



A French education of excellence



Why EFI Tirana?

Recognized for its educational philosophy, EFI Tirana is one of the most prestigious French schools in Albania combining high standards of education and well-being.

Choosing to join our school means choosing an international education in which French educational excellence is honored. The teaching programs are guaranteed by the partnership with the AEFE and the pedagogical approach consists in opening our students to the world.

Indeed, EFIT offers a multilingual curriculum from kindergarten onwards where lessons are given in three languages: French/English (bilingual system) and Albanian. The school's mission is to help students grow in respect for others and in self-confidence. This is achieved through a pedagogical organization adapted to the needs of our students and the requirements of the programs.

5 GOOD REASONS TO CHOOSE EFI TIRANA

1. A French education of excellence
2. Small classes (maximum 25 students per class)
3. An international plurilingual education
4. A personalized support
5. Concern for the development of each student and learning to live together



A green school, respectful of the environment: E3D, level 2

EFIT is the only school in Albania to have obtained certification from the French government, attesting to its commitment and actions in promoting sustainable development. These actions allow all members of the educational community and partners on the steering committee to get involved and carry out projects.



A word from the Head of the EFIT

Succeeding in school at the French International School of Tirana is the challenge that we must take up together, students, parents, and staff of this establishment.

In a spirit of cooperation and partnership, teaching and non-teaching staff are committed to our students' and your children's success and well-being. Through the pedagogical and educational project, the shared objectives find their place and guide the educational action daily.

We do everything for intellectual awakening and personal fulfillment which allow acquiring in-depth general knowledge. Students are encouraged to become self-reliant in their learning, curious and knowledgeable, eager to acquire new knowledge throughout their lives, concerned with the environment, and ready to face the complex challenges of the modern world and to play as well an active role in building the world of tomorrow.

I assure you of my will and my commitment to the service of this mission. I know I can count on all the actors of the EFIT: teachers, service staff, administrative or educational staff, and parents representatives to carry out this mission. Finally, especially on you too, the parents, who trust us.

Paul-Marie BLANCHARD
Headmaster



Our school

Founded in 2011, the French International School of Tirana (EFIT) now accommodates 160 students from nursery to secondary school.

Since September 2019, the school has benefited from a new campus, ideally located in the dynamic district of Tirana East Gate where various other leading international schools are based and which offers the perfect environment for learning and personal development. Steeped in history, the campus now boasts innovative infrastructure and facilities.

With its dynamic and committed teaching team, the School aims to provide each student with extensive knowledge and skills and an educational approach that is open to Europe and the entire world.

The school is committed to promoting the French language and culture in a secular, multilingual and intercultural teaching environment.

EFIT is the only French school in Albania approved by the French Ministry of Education.

Furthermore, all students from EFIT can continue their studies at an ODYSSEY school abroad or an institution within the global AEFE network without taking an entrance exam.

Our small classes allow each child to receive all the attention and support they need in a friendly atmosphere conducive to learning. In addition to the courses, the EFIT offers students various projects throughout the year.



Educational model

1/ Teaching in accordance with the French curriculum

Our institution provides the same education as that of a school in France, delivered by teachers who are licensed by the French Ministry of Education.

- From a very young age, our innovative and ambitious educational program enables our students to develop their analytical and critical thinking skills (understanding what we do, what we learn and why we do it).
- A personalized program that ensures students reach their full potential by developing their independence, ability to adapt and sense of responsibility.

2/ Teaching in accordance with the Albanian curriculum

For Albanian students enrolled at our school, instruction in the Albanian language is offered in accordance with the curriculum established by the Albanian Ministry of Education.

3/ An international school

The school is open to students of all nationalities, whether French is their native language or not. This highly international environment encourages students to be open to the world and its diversity.



Pedagogical program

Kindergarten

Cycle 1

The early learning cycle

Kindergarten prepares children for the basic skills of reading, writing and arithmetic. Its essential objectives are socialization, the establishment of language, numbers and graphic gestures, the development of sensitivity and the personality of each student. Its methods favor manipulation, discovery, and experimentation in various fields: artistic, cultural, physical, and scientific.

Class	Age	School Year 23/24	School Year 24/25
Pre-kindergarten	2 to 3 year	Children born in 2021	Children born in 2022
Petite Section	3 to 4 year	Children born in 2020	Children born in 2021
Moyenne Section	4 to 5 year	Children born in 2019	Children born in 2020
Grande Section	5 to 6 year	Children born in 2018	Children born in 2019

Perfectly adapted environment

Each nursery teacher is supported by a full-time nursery assistant. We believe that it is important for children to develop basic skills in a school environment, with trained teachers, in order to approach primary school with more confidence.

Nursery school epitomizes the strength of the French education system: to start learning at the earliest possible age.

Children learn to become more precise in their intentions, more exacting in terms of achievement and start to experience the satisfying feeling that they are developing and progressing. They become aware of the value of learning. The main objective of nursery school is to help each child to develop autonomy and acquire knowledge and skills. The French nursery school system follows the official French curriculum which defines precise skills to be mastered. Learning is structured around progression and is demonstrated through class projects.

