Nobel Algarve
BRITISH
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
ALMANCIL

Information booklet 2026/27



Welcome to Nobel Algarve British International School Almancil

It is a genuine pleasure to welcome you to our school community here in the Algarve.

Having spent over 20 years in international education, working in leadership roles across Spain and as part of the Globeducate family for over four years, I know that school is so much more than classrooms and lessons. It is about communities where friendships are formed, confidence grows, and young people discover who they are and who they aspire to become. It is also about families from around the world coming together here in Almancil, united by a shared belief in the importance of learning.

I feel proud to be leading Nobel Algarve British International School Almancil at such an exciting stage in its journey. As our community continues to grow, so too do the opportunities we can offer our students. The coming year marks a significant milestone as we welcome our first Year 13 cohort, completing our secondary provision and enabling students to continue their learning journey with us through to graduation. This reflects our ambition, our progress, and our unwavering commitment to providing an exceptional experience for every child.

Our vision is simple: to create a school where every child feels valued, challenged, and inspired to achieve their very best. While academic excellence is central to what we do, equally important is nurturing kindness, curiosity, resilience, and integrity. We want our students to leave us not only with outstanding qualifications but also with the confidence, compassion, and global outlook to make a positive difference wherever life takes them.

None of this is possible without the partnership between school and home. We value the trust you place in us and believe the strongest outcomes are achieved when families and schools work together. Whether you are joining us from elsewhere in the Algarve, relocating from another country, or continuing your journey with us, thank you for choosing Nobel Algarve British International School Almancil.

Warmest regards,

Chris Long
Head of School



The school curriculum

At Nobel Algarve Almancil, we aim to stimulate and motivate our students, nurturing each childs natural curiosity while helping them to develop a problem-solving mindset. Children benefit from a holistic approach to learning that encourages curiosity, responsibility, and a love for knowledge. Our dedicated and experienced teachers are committed to offering personalised attention, helping young learners become confident, reflective, inn ovative, and engaged individuals.

We teach a broad and balanced curriculum based on the National Curriculum of England, contextualised to meet the needs of our international community. We combine high academic standards with an enhanced programme that takes learning out of the classroom, including forest school, community service projects, outward bound opportunities and a wide range of extracurricular activities.

In the Secondary section students at Nobel Algarve Almancil take the ICGSE exams, followed by the internationally recognised International Baccalaureate Diploma or they can choose to follow the BTEC Extended Sport Diploma (equivalent to three A-Levels). Combining inspiring, engaging lessons with a STEAM mindset, we develop important skills, such as problem-solving and teamwork, which will serve students well in their workplace in later life.

Our global outlook and diverse community (with 40+ nationalities) help students to see the world around them from a different perspective, to form their own opinions, and to express themselves thoughtfully, respectfully, and intelligently.



Attendance and punctuality

At Nobel Algarve British International School Almancil we recognise that excellent attendance and punctuality are essential to success and achievement at school.

Excellent attendance is vital if students are to become independent learners and develop the important time-management skills, which will help them to be successful in higher education and their chosen career pathway. We would expect that all children have a minimum attendance record of 95% for each school term.

Guidance for families/carers:

All students are expected to attend school every day unless there is a genuine medical or other reason for absence.

The school day starts at 9 am for primary school. In the Secondary school, students must be in their form room at 8.50 am. After this time, students are late for school.

If your child is absent:

- Please message your form tutor or class teacher before 9 am on each day of your childs absence.
- Parents should also email **absences.almancil@nobelalgarve.com** when their child is absent from school.
- Medical (including dentist) appointments should be made outside of school time.
- If a student is absent due to sickness for 5 days or more, a medical certificate is required.

Holidays in term time

Holidays should not be taken during term time. If this is required, a **Leave of Absence Request Form** is available from the front office and should be completed in advance of any leave. Permission is at the discretion of the Head of Section.

Nobel Algarve Almancil believes that attendance is crucial for students to be able to gain their future dream jobs and become model citizens.

