BARCELONA HOME HUNTER

International Schools in Barcelona

A family guide: schools, costs, applications and where to live | 2026 edition

- Eight schools compared at a glance
- 2026-27 fees from each school's own website
- How to apply, in the right order
- What to ask and watch for on a school visit
- How the school choice shapes the home search

By Frank Rodgers, Founder & Property Consultant, Barcelona Home Hunter

frank@barcelonahomehunter.com | +34 636 383 338 | barcelonahomehunter.com

Last updated 22 November 2026. General information only. Always confirm details with each school.

Eight schools at a glance

Barcelona's international schools sit in different parts of the city and its surroundings, and the campus often matters as much as the school name. This table summarises how each school describes itself.

School	Where	Curriculum	IB programmes
St. Peter's School	Pedralbes, Barcelona	English-language IB continuum	PYP, MYP and Diploma (full continuum, as the school describes it)
Benjamin Franklin International School	Sarrià, Barcelona	American curriculum, Nursery to Grade 12	IB Middle Years and Diploma Programmes
St. George Barcelona	Sarrià, Barcelona	British programme, IGCSE preparation	IB Diploma in the Sixth Form
Kensington School	Pedralbes, Barcelona	British pathway, GCSE and A Level	A Levels (per its curriculum information)
The British School of Barcelona	Barcelona, Castelldefels, Sitges and the Maresme (campus varies)	English National Curriculum, GCSE at Year 11	IB Diploma or A Levels after 16, depending on campus
American School of Barcelona	Esplugues de Llobregat	American programme	IB Diploma and IB Career-related Programme
European International School of Barcelona	Sant Cugat del Vallès	Multilingual international model	IB Diploma among several upper-school routes
Hamelin-Laie International School	Montgat (Maresme coast)	International, multilingual	IB Diploma or Spanish Bachillerato at the later stage

"IB" can mean the Primary Years, Middle Years or Diploma Programme, or the Career-related Programme. Confirm which programme a school actually offers for your child's age, not just that it uses the term.

What does it cost?

Published tuition for 2026-27 runs from about €11,000 for the youngest children to about €22,000 in the final years at the main British-style and IB schools. The American School of Barcelona is higher. Fees below come from each school's own website, checked on 22 November 2026.

School	Annual tuition	One-off fees	School year
St. Peter's School	€11,250 (Foundation 1-2) to €22,250 (Years 10-12)	€4,500 enrolment fee; €7,500 if an adaptation period is needed	2026-27, indicative
St. George Barcelona	€11,350 (Pre-Nursery) to €21,340 (Sixth Form)	€1,000 registration (refundable if the student stays) plus a €3,500 one-off payment	2026-27
The British School of Barcelona	City campus: €13,190 (Nursery) to €20,930 (Years 10-11). Sitges, Castelldefels, Nexus: €12,220 (Reception) to €19,650 (Years 12-13)	€3,400 matriculation fee, paid when a place is offered	2026-27
Hamelin-Laie International School	About €11,200 to €15,500 a year including registration and lunch; IB Diploma years are the highest	Registration €696 to €1,291 a year, included; IB exam fees extra	2026-27
American School of Barcelona	€13,703 (Early Childhood) to €25,509 (High School) at the family rate	€250 application, €975 yearly matriculation, one-time capital levy €3,000 to €6,000	2024-25, latest confirmed
European International School of Barcelona	Not shown on the admissions page; request the schedule	IB Diploma registration €1,000, plus €100 assessment fee	Ask the school
Benjamin Franklin International School	No public fee table found	Ask admissions	Ask the school
Kensington School	No public fee table found	Ask admissions	Ask the school

Costs beyond tuition

- **Entry costs:** application, registration, deposits, matriculation or capital levies.
- **Daily-life costs:** meals, school transport, uniforms, devices and materials.
- **Programme costs:** exam fees, trips and extracurricular activities.
- **First year versus every year after:** one-off fees can make year one considerably more expensive.

Fee schedules change every year. Treat these figures as a guide and ask each school for its current written fee information.

How to apply, in the right order

1. Confirm the correct year and campus

Entry year, campus and programme can all differ within one school. Settle which you are applying for before anything else.

2. Ask about current availability

A preferred school is not yet an available school. Availability can vary considerably between age groups, so begin contacting admissions teams as soon as the relocation becomes credible.

3. Prepare the complete application

Ask each school exactly which documents it needs, including previous school reports and any address information. You can often begin conversations before you have a permanent Barcelona address, but requirements differ.

4. Understand the offer conditions

Read the deadline for accepting, the deposit and the refund terms before you commit.

Choosing a curriculum

- There is no universally best curriculum. The right fit depends on the child's previous education, language profile, learning needs, age and likely destination after Barcelona.
- Curriculum continuity matters most for older students. Check how easy it will be to leave the curriculum later.
- For university plans, a recognised diploma can still contain the wrong subject combination. Check the destination university's rules early.

Language

- Ask how often Spanish and Catalan are taught, how pupils are grouped and what support a child with little or no prior knowledge receives.
- Conversation and classroom fluency are not the same thing. Ask how the school supports academic language.

Visiting a school

Give the visit a job to do. Observe the school between the talking points.

Questions to ask

- How do you support a child who joins mid-year? Ask for examples rather than reassurance.
- How are friendships and the first weeks planned for new arrivals?
- What happens if my child is not settling after a term?
- Which programme will my child actually follow, and what are the exam fees?
- What is the full fee for year one, and for every year after?

What to watch for

- What are students actually doing, and how are pupils acknowledged?
- How does the campus function between lessons?
- Who appears included, and who does not?

Record the evidence

Write down what you saw at each school the same day, so the visits do not blur together. Separate what is confirmed from what is merely assumed.

Choosing the right shortlist

A shortlist should make the decision clearer, not merely shorter. For each school, ask:

- Can the child succeed within this system?
- Is there a credible route into the school?
- Does the full cost remain comfortable?
- Can the school support a workable ordinary week?

Where to live once you have a shortlist

The school sets the radius. Family life chooses the address.

Start with the practicalities

- Confirm the campus, since some schools have several.
- Set a time budget for the school run.
- Map the whole family: parents' workplaces, siblings, activities.
- Define the housing reality: budget, size, rent or buy.

Two ways to approach it

- **Live close enough to simplify the school day.** Often best for younger children.
- **Live along a dependable school route.** Gives more choice of neighborhood, but the route must work on an ordinary Tuesday, at the time your family will actually use it.

Test it

Recreate the real morning and collection routine before committing. Ask what remains of family time once the commute is done.

Frequently asked questions

Should we choose the school before the neighborhood? Develop both together, but the school shortlist usually needs to be credible before the property search becomes focused.

Is living close to school always best? Not necessarily. It can simplify the routine for younger children, but may create a difficult commute for parents or restrict housing options.

Can Barcelona Home Hunter recommend the right school? No. Barcelona Home Hunter does not decide which educational programme suits a child. Frank's role starts where the school decision meets the housing market: comparing campuses, commutes and neighborhoods.

Planning a move to Barcelona with children?
Once you have a school shortlist, I can help you find a home that works for the school run and for family life: neighborhoods, rentals or purchases, viewings and negotiation.

Frank Rodgers, Founder & Property Consultant
frank@barcelonahomehunter.com | +34 636 383 338
barcelonahomehunter.com

Fee sources: each school's own website, checked 22 November 2026. This guide is general information and not education or legal advice. Confirm all educational facts and fees directly with each school.