



**French-English
Bilingual
programme.**

Commonly asked questions.

August 2018, CIS Lakeside launched a new **French-English bilingual programme** for children in Grades 1 and 2.

What is the objective of CIS' new French-English programme?

To educate students, through an inquiry-based approach, to be bilingual, biliterate and bicultural in both French and English.

What is unique about the CIS French-English bilingual programme?

CIS's French-English bilingual programme is the only one available in Singapore that is fully aligned to the IB PYP framework.



What is the delivery model of this programme?

Each class has **two qualified teachers** - one fluent English speaker and one fluent French speaker. Instruction is inquiry-based and fully aligned to the world renowned International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP).

Why is a two teacher model better than a one teacher model?

Students are completely immersed in each language with a two teacher model. All classroom resources are in the target language. Learning is immersive as teachers only speak the respective language in their classroom. With this model, students adapt very quickly and understand there is no translation.



Commonly asked questions.



Is this programme only for French speaking children?

No, especially in grade 1 where students can be either native or near native English or French speakers. The entry requirements can be viewed in the admissions section of the CIS website: www.cis.edu.sg/admissions/entry-requirements.

What are the benefits of enrolling my child in a bilingual programme?

When students learn in a bilingual environment there are a wide range of benefits, including becoming more sophisticated thinkers, increasing listening skills and memory, and showing a greater understanding of their first language.

Is there equal exposure to both languages?

Yes, classes are delivered in English and French equally throughout the week. Students have equal exposure to both languages within the grade level subject and concept areas.

Is the curriculum in the French-English bilingual programme the same as the English programme?

Yes it is. The primary difference is that children in bilingual classes are learning the same content but in two different languages.

What type of French do you teach at CIS? Are all French teachers from France?

French at CIS is taught to a European standard. We are an international school, and our teachers may come from a range of countries.

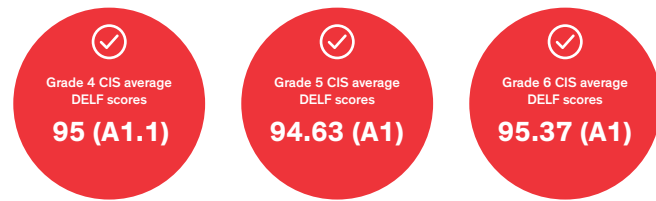


Commonly asked questions.

How is French language ability assessed and reported on?

Language ability is benchmarked to CIS language standards. French language students write the DELF prim exam (for children aged 7 to 12 years) in grades 4, 5 and 6.

The DELF diploma is awarded by the French Ministry of Education to prove the French-language skills of non-French candidates. CIS primary students results in 2019 were outstanding.



Are single subjects (eg PE and music) delivered in English or French?

All single subjects are delivered in English.

Is learning about French culture integral to the programme?

Yes, language and culture are uniquely tied together. One cannot be taught without the other.

What does inquiry-based learning look like in a French-English bilingual classroom?

Our teachers create authentic experiences where learning mirrors real life activities. This not only helps make learning for our students more meaningful, it also motivates them to want to learn more. Authentic materials (youtube, TV, and websites) are used as much as possible, and engaging hands-on activities like acting out plays, cooking and participating in quizzes are integral to student learning.



Commonly asked questions.



Will children learn an additional language (eg Spanish) in the bilingual programme?

No. However, students will get five additional periods of French each week during language acquisition time. Students will be placed in classes that cater to their respective French proficiency level.



Are curriculum standards benchmarked to those in France in any way?

Our curriculum is benchmarked against 4 national standards (US common core, UK, Australia and Canada), and delivered within the IB framework. It is academically rigorous and serves students from a vast range of countries.

What are the curriculum resources that will be used for this programme?

Our programme is fully aligned to the IB PYP, and a variety of English and French curriculum resources will be utilised to support the effective delivery of the programme our curriculum. There will be no specific textbooks as this limits teachers capacity to tailor instruction for individual students. Additionally, a large selection of French reading books is being added to in our library collection.



Commonly asked questions.

Will each class have an instructional assistant (IA)?

Each teacher will have an instructional assistant, who speaks the target language (English or French), assigned to their class.

How does CIS communicate with parents - in French or English?

Outside the classroom, we communicate in English at CIS. All teacher communications, school communications and reports are in English.

Will my child be able to transition into the French state system if we return / move there?

We do not teach the French syllabus, however, our curriculum meets international benchmarks. Additionally, the International Baccalaureate (IB) is the international gold standard in terms of academic programmes. Skills acquired in the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) will serve students wherever they go, as an IB education is portable.

Do bilingual students interact with students in the English programme?

Yes they do. Classes in each grade level (both English and bilingual programmes) are situated together on campus. This builds a sense of community. There are also a range of school events and activities where students come together as a community (eg house league days).




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CIS Canadian
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