from station)  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Other languages: French, German
- Early drop-off / Late pick-up

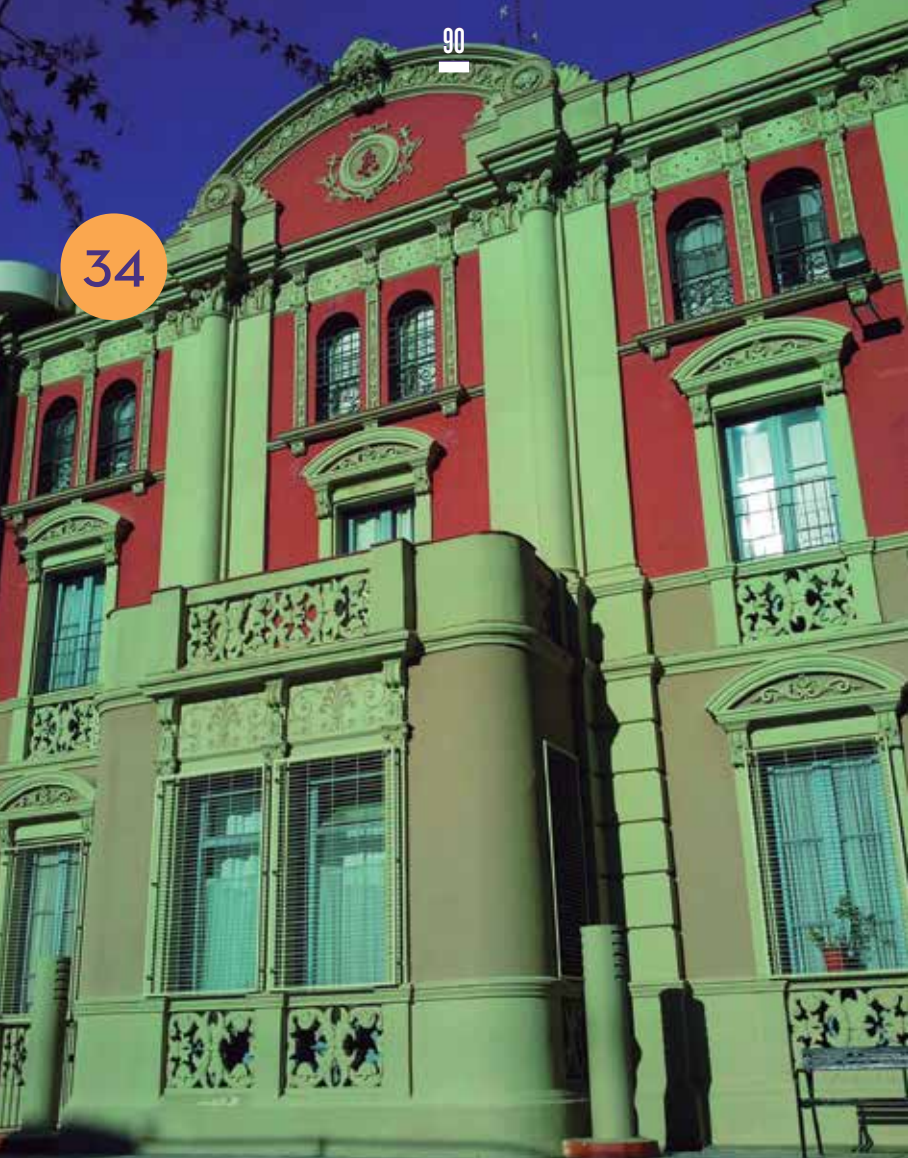


**International  
School**  
Catalunya



SEK Catalunya International School is a trilingual school (English, Spanish and Catalan). It is located in La Garriga, at the base of the Montseny Natural Park, just 30 minutes from Barcelona. It is the only school in Catalonia which offers all three International Baccalaureate programmes (PEP, MYP and Diploma). For the older students, the IB Diploma is independent from the Spanish *Batxillerat*. Students can decide which path best fits their needs, without having to necessarily do both at the same time. SEK Catalunya promotes a quality international education based on active learning. Students are engaged in the learning process because they learn by doing, by experimenting, by investigation, by their own initiative and by working in groups. This formula is designed to guarantee students are motivated and develop competencies for real life, training them in skills such as entrepreneurship, creativity, communication abilities, empathy and open-mindedness.