Our school's strength is to offer, from the start of nursery school, a truly multilingual education (French/English/Albanian).

The French kindergarten programs are developed around **5 areas**:

- 1 **Mobilize language in all its dimensions (both oral and written)**
- 2 **Act, express themselves and understand through physical activities**
- 3 **Act, express themselves and understand through artistic activities**
- 4 **Build the first tools to structure their thinking (counting, comparing...)**
- 5 **Explore the world**





Elementary school (6 to 11 years)

Class	Age
1st Grade	6 to 7 years
2nd Grade	7 to 8 years
3rd Grade	8 to 9 years
4th Grade	10 to 11 years
5th Grade	11 to 12 years

The primary school welcomes children from 6 to 11 years old. Children enter Year 2 in September of the year of their sixth birthday.

During this period, they learn the basics of reading, writing and math. Scientific studies based on children's close interests are offered as early as cycle 2, through what the official curriculum refers to as "Discovery of the World". From cycle 3 onwards, this teaching becomes more specialized and is extended to France and the world with lessons in history, geography, science, and technology. Sports and arts lessons are also offered to students in Year 2.

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Cycle 2

Basic learning cycle from 1st Grade to 3rd Grade (6 to 8 years)

The main objective is to teach reading, writing, and arithmetic, considered fundamental knowledge. Artistic and recreational activities are also developed there.

They include 5 main areas:

- 1 **Languages for thinking and communicating**
- 2 **Methods and tools to learn**
- 3 **The formation of the person and the citizen**
- 4 **Natural and technical systems**
- 5 **Representations of the world and human activity**



In primary school, students build on the basic knowledge acquired in nursery school in order to learn how to learn, preparing them intellectually and socially for school and life.

Our approach to bilingual teaching opens up exciting opportunities for the development of students' critical thinking skills and helps them move from concrete observations to abstract reasoning, a fundamental aspect of French education.

Cycle 3

Consolidation cycle from 4th Grade to 6th Grade

Students consolidate their basic learning. The school takes into account the plurality and diversity of the aptitudes of each student. Alongside reasoning and intellectual reflection, a sense of observation, critical thinking, a taste for experimentation, sensitivity, motor skills, and creative imagination are developed.

This cycle has a double responsibility:

- Consolidate the acquisition of fundamental knowledge (reading, writing, counting, respecting others) which was initiated in cycle 2 and which conditions subsequent learning.**
- Allow a better transition between primary school and middle school in 6th grade by ensuring continuity and progressivity between the 3 years of the cycle.**

Multilingual education at EFIT:

From Year 2, instruction is given as part of a bilingual or trilingual programme, as decided by the parents. Students learn French, history, science, maths, art and music with their French teacher. English and special projects are taught by the English teacher. Language development is at the heart of our primary school approach. To become bilingual, children must experience the various dimensions of both languages (listening, speaking, reading and writing) in a motivating and reassuring environment where their understanding is assured.

The learning areas are based on:

