

PRIMARY • WIX & MARIE D'ORLIAC FIRST

International Classes

"Growing through languages, learning within one shared framework"

7.10.2026 • 17:30 **Hybrid** • c. 80 registered in the room; up to c. 250 connected online

Format • 30-min presentation, then Q&A

The essentials

From September 2027 the Lycée replaces the bilingual *parité horaire* classes at Wix and Marie d'Orliac with a new **International Class**, and closes **Anglais Renforcé** to new entrants there year by year. South Kensington and André Malraux are unchanged for 2027. Applications open from 8 October 2026.

26 h

a week: at least 12 h in French, at least 12 h in English, plus a third language.

2

lead teachers per class, one French-speaking and one English-speaking, jointly responsible.

Mandarin

is the third language, confirmed on the Wix and Marie d'Orliac web pages: 1 h a week rising to 2 h in CM2.

Same fee

as today's *parité horaire*, for fewer hours (Wednesday morning only, 36 weeks).

8 Oct 2026

applications open. Transfer forms in November; transfers confirmed in February 2027.

AR closes

to new entrants at Wix and MdO: PS/MS in 2027, GS in 2028, CP in 2029. Pupils already in AR keep their pathway.

These notes were taken by CIPL members during the meeting, which the Lycée asked parent associations to relay. They are not an official LFCG document. Where anything differs, the Lycée's presentation and the Wix and Marie d'Orliac pages of its website prevail.

What it means for your child

Wix or Marie d'Orliac, in **parité horaire** today

- Your child's class becomes an International Class in September 2027. Parité horaire is replaced, not run alongside.
- The fee is stated to stay the same.

Confirmed on the Lycée's slide: "All classes in **parité horaire** switch to **Classes Internationales**" in September 2027.

Wix or Marie d'Orliac, in **Anglais Renforcé** today

- Your child stays in AR to CM2 if you wish. Nothing is interrupted.
- You may request a transfer to the International Class. Both teachers' views are considered; LFCG families have priority over outside applicants.

Note: moving to the International Class means paying the **parité horaire** fee, the higher of the two.

Starting at Wix or Marie d'Orliac

from September 2027

- PS and MS: International Class only. Marie d'Orliac from PS; Wix from MS (no PS at Wix, for lack of space).
- GS to CM2 in 2027: choice of AR or International Class.
- From September 2028, GS is International Class only at both sites; from September 2029, CP too.

South Kensington or André Malraux

- No change in September 2027: **Anglais Renforcé** only.
- From 2028: "to be defined", after dialogue with families in the conseils d'école.
- A transfer to Wix or Marie d'Orliac can be requested through the same process.

In a partner school, not enrolled at LFCG

- You may apply, but you must enrol at LFCG and have no priority over current LFCG pupils. Applications are considered at successive commissions through the year.
- The partner schools are expected to announce their own plans for next year around this time.

Moving up to collège

- There is no **parité horaire** at secondary. International sections keep their entry tests; there is no automatic access from the International Class.
- The Lycée commits to continuity of the third language, so that Mandarin can be offered from 6ème.
- A French-as-language-of-schooling support scheme already exists in 6ème.

Why the Lycée says it must change

The AEFE has ended the teaching partnerships at Marie d'Orliac and Wix. A decree of August 2025 gave legal force to homologation criteria previously set by circular, and LFCG, as an AEFE-run school (EGD), must comply first.

Homologation requires

- the French national curriculum;
- a language pathway run entirely by LFCG;
- pupil monitoring and assessment by LFCG alone;
- teacher careers and training managed by LFCG and the AEFE;
- a school calendar meeting AEFE criteria.