**Outstanding projects:** Maker Space Project (Learn by Doing and “Maker” mentality), Music School affiliated with the Liceu Conservatory in Barcelona, Outdoor Education Project (Duke of Edinburgh International Award).



# ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL BARCELONA

Carrer de l'Esperança, 13  
08017 Barcelona  
+34 93 129 30 24  
sec.barcelona@stgeorge.es  
www.stgeorge.es

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

FGC - L6: Sarrià  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan
- Early drop-off



**ST. GEORGE'S**  
A *British* EDUCATION | Barcelona

St. George's School Barcelona is a British school for children from 2 to 18 years of age. St. George's Schools are fully authorised by the regional government and are members of the prestigious National Association of British Schools in Spain. The school fully adheres to the British national curriculum with the oldest children taking iGCSEs and then A levels. All the studies are validated so students can enter into Spanish, British or International universities around the world. St. George's Group has already gained a reputation for not only having high educational standards but also for having motivated and happy children. Pupils learn effectively, through thinking, feeling and doing. It is important that students learn how to analyse, solve problems, think creatively and use their imaginations. Staff also focus on teaching them to have an emotional education, learning to explore and understand their own feelings and those of others, also to have an understanding of and empathy for the diverse cultures throughout the world. The school ethos is based on the 5 school values: respect, responsibility, kindness, fairness and personal best.

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# ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL

Avinguda de Pearson, 39  
08034 Barcelona  
+34 93 203 05 00  
secretaria@stpauls.es  
www.stpauls.es

## 🚌 TRANSPORT

FGC - L6: Reina Elisenda  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Languages of instruction: Spanish, Catalan, English
- Other languages: French
- Early drop-off



**ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL**  
Ed. Infantil, Primaria, Secundaria y Bachillerato

There are 8 main characteristics that define St. Paul's School:

- **Linguistic Objectives:** The aim is for pupils to be fluent in English, Spanish and Catalan and have a high level of French.
- **Academic Excellence:** Pupils are encouraged to achieve their full potential. Commitment, hard work and dedication are emphasised throughout the learning process.
- **Character Development:** Pupils should know how to conduct themselves in any situation, take decisions which contribute to their own personal development as individuals and lead a healthy lifestyle.
- **Leadership in Information Technologies.**
- **Curriculum of the Generalitat de Catalunya:** St. Paul's School is a school in Barcelona which is open to the world.
- **Organisational Structure:** All aspects of *Fundación Privada St. Paul's*, a non-profit organisation, contribute to the ultimate aim: education.
- **Quality:** Effort is placed on continual improvement.
- **From 3 years old up to university:** A long path together.

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# ST. PETER'S SCHOOL

Carrer d'Eduard Toldrà, 18  
08034 Barcelona  
+34 93 204 36 12  
stpeters@stpeters.es  
www.stpeters.es

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

METRO - L3, L9: Zona Universitària  
FGC - S1, S2, S5, S55, L6: Sarrià  
BUS - H4, 75, 78, 113  
School transport available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, French, German, Chinese
- Early drop-off



ST. PETER'S  
SCHOOL  
BARCELONA

INDEPENDENT EDUCATION

St. Peter's School Barcelona is an independent school where students from 18 months to 18 years old are prepared to face the challenges they will meet throughout their lives. Not only do children receive the academic excellence they need to enter the most prestigious universities around the world, but they are also encouraged to become well-informed, independent and open-minded individuals, ready to study, work or live wherever they wish.

As well as the focus on languages (English, Spanish, Catalan, German, French and Chinese as afterschool activities are included in the school's Education Project), students are taught to become change makers, equipped with a range of skills in science, technology, humanities, design and communication.

**Outstanding projects:** First Steps Project (participative activities with parents of preschool children), PBL (Project-Based Learning) roll-out in Primary, STEM project implementation in ESO, Personal Development for University Programme.



