

Lycée Français Charles Lepierre

Lisbon, Portugal



Since 1907, Portugal's first Francophone lycee blends baccalaureat rigor with a bilingual Portuguese track in Lisbon's Amoreiras quarter.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	59/100
Academic outcomes	66/100
University placement	63/100
Prestige & heritage	60/100
Alumni network	45/100
Facilities	62/100
Transparency	50/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Lycée Français Charles Lepierre occupies a clear niche in Lisbon: a full French state-aligned education, from age 3 to 18, inside the AEFÉ network, at serious scale. With ****2,000+**** pupils, ****280**** staff and ****40**** nationalities, it offers something many international schools in Portugal do not: depth, continuity and a ready-made Francophone community from nursery to the baccalauréat. The draw is not novelty. It is institutional heft, academic sequence and a school culture built around French educational expectations. For families who want **academic spine**, **cultural continuity** and a route that keeps France firmly in play, that matters.

What sets it apart in Lisbon is not glossy internationalism but commitment to a national system. This is a French school, not a hybrid that borrows a few French labels. The teaching language is French; the age range is complete; the AEFÉ affiliation gives the school a place inside a global network of **600** schools across **138** countries. That gives parents a practical advantage if work moves them between capitals. It also gives pupils a curriculum with a fixed logic rather than a patchwork of imported programmes. The school's size cuts both ways. It brings breadth, peer group and operational weight. It also means families looking for a small, intimate setting will not find one here. This is a large urban lycée, and it carries itself like one: structured, busy, and academically purposeful.

It belongs on a shortlist for parents who value *French intellectual rigour*, *a serious bilingual horizon* in Lisbon, and a school where children can stay put for the long term. It will suit French families abroad, binational households, and internationally mobile parents who want a stable connection to the French system without sacrificing life in Portugal. It will also suit pupils who thrive in clear structures, can handle a demanding academic rhythm, and benefit from being surrounded by a large, mixed student body. It will not suit families who want progressive looseness, heavy pastoral branding or an English-medium international school experience. The appeal here is *substance over theatre* and *continuity over reinvention*.

STRENGTHS

- The school belongs to the system of schools managed by the Agence pour l'Enseignement du Français à l'Étranger (AEFE) under the French foreign ministry, and follows the official instructions of France's Ministry of National Education, giving pupils a fully recognised path to the French Baccalaureate.
- In 1907, a French-medium school was opened on Rua da Emenda by the Société de l'École Française de Lisbonne, and it has occupied its current Avenida Duarte Pacheco site since puis de rejoindre son site actuel de l'avenue Duarte Pacheco le 17 novembre 1952, giving it a long institutional history in Lisbon.
- The campus spans seven buildings and houses facilities including Marmothèque, BCDI and CDI libraries, IT spaces, cafeterias, and health and counselling services, alongside on-site gyms and a dance studio.
- Fees are kept affordable through French government subsidies, with annual tuition ranging from roughly €4,000 to €8,000, undercutting many Anglophone international schools in the same city.
- The Lycée Français Charles Lepierre is located at Avenida Duarte Pacheco, 32, 1070-112 Lisbon, Portugal, a central, well-connected address near the emplacement privilégié, à l'entrée de Lisbonne, en face du centre commercial des Amoreiras shopping district.

TRADE-OFFS

- The LFCL offers only the general track, so families wanting an IB, British, or vocational alternative within the same school will not find one here.
- The school is large, serving around 2,100 students from nursery to terminale, which means bigger cohorts than at boutique-style international schools and less scope for individual attention.
- Waiting list is a possible outcome during the admissions process; the nine step procedure includes placement on a waiting list as one of the responses to an admission request, and as a state-linked AEFÉ school its stated mission is to prioritise enfants de nationalité française résidents au Portugal, which can slow access for other nationalities.
- Independent, verifiable review data is thin online; for example the reviews for Lycée Français Charles Lepierre Lisbonne indicate a rating of 1.0 out of 5 based on 1 existing reviews, making parent-satisfaction claims hard to corroborate.

ADMISSIONS

Applications run through the school's online Eduka portal and follow a nine-step process, with a waiting list a recognised possible outcome given demand for places. Entry points exist from Petite Section (age 3) through Terminale, though places are generally tighter in the early primary years. As an AEFE 'gestion directe' establishment, the school's stated mission gives some priority to French national children resident in Portugal, alongside Portuguese and other international families, which can affect sequencing for non-French applicants. Families should contact the admissions office directly for current fee schedules, since published figures vary by source and year group.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_05b839d465.