If a student is absent more than 10% of the time in a school year, their promotion to the next year level could be impacted. On the rare occasion that a student cannot attend school, parents or guardians should make contact for each day of non-attendance via email **absences.almancil@nobelalgarve.com**

Useful contacts

Role	Name	Email address
Head of School	Chris Long	chris.long@nobelalgarve.com
Head of Secondary	Scott Pryde	scott.pryde@nobelalgarve.com
Head of Primary	Chelsea Gray	chelsea.gray@nobelalgarve.com

Other support

Front office	Vânia Jóia	almancil@nobelalgarve.com	+351 289 246 303
Uniform	Raquel Silva	shop.almancil@nobelalgarve.com	
Extracurricular Activites	Filipa Magalhães	eca@nobelalgarve.com	
IT support	Fernando Silva	helpdesk.almancil@nobelalgarve.com	
Admissions	Lana-Sian Brand	admissions.almancil@nobelalgarve.com	
Medical	Mariana Peguicha	nurse.almancil@nobelalgarve.com	



Wellbeing and safeguarding

Nothing is more important to us than the students' well-being, their opinions and achievement. Students are recognised as individuals with a variety of personal and complex needs, and it is Nobel Algarve Almancils commitment to ensure that every student has their needs met.

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child that needs to be reported, you should contact the following colleagues:

Designated Safeguarding Lead	Lisa Clarke, Safeguarding, Behaviour and Wellbeing
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mariana Peguicha, School Nurse
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Scott Pryde, Head of Secondary
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Chelsea Gray, Head of Primary

A rounded education

A whole school priority is to encourage students to maximise their physical, emotional and spiritual well-being through a programme of personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE).

A series of drop-down events occur throughout the academic year, with external providers to enhance that provision.

Anti-bullying

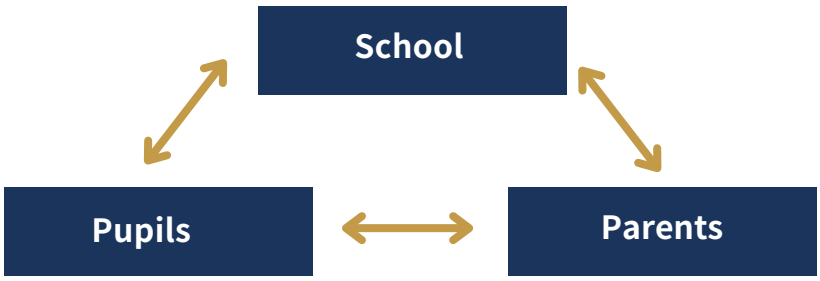
Students are not expected to tolerate bullying and are encouraged to be proactive about reporting incidents both inside and outside the school to a member of staff. There are many types of bullying which include the following:

- **Emotional** – unfriendly, excluding, tormenting or taking property
- **Physical** – pushing, kicking, punching or any form of violence
- **Racial** – racial taunting, graffiti or gesturing
- **Sexual** – unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- **Homophobic** – focusing on, or as a result of, sexuality
- **Verbal** – name-calling, sarcasm, rumour-spreading and teasing
- **Cyber** – activity online, videos, photos, phone or social media

For more information, you can read through our anti-bullying policy, on our website in the Institutional Documents section.