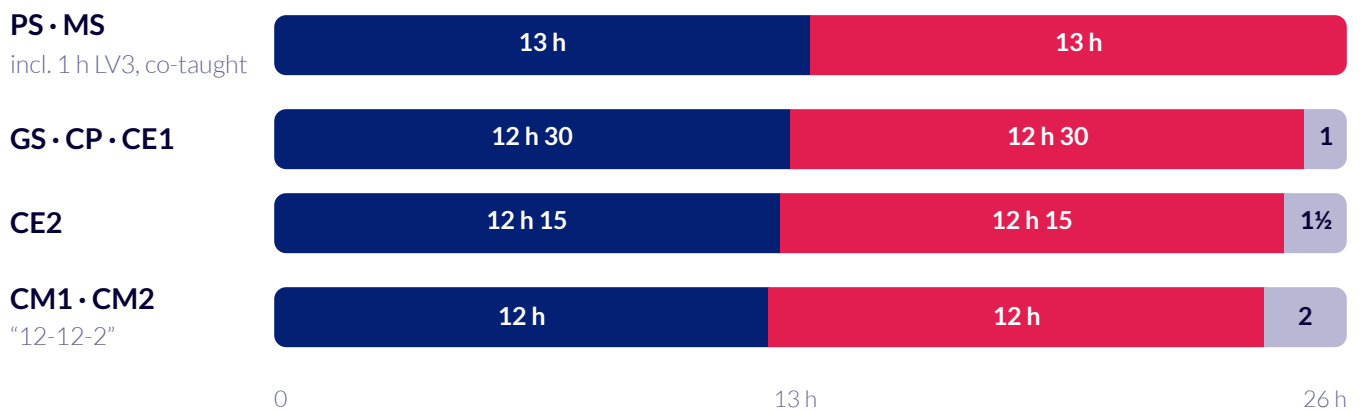
The Lycée also cited research on children's learning time, co-teaching, and families' wish for more English and more British school culture. The project is backed by the AEFE and the French Embassy, and was presented as "not carved in stone".

The model, week by week

One French curriculum, taught in two languages. The aim is mastery of the French programme with a strong English component aligned with the DfE, not two programmes side by side. Subjects are not assigned to a language: the teaching pair decides content and language together.

Weekly hours by level

■ French ■ English ■ Third language



Figures as shown on the Lycée's slide. In PS and MS, the third language is taught within the 13 h + 13 h. The slides start it in PS; the Lycée's web pages say from MS.

Rhythm

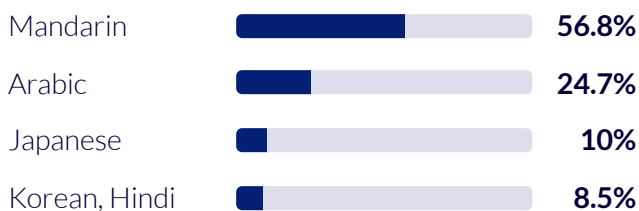
- **Nursery:** half-day rotation (e.g. Monday morning in English, afternoon in French, swapped on Tuesday).
- **CP to CM2:** whole-day rotation, one day in each language.
- **Wednesday:** morning only, used for need-based groups in French or English, which can shift the balance (e.g. 50/50 to 40/60).
- No more week-on, week-off alternation. Year of 36 weeks, as in AR.

Teaching team

- A French-speaking and an English-speaking lead teacher plan progressions together and pool observations.
- English-speaking teachers: UK primary-qualified, on local contracts, managed by school directors with LFCG's English coordinator.
- Two coordinators per school (FR and EN), plus a central English coordinator for all four schools.
- Dedicated third-language and PE teachers, freeing time for the pair to plan.
- The Lycée sees no recruitment risk and will recruit early.

Third language

The aim is metalinguistic skill (comparing languages, deducing rules), not trilingualism. A non-Latin script was chosen deliberately. A Cambridge study was cited: in bilingual nursery, a third language supports oral skills in the first.