French

Mathematics

Modern languages

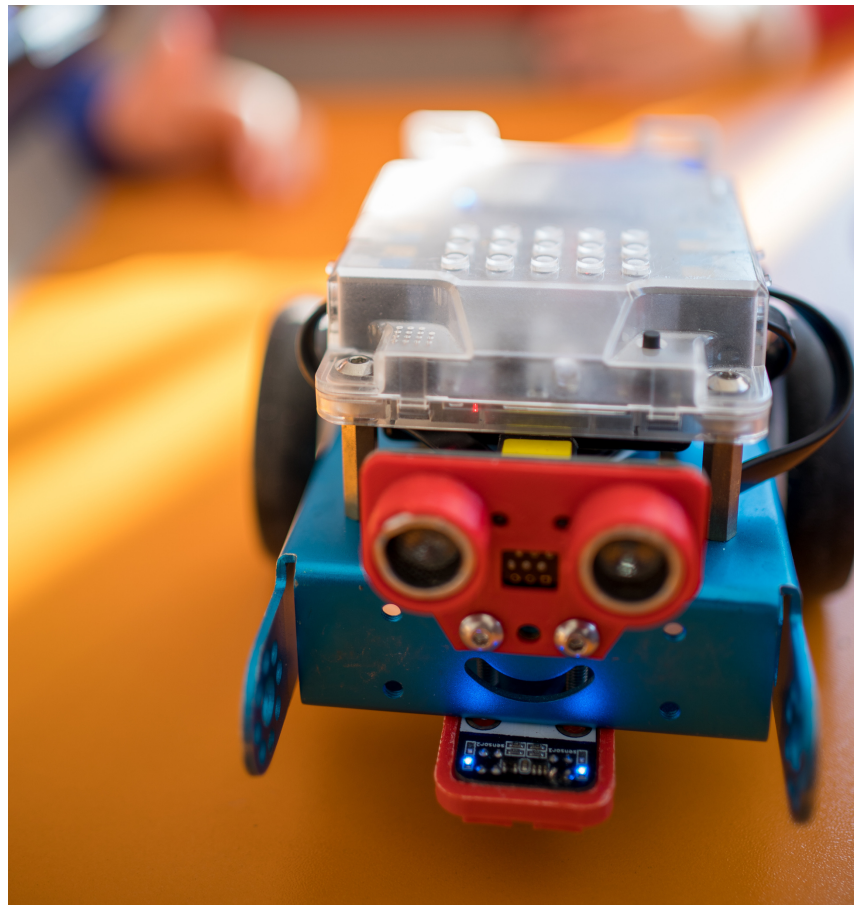
Physical education and sports

Art education

Moral and civic education

History and geography

Science





Middle school



Cycle 4
Advanced cycle from 7th to 9th grade

Class	Age
6th Grade	11 to 12 years old
7th Grade	12 to 13 years old
8th Grade	13 to 14 years old
9th Grade	14 to 15 years old

The college is a secondary-level establishment that, after elementary school, welcomes all school children.



The college aims to:

- Reinforce the acquisition of fundamental knowledge by combining theoretical and practical learning;
- Take into account the specialties of each student to allow the success of all;
- Give middle school students new skills adapted to today's world;
- Make the college a place of fulfilment and constriction of citizenship, a community where individual experience and collective activity are privileged.

It brings together five areas of expertise:

- Language for reflection and communication (French, foreign and local languages, mathematical language, etc.)
- Methods and tools for learning (digital tools, projects, organization, etc.)
- The development of the individual and the citizen (ethical development, life in society, responsibility...)
- Natural systems and technical systems (science, curiosity, problem solving, etc.)
- Representations of the world and human activity (history, culture, geography...)

Students follow the official program of National Education and pass the exam validating the end of the course: The National Diploma of Brevet (DNB) at the end of the 3rd.

Teachers assess the skills acquired in each subject throughout the year.



High school

From Second to Terminal

After the 4 years of consolidation provided by Collège comes the Sixth Form cycle, called cycle Terminal (15–18 years). The choices made by pupils will determine their paths as students. Sixth Form education is spread over 3 years, characterised by action and orientation:

Class	Age
2de	15 to 16 years old
1ère	16 to 17 years old
Terminale	17 to 18 years old



How does CNED (French National Centre for Distance Learning) learning work at the secondary school level?

The programme covers the entire official curriculum for the full academic year. Our Sixth Form programme can now be followed remotely under the French National Centre for Distance Learning (CNED), with the help of teaching staff who provide educational guidance and support to our pupils in the classroom and within the institution. The CNED and the partner institution work together to provide the educational support pupils need.

Registered pupils are eligible to receive a school attendance certificate, transcripts and orientation advice at the end of the academic year. Pupils are able to register to take the exams for the secondary school national diploma and for the baccalaureate diploma. Pupils who are French nationals are eligible to submit a scholarship application.

The baccalaureate diploma (BAC)

The school registers candidates for the French baccalaureate exams. The exams are held at EFIT's affiliate school in Rome. After the exams, candidates will receive their French national baccalaureate diploma which enables them to pursue further education in France if they so choose.

Practical information



Daycare

The daycare is open from Monday to Friday, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (after classes).



School transport

A school bus service is managed by the EFIT. Minibusses pick up your children from your home and drop them off at school every morning. Its drivers are selected with the most excellent care to guarantee an efficient service adapted to your needs.



School canteen

During the lunch break, children who take their meal in the establishment can either bring their meal or use the half-board service. This service operates throughout the school year. The service is provided by a catering company that delivers balanced meals whose menus are prepared by a nutritionist.



Extra-curricular activities

EFIT offers a variety of extracurricular activities on Friday afternoons. Parents can choose between singing, football, basketball, conversation club in English, robotics, French as a foreign language, plastic arts, theatre, Game design & Photoshop, and 3D modeling.



Holiday camp

The EFIT offers a leisure center during the autumn, winter, spring, and summer school holidays. Children have the opportunity to experience activities based on imagination and discovery. The program of activities is organized around a theme. It takes place in the establishment with weekly outings.

Applications

Application process

The school welcomes students of all nationalities in accordance with the rules governing French schools abroad.

THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE INCLUDES 3 STEPS



1/ Processing of the application & pedagogical interview

Once the application is submitted and processed by the admissions department, an educational interview will be scheduled for your application within 5 working days.



2/ Admission decision

At the end of the admission committee, you will be notified by email of your child's admission within 2 - 3 days and additional documents will be requested.



3/ Payment of tuition fees

Once we have confirmed your admission, we invite you to pay the first registration fee. The first registration fee is 450 €. In case of withdrawal, the 1st registration fee will not be refunded. Your child's final registration will be confirmed by email within 7 days of payment.

Admission is confirmed only after the first registration fee has been paid



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