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# THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF GAVÀ

Carrer Josep Lluís Sert, 32  
08850 Gavà  
+34 93 277 78 99  
info@bcgava.com  
www.britishcollegegava.com

#### 🚶 TRANSPORT

RENFE - R2, R2 Sud, R13 and R14: Gavà  
School bus service available

#### 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, French
- Early drop-off



'Where British tradition meets innovation'  
The British College of Gavà offers a comprehensive and personalised education for students 3 to 18 years old. Students are encouraged to take a genuine interest in their studies, to make the most of their skills and to develop a strong sense of personal motivation, thus preparing them to continue learning throughout their life in a rapidly changing world. The school strives to achieve educational excellence through continuous and efficient work and a high level of collaboration between students, parents and teachers. Education is aimed at the whole person, and the school's excellent facilities are fully taken advantage of to offer a wide range of sport and other activities. The school benefits from a strong technological support mechanism. Students must learn to analyse, solve problems, think creatively and use their imagination. The goal is for them to be happy in their learning. The British College of Gavà is accredited by the British government and follows the English national curriculum.

**Outstanding projects:** British College Gavà Language Centre, language academy for all ages.

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# THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF BARCELONA

**BSB Castelldefels:** Carrer Ginesta, 26  
08860 Castelldefels

**BSB Sitges:** Passeig Isaac Albéniz, s/n  
08870 Sitges  
+34 93 707 95 98 (BSB Castelldefels)  
+34 93 811 03 05 (BSB Sitges)  
enquiries@bsb.edu.es (BSB Castelldefels)  
admissions.sitges@bsb.edu.es (BSB Sitges)  
www.britishschoolbarcelona.com

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

RENFE - R2, R2 Sud, R13 and R14: Castelldefels,  
R2 Sud, R13 and R14: Sitges  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, French, German, Italian
- Early drop-off and late pick-up (Schedule varies depending on campus)

The British School of Barcelona is an independent school with 58 years' experience providing an education of excellence to thousands of pupils. The goal is to help pupils achieve academic excellence while developing their personal and social skills. The British School of Barcelona is ranked as one of the 20 best international schools in Spain. 90% of students enter leading universities of their first choice, whether in Spain, the UK or other countries. The British School of Barcelona has two campuses, one in Castelldefels, for students aged three to eighteen years old, and one in Sitges, for pupils from three to ten years old. Both campuses deliver the British curriculum based on the same standards of quality across all Cognita schools. Both campuses are equipped with modern and spacious premises with the latest technology and modern teaching equipment, thus creating effective teaching and learning environments. The campuses occupy a prime site in Castelldefels and in Sitges in terms of sports facilities.

**Outstanding projects:** Enrichment Programme, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, Language Assistant Programme, Music lessons.

**BSB** | The British School  
of Barcelona





The International School of Catalunya  
93.841.40.77 [www.iscat.es](http://www.iscat.es)

# THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF CATALUNYA

El Passeig, 9  
08530 La Garriga  
+34 93 841 40 77  
info@iscat.es  
www.iscat.es

## 🚗 TRANSPORT

RENFE - R3: La Garriga  
School bus service available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- School uniform
- Language of instruction: English
- Other languages: Spanish, Catalan, French
- Early drop-off / Late pick-up



ISCAT, the International School of Catalunya, offers the English National Curriculum, with Catalan and Spanish integrated in the programme, and French as a foreign language. ISCAT is located just 30 minutes from Barcelona centre, in La Garriga. The school's mission is to offer a secure, nurturing and multicultural environment in which the intellectual, physical, emotional and creative development of each student is optimised, respecting the language, culture and creativity of every individual. Through its exemplary educational programme, ISCAT is committed to providing a learning environment, free from discrimination, in which a lifelong passion for culture and learning, and an appreciation of both personal and host country cultural heritage is fostered. Integrity, respect and responsibility are the keystones in helping students to become enlightened world citizens and independent thinkers.

