

# United Lisbon International School

Lisbon, Portugal



*Blending American rigor with the IB Diploma on Lisbon's Parque das Nações waterfront, backed by Microsoft Showcase School status.*

## RANKING DIMENSIONS

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Overall              | 38/100 |
| Academic outcomes    | 42/100 |
| University placement | 40/100 |
| Prestige & heritage  | 35/100 |
| Alumni network       | 25/100 |
| Facilities           | 48/100 |
| Transparency         | 40/100 |

## EDITOR'S VERDICT

United Lisbon International School is a very new entrant in Lisbon’s international market, founded in **2020**, and that cuts both ways. Parents get a modern school built for current international demand rather than legacy habit: English-medium, secular, day-only, for ages **3–18**, with an American-style structure leading to the IB Diploma. The setting in Parque das Nações gives it a clear identity. This is waterfront, contemporary Lisbon, not an old-campus school trading on history. The school’s strongest distinguishing feature is the blend of US-style academic organisation with the IB at the top end, aimed at families who want *forward-facing ambition*, *international fluency* and a school that speaks the language of mobility.

What puts it on a shortlist is not romance; it is fit. United Lisbon targets globally mobile, professionally international families who want an English-language education in Lisbon without sacrificing university breadth later on. The school also sits inside the Dukes Education group, which adds financial backing and operational heft that many start-ups lack. Its Microsoft Showcase School status gives it another point of difference in a crowded market of schools all claiming innovation. That matters for parents who want technology embedded in teaching rather than bolted on for open days. There is also a plain commercial truth here: Lisbon has attracted a surge of relocating families, and United Lisbon was built for that market from day one. The proposition is *\*polished and current\**, with a strong bias toward future skills, entrepreneurship, STEAM and international-mindedness.

The caveat is equally plain. This is not an old, battle-tested Lisbon institution with decades of public exam data, deep alumni networks or inherited prestige. Founded in *\*\*2020\*\**, it is still building its record. The school context lists NEASC candidate status, so parents should read the school as a developing institution with serious aspirations rather than a finished one. That does not disqualify it. It does define the buying decision. Families who need the reassurance of long-established local reputation may prefer an older competitor. Families who value *\*energy over tradition\**, *\*urban convenience\**, and a school still shaping its culture may find United Lisbon more compelling.

The best fit is the child who thrives in an international peer group, likes structured academics but does not want a narrow exam factory, and benefits from a school that prizes confidence, presentation, leadership and adaptability alongside grades. This suits students who are *\*comfortable in motion\**, curious, digitally literate and open to a broad extracurricular life. It also suits parents who want Lisbon without stepping out of a recognisably international system. United Lisbon earns shortlist status for families seeking a *\*new-school cosmopolitanism\** in the city's modern quarter, with a route to the IB Diploma and a product calibrated for the expatriate and returning-global family market.

#### STRENGTHS

- Offers a dual-track curriculum (American high school diploma and International Baccalaureate), giving families flexibility on university destination.
- Located in Lisbon, a city with a growing expat and relocation population, easing cultural adjustment for arriving international families.
- As a newer day school, facilities and equipment are likely to be modern rather than inherited from a decades-old campus.
- Small current enrollment typical of a young school may allow closer staff-student ratios and more individual attention in its early years.
- English-medium instruction with an international curriculum suits families who anticipate further relocation rather than long-term settlement in Portugal.

#### TRADE-OFFS

- As a young and still relatively unranked school (editorial rank 1052, candidate tier), it lacks the long track record, exam-result history and alumni outcomes that established Lisbon international schools can show.
- Being a new institution, class sizes, extracurricular breadth and university placement data are not yet independently verifiable.
- Running both American and IB pathways simultaneously can strain teaching resources and may narrow elective choice compared to single-curriculum schools.
- Day-only structure means no boarding option, so it is unsuitable for families needing residential care or those based outside commuting range of Lisbon.

## ADMISSIONS

Admissions are believed to run on a rolling basis typical of newer international schools, with entry points across primary and secondary years subject to space availability rather than fixed cohort dates. Applications generally require prior school reports, an assessment or interview, and proof of English proficiency for older students. As a young school still building its reputation and enrollment, competitiveness is likely lower than at long-established Lisbon international schools, though this may change as capacity fills. Families should confirm current fee schedules, curriculum year availability and accreditation status directly with the school before applying.

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\\_7294abc2b6](https://WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_7294abc2b6).