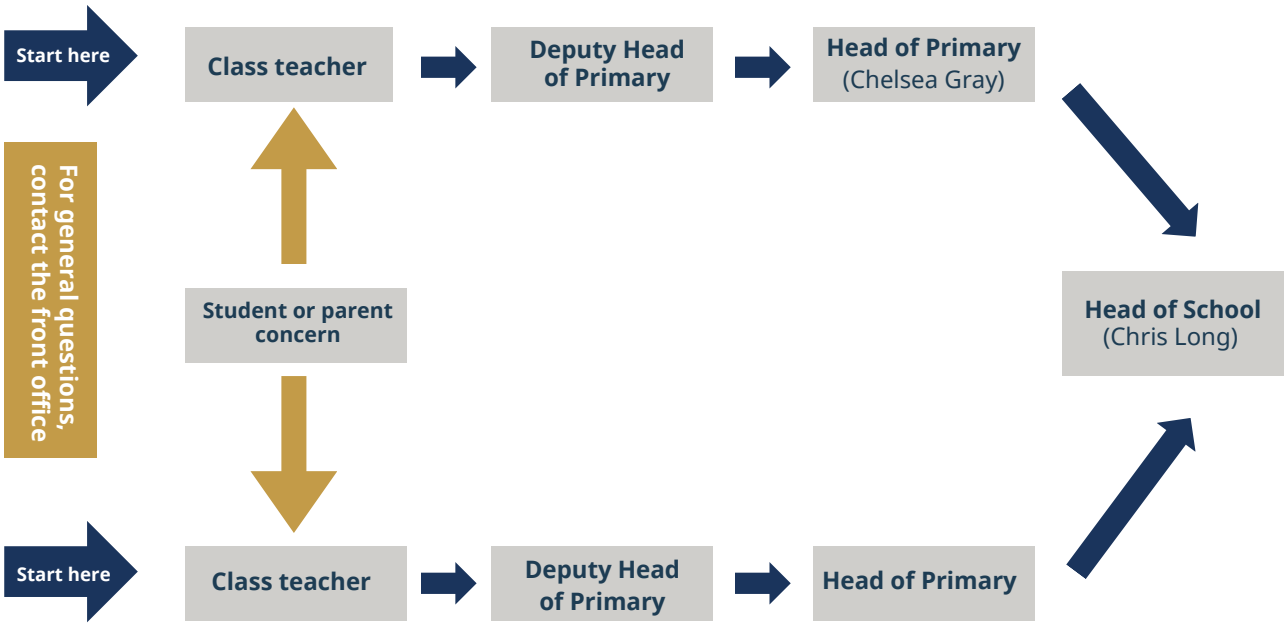
Communication between home and school

It is very important to us that communication between school and home is effective.
We know that the students thrive when the school, parents and students all work together.

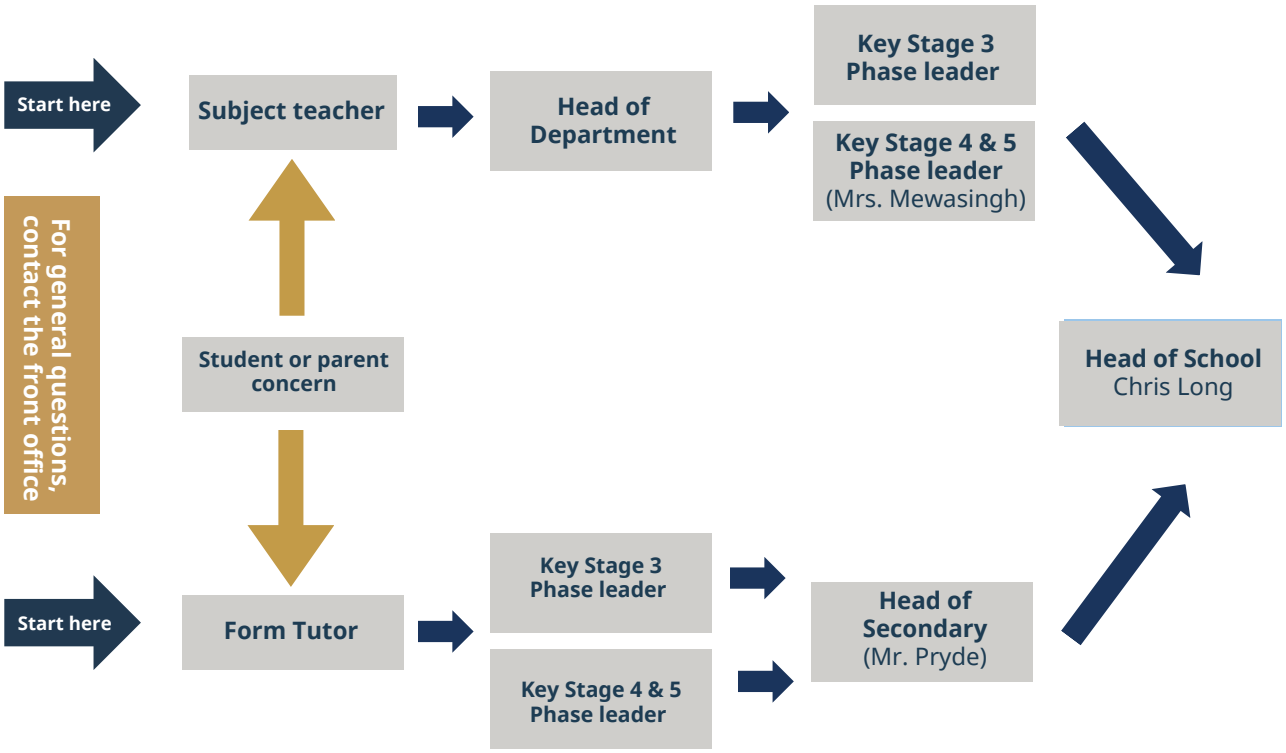


What do I do if I need to contact the school?