**Outstanding projects:** Emotional Education as a subject, Forest Schools approach, Rights Respecting School by UNICEF.

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# THE OLIVE TREE SCHOOL

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Carrer Modistes, 8  
08810 Sant Pere de Ribes  
+34 93 188 62 15  
admin@olivetreeschool.es  
www.olivetreeschool.es

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Language of instruction: English
- 



The Olive Tree School is a small school with a warm, caring atmosphere that has been recognised by the British Government. The school has a maximum of 16 children per class. It is located in a bright and spacious building with a beautiful garden in Sant Pere de Ribes, near Barcelona.

The school emphasises creativity, experimentation and intellectual discovery. All children regularly put on termly productions, play musical instruments, paint, design and create.

Only children who are native speakers or very fluent speakers of English guarantee excellent standards. The school follows the English National Curriculum but interprets it creatively.

The Olive Tree School inspires children with love for learning and a gentle respect for all others.



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# ZÜRICH SCHULE BARCELONA

**Zürich Schule:** Avinguda Pearson, 73  
08034 Barcelona

**Kindergarten:** Carrer Ifni, 2  
08034 Barcelona

+34 93 203 76 06 / +34 93 280 51 86  
info@zurichschule.com  
www.zurichschule.com

## 🚶 TRANSPORT

METRO - L3: Maria Cristina  
FGC - L6: Reina Elisenda  
School transport available

## 📖 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Uniform (only for sports clothes)
- Language of instruction: German
- Other languages: English, Spanish, Catalan
- Early drop-off



Zürich Schule Barcelona is a small private school whose sign of identity is the German language. The quality of its teaching is based on a pedagogy based on collaboration and teamwork in small groups, and on-going evaluation. The learning process takes place in four languages: German, English, Spanish and Catalan. New technologies are a tool used in the students' education, as are sports and other activities.

The school's mission is marked by a humanistic approach, which essentially determines the educational work (Humanistic and Positive Psychology). Above and beyond languages, Zürich Schule equips students with a range of skills such as leadership, communication and technology.

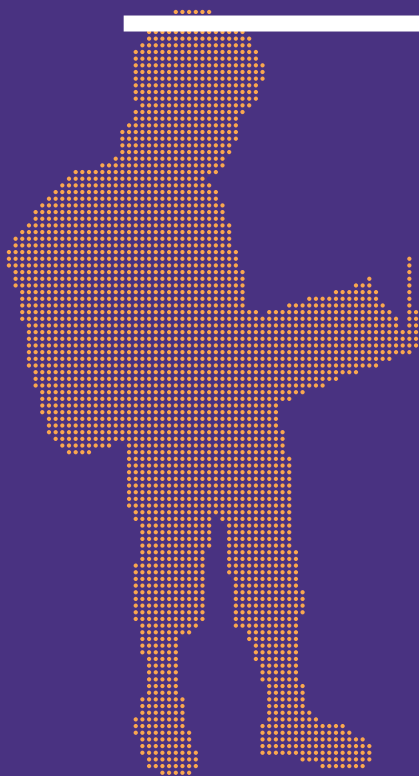
**Outstanding projects:** Prominence of new technologies throughout all stages, study techniques, special focus on reading comprehension, scientific project.

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# APPENDIX:

The local education system

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## OVERVIEW

The national education system follows a **decentralised model** in which decision making power is shared among the Spanish government, the autonomous communities, local administrations and schools.

The State, through the Spanish **Ministry of Education**, works to ensure the education system is homogenous and guarantees equal access for all, exercising everyone's basic right to education.

The **Government of Catalonia** has the power to develop national laws and regulate non-essential elements of the education system, as well as executive and management competencies over the system in its territory.

The **Barcelona City Council** collaborates with the Government of Catalonia to create, build and maintain public centres of learning, as well as organising complementary activities and services.

Given the importance of Barcelona and its status as the capital of Catalonia, a special regime was established for the city. Thanks to this regime the **Barcelona Education Consortium** was created as a public body jointly promoted by the Government of Catalonia and the Barcelona City Council. It is a decentralised joint-management tool for cooperation in improving management of the education services available in the city of Barcelona.



