

Fourth Grade (CM1)

American Section Program

Curriculum information: www.americansection.org/academics/the-lower-school/fourth-grade-cm1

Bilingual: Native-level English and French

Students are enrolled in the French public school system (see placement options below) then excused two half-days per week to attend their American Section classes.

Class Schedule: Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings (six hours of classroom instruction, plus Art and Library)

Class Size: two classes of 20 students each (Lycée) and one class of 15 (Ecole Schnapper).

Placement

Estimated number of places available next year: 5-9 places overall

Placement options (three):

- 1) **Full-time at the Ecole Schnapper:** The American Section welcomes approximately 75 students at this partner school located nearby in St. Germain. Students attend their American Section classes as well as their French classes on this site. This is the only placement option with extended hours offering daycare and study hall possibilities after school. We expect to have 0-2 places become available here.
- 2) **Externé on the Lycée campus:** This is a part-time option in which students come to the Lycée two half-days per week for their American Section classes. The rest of the time they attend their local French school. Please note that the majority of all primary students enrolled at the Lycée International are *externés* (currently 750 students from 11 different sections). *Externé* students may request a full-time place in successive years, however, space remains limited each year. We expect to have 3-5 *externé* places become available next year.
- 3) **Full-time on Lycée campus:** Spaces are reserved for students who qualify for the French-immersion program (full-time bilingual places that become available will go first to currently enrolled *externé* students). We expect to have 2 places available in our French immersion program next year.

Eligibility

Age: 9 years old (Candidates must be born in 2018 to enroll in this class.)

Level of English: Applicants must possess native-level English (spoken, written, comprehension) to be considered for the program.

Applications

Applications should be submitted online via the American Section website from December 1 to January 22 for the following school year at: www.americansection.org/admissions/your-application

Required documents: Birth certificate, photo, English grade reports for all candidates (three years including the current year), French grade reports for bilingual candidates (three years including the current year), two writing samples, and a teacher recommendation (form available online). Complete instructions are available online once you log in.

Testing

Testing is conducted in English and is administered individually. The assessment will last approximately 45 minutes. It will include the following components: vocabulary, reading comprehension and fluidity, oral comprehension, spelling, and writing.

Testing will be scheduled from February 22, 2027 to April 2, 2027 for all CM1 candidates. Testing is done individually and will be arranged on-site for local candidates if possible. Online testing will be arranged for families living overseas.

French Immersion/*Français Spécial*

This is a specialized track for candidates who do not yet speak French or who have very little knowledge of the language. The class is composed of 15-20 new students coming from all over the world. Students work with a specialized French teacher from September to June to develop their knowledge of French while maintaining their native level of English with the American Section. As the year progresses, other subjects (Math, Science, History) are also added to the program by the French teacher. The program is challenging and requires good study habits, adaptability, and a motivation to learn a new language even from the youngest candidates. By the end of year, French immersions students should be ready to join the mainstream bilingual program.

If you are considering this option, we recommend that you contact the Admissions Office to go through details of the program before applying.

Please note that the French-immersion class will run as a combined level next year: either third/fourth grade or fourth/fifth grade. This can impact the American Section classes and may require a child to be placed in a higher grade level for one year.

Timeline

December-January	Application file submitted
February-April	Testing
May	Acceptances sent

Updated 09/2026