*First choices in the Lycée's survey, as shown on the slide.
Verbally: 80–90% put Mandarin first or second. No response rate was given; only non-Latin-script languages were offered.*

PE and British school culture

- **PE:** 2 × 1 h a week in primary, 4 × 30 min in nursery, with a dedicated teacher. French programmes set 3 h.
- Bilingual PE: session in one language, written follow-up in the other.
- **PSHE, history, geography:** British content added (e.g. WWII in CM2 seen also from the British side).
- **Maths, science:** French content, British teaching methods.
- **Phonics** from MS, as Ofsted expects. Wellbeing and safeguarding on the British model.

Timeline

7 Oct, 19:00

Wix and Marie d'Orliac websites updated with the new offer, the same evening as the meeting.

8 Oct 2026

Application platform opens for September 2027.

13-14 Oct

Parent elections to the Conseil d'établissement, where International Class fees will be discussed with the finance director, and to each school's conseil d'école, where hours and the next steps for SK and AM will be discussed.

Nov 2026

Transfers at Wix and MdO: request the transfer form, fill it in and send it to the school.

Dec 2026

Pedagogical advice from the French and English teachers.

10 Dec

First enrolment commission (date given from memory). Transfer requests are examined before outside applications; a declined place goes to another family.

Jan 2027

Class structures set, based on transfers and first admissions. British cap of 26; target 24 in PS. Mixed-year classes not intended.

Feb 2027

Transfers confirmed.

Sep 2027

Launch at Wix and Marie d'Orliac. Parité horaire replaced; no new AR in PS/MS. No change at SK and AM.

Sep 2028

No new AR in GS at Wix and MdO. SK and AM "to be defined".

Sep 2029

No new AR in CP at Wix and MdO. SK and AM "to be defined". AR then closes cohort by cohort.

Parents' questions and the Lycée's answers

Questions from the room and the online chat, paraphrased, with the answers given.

THE DECISION

Can parents' views still change the scheme?

The model is "not carved in stone". Family feedback, pupil results and how the teaching pairs work will be used to evaluate and adjust it. Dialogue with families continues in the coming conseils d'école, through parent representatives, at all four schools.

Are families obliged to accept it?

Pathways already started are preserved. At Wix and Marie d'Orliac, new PS and MS entrants join the International Class.

FEES, PLACES AND TRANSFERS

What will it cost?

The International Class continues the parité horaire fee and will not cost more. The Anglais Renforcé fee is unchanged. Detailed questions, including hours versus fee, will be taken up at the Conseil d'établissement with the finance director.

Are current bilingual pupils placed automatically, or only given priority?

Parité horaire classes convert to International Classes. Other LFCCG pupils have priority over outside applicants; both teachers' views are taken into account for a transfer.

How many classes, and how large?

Class structures will be set in January 2027, once transfers and first admissions are known. Wix should keep its current number of classes; Marie d'Orliac has little spare capacity at some levels. Today classes are 14 + 14 under the partnership. British limits will apply: at most 26 in PS and MS (one adult per 13), with a target of 24 in PS. Mixed-year classes do not suit the model; once a year group is full, no further pupils can be admitted.

Can pupils move between schools?

Yes, through the same transfer process. Partner-school pupils may apply but must enrol at LFCG, without priority.

Can both schools stay on their sites?

"The lease allows us to continue." Wix is on a private lease; Marie d'Orliac on a lease with the local authority. Room allocation with the partner schools is still to be organised.

What about the Lycée Winston Churchill?

The focus is on LFCG making a very good offer. Winston Churchill also makes very good offers, and having that choice in London is rare.

SCHOOL LIFE

Wednesdays and the school year?

Classes on Wednesday morning only, within 26 hours a week and 36 weeks a year. School holidays as in Anglais Renforcé. After-school activities continue on Wednesday afternoons, possibly with coding.

Start and finish times?

Set by each school and presented in the conseil d'école. No harmonisation and no major change.

Canteen and clubs?

Lunch continues: run by LFCG at Marie d'Orliac, by the partner school's contractor at Wix. Clubs continue; a new offer at Marie d'Orliac and after-club childcare are being studied.