For more information:

*Consorci d'Educació de Barcelona /*  
Barcelona Education Consortium  
→ [www.edubcn.cat/](http://www.edubcn.cat/) (in Catalan)

*Ajuntament de Barcelona /*  
Barcelona City Council  
→ <http://lameva.barcelona.cat/en/living-in-bcn/studying> (in Catalan and Spanish)

*Generalitat de Catalunya - Educació i*  
*Formació / Government of Catalonia -*  
Education and Training  
→ <http://web.gencat.cat/ca/temes/educacio/> (in Catalan, Spanish and English)

*Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deporte /*  
Spanish Ministry of Education  
→ [www.mecd.gob.es/educacion-mecd/](http://www.mecd.gob.es/educacion-mecd/)  
(in Spanish)

**Twitter:**

*Departament d'Ensenyament de la Generalitat*  
*de Catalunya / Catalan Ministry of Education:*  
**@Ensenyamentcat**

*Consorci d'Educació de Barcelona /*  
Barcelona Education Consortium:  
**@Consortiedubcn**

## THE PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM

In Catalonia, there is a wide offer of public, and state-subsidised private schools covering all educational stages, both non-compulsory and compulsory (6-16 years old).

### PRESCHOOL (*EDUCACIÓ INFANTIL*)

The city of Barcelona has a strong network of Municipal Nursery Schools, called *Escoles Bressol*, which care for children 4 months to 3 years old. There are also many private childcare centres.



For more information:

→ [www.bcn.cat/barcelonabressol](http://www.bcn.cat/barcelonabressol)

While not obligatory, the vast majority of local children attend **preschool** starting the year they turn 3 years old and in fact, most preschools share premises with primary schools.

Public preschool is free and universal and often referred to popularly as *Parvulari* or *Escola Infantil*. This cycle lasts three years, called P3, P4 and P5. Pre-enrolment is required. The outcome depends on a lottery system based on your catchment district, your preferences, and your child's particular circumstances.

### PRIMARY EDUCATION (*EDUCACIÓ PRIMÀRIA*)

Primary education is compulsory and free of charge. It is comprised of three two-year levels (initial, intermediate and upper) for students between 6 and 12 years of age. In general, students begin primary education the same calendar year that they turn 6.

### COMPULSORY SECONDARY EDUCATION (*EDUCACIÓ SECUNDÀRIA OBLIGATÒRIA - ESO*)

Compulsory secondary education (ESO) is compulsory and free of charge, completing basic education. It is made up of four years of schooling for students between 12 and 16 years old. However, students have the right to stay in the school until turning 18. There are curricular diversification programmes, from the third year on, geared towards receiving the ESO certification (GESO). This certificate allows students to enrol in post-compulsory secondary education programmes.

### UPPER SECONDARY EDUCATION (*BATXILLERAT*)

Upper secondary education is one of the post-compulsory education programmes available to graduates of ESO. It is comprised of two years of pre-university schooling in one of three areas: arts, science & technology, or humanities & social sciences. Successful completion of the Baccalaureate (*Batxillerat*) allows students to enter higher education

programmes such as university or advanced vocational training programmes (*Formació Professional de Grau Superior*).

These studies are not compulsory, and therefore no longer state subsidised at non-public schools. Tuition costs should be taken into account.

Most public schools offer both ESO and *Batxillerat* on the same premises. Public *Batxillerat* programmes do not charge tuition.

### VOCATIONAL TRAINING (FORMACIÓ PROFESSIONAL)

Vocational training is broken down into basic (*grau mitjà*) and advanced studies (*grau superior*), which offer vocational qualifications and advanced vocational qualifications, respectively.

In order to be eligible for basic vocational training, students must have graduated from compulsory secondary education (GESO). Access to advanced vocational training requires the *Batxillerat* diploma. Students without the aforementioned academic qualifications may also gain access to these training programmes through an entrance exam (candidates must be over 17 for the basic level and over 19 for advanced training, or 18 if they have a related vocational qualification).

These schools are not state-subsidised, and there are public and private schools that offer a wide variety of courses.

### UNIVERSITY (ENSENYAMENTS UNIVERSITARIS)

Students must pass an entrance exam to access these studies or have a vocational qualification or an equivalent academic level.

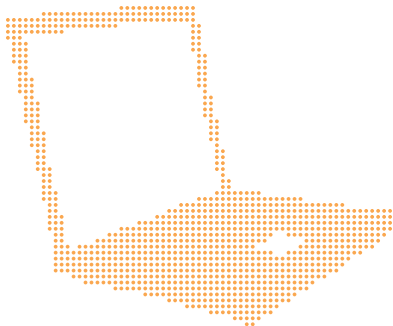
If students come from another educational system they should familiarise themselves with the process to have their certificate or diploma recognised by the government (*homologació*).



For more information:

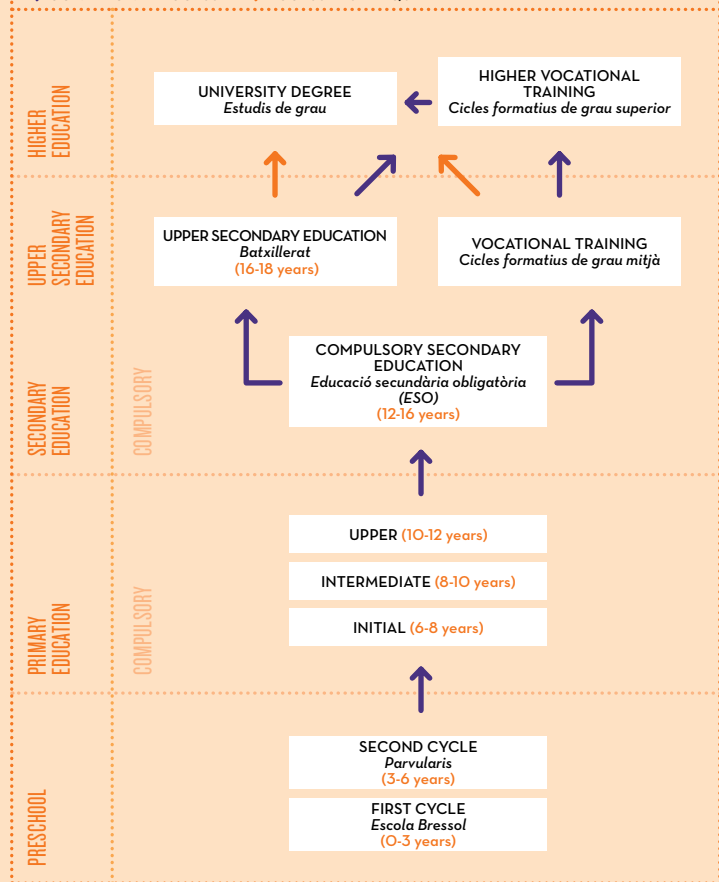
→ [queestudiar.gencat.cat/](https://queestudiar.gencat.cat/)

(in Catalan and Spanish)



## CATALAN SCHOOL SYSTEM: SIMPLIFIED CHART

→ CONDITIONAL ACCESS    → ACCESS TEST REQUIRED



Source: Compiled internally based on information from the Catalan Ministry of Education.

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

The school year runs from September to June and is divided into three terms:

- Autumn term runs from September to the Christmas holidays, which last approximately 15 days.
- Winter term begins after the Epiphany in January and lasts until Easter holidays (March/April), which are approximately 10 days.
- Spring term starts after Easter and finishes towards the end of June. Summer holidays last through the first or second week of September.

For Baccalaureate students taking university entrance exams (*Prova d'Accés a la Universitat - PAU*), the school year finishes in May, leaving them approximately one month to prepare for exams.



## FINDING OUT ABOUT LOCAL SCHOOLS

While all the public and state-subsidised private schools (*escola concertada*) have the same main curriculum approved by the Catalan Ministry of Education in accordance with the Spanish Education Act (LOE), individual schools will vary in terms of their educational approach, specialised projects related to science, language arts, or maths, and the after-school activities available.

To learn more about the schooling options available to you, you should attend the open houses that most schools offer in February or March for incoming families. You can phone them or check their websites or the school notice board to find out the details. On open house day, you can tour the buildings, speak with teachers and administrators, and ask any pertinent questions.