TEACHING

What changes compared with today's bilingual stream?

A teaching pair that plans together, daily or half-day alternation instead of alternate weeks, one programme led by LFCG, and a third language.

Half days or alternating days?

Half days in nursery, whole days from CP to CM2. Regular exposure was preferred to weekly alternation; the rhythm can be adjusted.

What evidence supports the model, and how does it meet homologation?

A University of Cambridge study was cited: in bilingual nursery, a third language supports oral skills in the first. The French programme frames all learning, including what is taught in English, and French national assessments are kept.

Who are the English-speaking teachers, and who evaluates them?

Teachers qualified for UK primary, on local contracts, evaluated by school directors with LFCG's English coordinator. They join LFCG and AEFE training.

Is there a recruitment risk?

None, according to the Lycée: teachers want to join such a programme and AR already attracts many applications. Recruitment will start early.

English phonics and grammar: as today?

Yes, unchanged, from MS, with letters and sounds coordinated across both languages.

Which programme do International Classes follow?

The French programme for every subject except English, which follows the British programmes, as in AR and *parité horaire* today, but on a much larger scale than AR's 3–4 hours a week. The English-speaking teacher also teaches French-programme content in English.

Can pupils still move on to a British secondary school?

Yes. *Parité horaire* was never a requirement for this, and AR pupils move to British schools every year. As a French school, LFCG cannot enter pupils for the 11+, but it supports families with absences for interviews and references.

How are classes composed from year to year?

Where a school has several classes per year group, classes will continue to be composed carefully by age, gender and academic and social needs.

French or British history?

The French programme, required for homologation, with a British perspective added.

Mandarin in Anglais Renforcé too?

Under study, with a much lighter volume, depending on the teacher's hours and families' wishes.

What happens at collège?

The project covers primary only; there is no *parité horaire* at secondary. International sections keep their entry tests, with no automatic access. The Lycée commits to offering the third language through collège and lycée. A French-as-language-of-schooling scheme already supports pupils entering 6ème.

What this means, and what we will push for

- **For Wix and Marie d'Orliac, the decision is taken.** Websites changed at 19:00 and applications open from 8 October 2026. "Not carved in stone" applies to details.
- **Anglais Renforcé is being closed, not kept alongside.** On the timetable shown, the International Class becomes the only primary offer at both sites.
- **The cheaper stream disappears.** AR is the lower-fee stream. As it closes, every new family at Wix and MdO will pay the parité horaire fee, for fewer hours of teaching.
- **Less French than AR.** In élémentaire, AR teaches about 22–23 of its 26 weekly hours in French (3–4 hours of English, per the LFCG curriculum policy). The International Class teaches 12–12.5 hours in French: a little over half.
- **The third language was not asked for.** CIPL's priority is excellence in French and English. The survey offered only non-Latin-script languages and its response rate is unknown.

Our asks, in the conseils d'école and the Conseil d'établissement

- 1 A real consultation of Wix and MdO families before transfer forms are due in November, not after.
- 2 Keep Anglais Renforcé open to new entrants alongside the International Class.
- 3 A published fee breakdown for both streams, and a justification for the same fee with fewer hours.
- 4 A timetable by subject and language for each level, and the evidence that it meets homologation.
- 5 A third-language choice that includes European languages, with the option to opt out.
- 6 Written answers on SATs and the phonics check, PE specialists, and access to collège sections.

Have your say. Vote on 13–14 October for your parent representatives on the Conseil d'établissement and on your school's conseil d'école.

CIPL · Collectif Indépendant des Parents du Lycée

Independent parent association of the Lycée Français Charles de Gaulle de Londres. Registered charity no. 1213739. We listen. We represent. We act.

Compiled from notes taken by CIPL members during the meeting of 7 October 2026. Questions are paraphrased and anonymised. Corrections are welcome and will be published.