Besides visiting the premises, most schools have an official website, blog or Twitter account where you can find more day-to-day information about the school. There might be photographs of holiday shows, or poetry readings, or the latest sleep-away camp experience (*colònies*). The volunteer parent associations at many schools are quite active, and are a good source of information on school life, oftentimes with their own websites. These are typically called AFA (*Associació de Famílies d'Alumnes*) or AMPA (*Associació de Mares i Pares de Alumnes*). These associations often organise textbook sales, or sports uniform sales, or extra-curricular activities as well as fundraise for the school.



## HOW TO APPLY TO A LOCAL SCHOOL

Pre-enrolment falls in early spring, though exact dates vary. Enrolment is necessary at the start of each educational cycle (at ages 0, 3, 6, 12, 16) or upon moving. Barcelona does not have school districts, as the whole city is considered one district, but your home address is used to indicate which schools fall into your catchment area.

When enrolling children in the Education System of Catalonia, families may select the school of their choice. For completely private schools, you should contact each school for more information. The information that follows is pertinent for public and state-subsidised private schools.

### “AREA OF INFLUENCE”

If your child is going to apply for a spot at a local school, your first step is finding out which schools are in your “area of influence”, as it is referred to locally.

This area, similar to a catchment area, is determined by the home address you and your child have used in the population register (empadronament). You will have some public schools and some state-subsidised private schools to choose from. You can also apply for a school outside of your “area of influence” but with fewer points than most other applicants, it might be more difficult to get in.



You can check the schools in your area at:

→ <http://ensenyament.gencat.cat/ca/arees-actuacio/centres-serveis-educatius/centres/directoris-centres/>

## ALLOCATION OF SPOTS THROUGH A POINT SYSTEM

Spots in each school are allocated according to a point system, which at the time of publication is the following:

SPECIFIC CRITERIA:

### Continuation in the same school:

- Siblings that attend the same school: 40 points
- Parents who work at the school: 40 points

### Proximity:

- to the child’s permanent residence: 30 points
- OR
- to the parent’s workplace: 20 points

**Income:** Beneficiary of minimum income subsidy (*Renda Mínima d’Inserció*): 10 points

**Disability:** Child, parent or sibling with a disability: 10 points

## COMPLEMENTARY CRITERIA:

- **Large families or single-parent family:**  
15 points
- **Child with chronic illness** (including celiac disease): 10 points
- **Parents are alumni of the school:**  
5 points

## PRE-ENROLMENT CALENDAR AND FORMALITIES

Pre-enrolment begins in early spring (March-April) for the school year starting in September but always check the official dates as they vary each year. Families must be aware of the deadlines.

Once you have made your decision, you must fill out a **pre-enrolment form** (*sol·licitud de preinscripció*) which can be found online as well as at all schools. On this form, you will be asked to fill out your preferences, ranking the public and state-subsidised private schools (*escola concertada*) you have selected. You may choose up to 4 schools.

There is no guarantee your child will get into your first choice, or in fact any of the schools you have initially chosen, although in practice most children secure a spot at a school on their list.

The pre-enrolment form should be submitted to the school you have listed as your first preference. It is strongly recommended to request a dated, stamped copy of the application for your own records.

The following documents must be submitted with the pre-enrolment form:

- Original and photocopy of the Family Record Book (*Llibre de Família*) or other documents proving family relationship.
- Original and photocopy of DNI, NIE (residency card), passport or other form of identification for parents or guardian, including EU citizens' state ID
- Proof of family residence (*certificat d'empadronament*)
- Original and photocopy of the child's DNI or alternative document if over 14 years old
- Original and photocopy of the child's health card (*TSI-Targeta Sanitària Individual*)
- Supporting documentation for classification criteria if applicable for points (i.e.- business address, financial circumstances, disability certificate, medical report)

The original documentation will be returned once compared with the copy submitted.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APPEALS

The list of applicants by points will be published on the noticeboard of the school, and families should check that the assigned point value is correct and file an appeal if necessary. Final admission lists are then published at the school you have been assigned to, and you must formalise your child's registration at that school, which will provide the information needed for all new students.

If necessary, a waiting list for those not admitted directly will be created, and in case of oversubscription, you will be assigned a spot at another school.

The website of the *Consorci d'Educació*, or Barcelona Education Consortium, has information online or you can visit their offices for a private meeting. The website is in Catalan only. For those outside Barcelona, each school will inform you how to proceed.

## ENROLMENT

To secure the spot assigned, families must formalise the child's registration at that school during the established period and provide any documents not submitted in the pre-enrolment process. Otherwise, the school will understand the student has rejected the spot.

Each school will meet with new families and provide the information needed for all new students.



For more information on enrolment in different languages:

→ <http://queestudiar.gencat.cat/es/preinscripcio/info-idiomes/>

The Barcelona Education Consortium offers personalised information services in several languages.

## CONSORCI D'EDUCACIÓ DE BARCELONA / BARCELONA EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

→ [www.edubcn.cat](http://www.edubcn.cat)

Plaça Urquinaona, 6, ground floor  
08010 Barcelona

Near **Plaça Catalunya** train and metro stops, also **Plaça Urquinaona** metro stop.

+34 93 551 10 00

Monday-Thursday from 9am – 5pm

Fridays and school holidays: from 9am – 2pm

## ARRIVING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

If your family moves to the city of Barcelona once school has already started or after the pre-enrolment deadline has passed, you should immediately go to the *Consorci d'Educació de Barcelona*, to find out which schools have spots available for your children. For other cities in the metropolitan area, your local city council will direct you to the correct office.

## OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Catalan is the language of Catalonia. It is co-official along with Spanish, which is the official language throughout Spain.

Catalan is normally used as the language of instruction for learning in the education system in Catalonia in both public and state-subsidised private schools. Upon completion of compulsory schooling, students are fluent in both official languages (Spanish and Catalan) and have adequate knowledge of at least one foreign language. This language is generally English but in some schools it may be French or German. Many schools offer courses in more than one foreign language. Public schools and state-subsidised private schools must draft a language project establishing the framework for the languages used in the school.

Students joining the education system who don't speak either of the official languages have the right to receive special language support. Schools must provide newly arrived students with a personalised welcome and, specifically, language services that allow them to begin learning Catalan.

## OTHER RESOURCES

There are many ways to contact with other expat families, many of who are anxious for their children to maintain contact with their home culture. Here are a few useful online resources for families planning to visit or settle in Catalonia.

### WEBSITES

**Metropolitan Magazine** - city magazine published in English:

→ [www.metropolitan-magazine.com](http://www.metropolitan-magazine.com)

**Kids in Barcelona** - information in English for families: → [www.kidsinbarcelona.com](http://www.kidsinbarcelona.com)

**Catalonia Today** - news in English from a Catalan point of view → [www.cataloniatoday.cat/](http://www.cataloniatoday.cat/)

### SOCIAL MEDIA

**English Language Association of Catalonia: An Educational Advocacy Group** - provides a forum for parents of native and heritage speakers of English attending Catalan schools.

**Barcelona Women's Network (BWN)** - A non-profit, non-religious, non-political social and charitable organization offering support and friendship to both local and international women

**Mum Abroad Spain** - offers recommendations, tips and advice from local mums on life in Spain with kids

**Barcelona City FM** - local radio programme in English





## NOTES





[www.bcn.cat/business](http://www.bcn.cat/business)

## **INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN BARCELONA**

3rd edition

©Barcelona Activa

Area of Business, Culture and Innovation

Barcelona City Council

c/ Llacuna, 162-164

08018 Barcelona

[www.bcn.cat/business](http://www.bcn.cat/business)

### **EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT:**

Dr. John Stone

### **EDITORIAL COORDINATION:**

Mother Tongue, S.L.

### **GRAPHIC DESIGN**

Doctor Magenta

### **PRINT**

Ediciones Gráficas Rey, S.L.

D.L. B-22375-2016

Printed and bound in European Union



**Ajuntament  
de Barcelona**