Primary school student and parent concern



Secondary school student and parent concern



In the first instance, you should contact your childs form tutor or class teacher in primary.

Your childs form tutor or class teacher has overall responsibility for the care, welfare and academic progress of all students in their form group or class.

You can contact your childs form tutor or class teacher via iSAMS or by email. All class lists are published in July.

Why might you want to contact your child's Form Tutor or class teacher?

You must contact your childs Form Tutor or Class Teacher if your child is going to be absent from school or you are concerned about your childs pastoral welfare or the academic progress of your child. We also encourage you to contact the subject teacher.

When will the Form Tutor get back to me?

The Form Tutor or Class Teacher will get back to you within 2 working days of receiving the communication (term time only), but please remember that they are teachers, and they cannot usually return communication during the day as they are teaching.

Who else can I contact?

Each Head of Section is responsible for the welfare, academic progress, and discipline of the students. They will deal with more serious matters. They all directly report to the Head of School.

Concern and complaints

There is a difference between a concern and a complaint.

A concern may be defined as 'an expression of worry or doubt over an issue considered to be important for reassurances are sought.'

A complaint may be defined as 'an expression of dissatisfaction however made, about actions taken or a lack of action.'

It is in everyone' s interest that concerns and complaints are resolved at the earliest possible stage. Many issues can be resolved informally, without the need to use the formal stages of the complaint' s procedure (see internal regulations). Nobel Algarve Almancil takes concerns seriously and will make every effort to resolve the matter as quickly as possible.

If you have difficulty discussing a concern with a particular member of staff, we will respect your views. In these cases, your Head of Section will refer you to another staff member. Similarly, if the member of staff directly involved feels unable to deal with a concern, their Head of Section will refer you to another staff member. The member of staff may be more senior but does not have to be. The ability to consider the concern objectively and impartially is more important.

Complaints and concerns should be shared through these channels not through WhatsApp.

School timetable

Primary schedule

Period	Register	1	2	Break	3	4	Break	5	6	Break	7	HR
Time	9.00 AM 9.10 AM	9.10 AM 9.50 AM	9.50 AM 10.30 AM	10.30 AM 10.50 AM	10.50 AM 11.30 AM	11.30 AM 12.10 AM	12.10 AM 1.10 PM	1.10 PM 1.50 PM	1.50 PM 2.30 PM	2.30 PM 2.45 PM	2.45 PM 3.25 PM	3.25 PM 4.00 PM

Secondary schedule

Period	Register	1	2	Break	3	4	Break	5	6
Time	8.50 AM 9.00 AM	9.00 AM 9.55 AM	10.00 AM 10.55 AM	10.55 AM 11.10 AM	11.10 AM 12.05 AM	12.10 AM 1.05 PM	1.05 PM 2.05 PM	2.05 PM 3.00 PM	3.05 PM 4.00 PM



Introducing iSAMS

We are pleased to introduce iSAMS, our new online school information and communication platform.

iSAMS provides parents with secure access to important information about their child' s school life, helping us improve communication between home and school.

Using iSAMS, parents will be able to:

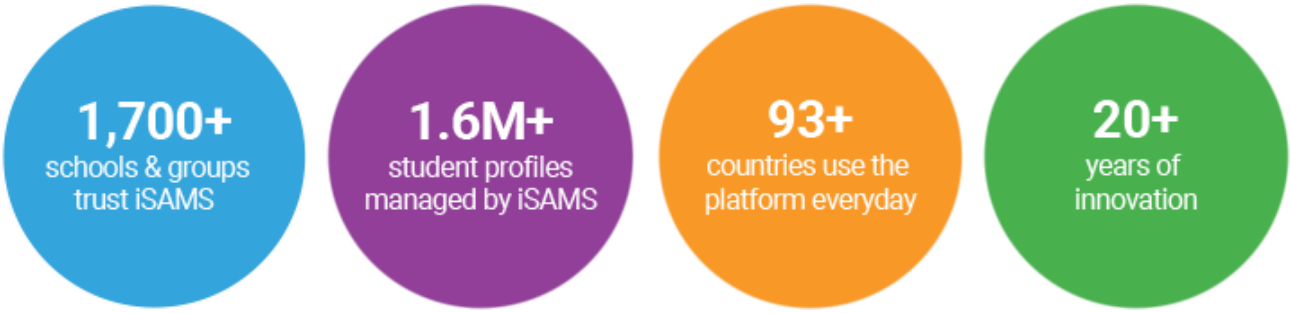
- View attendance and punctuality records
- Access timetables and key school dates
- Receive important school communications and announcements
- View reports, assessment information, and academic progress
- Update contact and emergency details where required
- Access relevant documents and school resources

Why are we using iSAMS?
We are introducing iSAMS to make communication clearer, faster, and more accessible for all families. Rather than relying on multiple systems or paper-based communication, iSAMS brings everything together in one secure place. This means you can easily stay informed about your child' s progress and important school updates.

Getting started
You will receive login details and setup instructions separately. Once your account has been activated, you will be able to access the platform via your computer, tablet, or smartphone.
Please ensure your login details are kept secure and not shared with others.

Need support?
If you experience any difficulties accessing iSAMS or need help using the platform, please contact the school office or I T support team, who will be happy to assist.

As with any new system, there may be some initial teething problems while we familiarise ourselves with the platform and continue to refine our processes. We kindly ask for your patience and understanding during this transition period. Our team is committed to making your experience as smooth as possible, and we appreciate your support as we implement this exciting new system. We are confident that iSAMS will provide a more streamlined and effective way for us to communicate with families and manage important school information.



Quick guide

Your child's academic or pastoral support, homework etc.	→	Class teacher or Form Tutor
Reporting absence or providing specific information about my child	→	Class teacher or Form Tutor
Weekly updates on activities, guidance and much more	→	Teachers (iSAMS or Email)
Purchasing uniform	→	School email
The bus service or accounts information	→	Front office
Medical information or support	→	The School Nurse
Feedback, concerns, suggestions	→	Head of Section
Urgent or serious concern regarding safeguarding, child welfare or safety	→	Designated Safeguarding Lead
Serious concern or advice	→	Head of School

Pastoral care

Each phase of school has a designated team who oversees the pastoral care, support, and guidance for children.

Your first point of contact should be your child’ s form tutor or class teacher. They will strive to build a nurturing relationship, supporting and overseeing the academic progress of your child while ensuring strong pastoral foundations underpin their success.



House and rewards

The House system is a distinctly British feature of the school that encourages collegiality and healthy competition amongst students.

Our developing House system is used for:

Collaboration, through cross section and phase competitions;

Student leadership, and student voice, as students are given the opportunity to shape our school community through our House Council;

Charity work, our students learn to contribute to a fair and just world;

and for **rewards and recognition,** where students are celebrated for their effort, kindness, sporting endeavors or academic success. Helping students discover what success means to them.



Each House has a colour, an emblem, an attribute and a charity and these were designed by the students.

It is important for students to have the opportunity to play an active role and contribute to a community within their school, which allows them to develop skills and talents and acknowledges their successes in a wide range of ways.

We encourage students to play an active role in the success of their House. Individual and team efforts are rewarded, and students are expected to contribute to Inter-house competitions throughout the year.

Rewards and recognition

At Nobel Algarve Almancil we reward students 'endeavours and achievements creating a feeling of pride and achievement and this is done in several ways.

House points are given in class when students achieve something exceptional make considerable effort, use initiative, or master a skill.

This year we have brought in **achievement postcards** which are given out when a student has done something the school is proud of.

Achievement and attainment awards are given termly in assemblies.

The House cup is given each half term to the winning House and the **school trophy** is awarded to the winning House at the end of the academic year.



Uniform and equipment

Students at Nobel Algarve British International School Almancil are expected to wear the uniform to the school on all occasions. The school uniform is an important part of our collective identity and sense of community. It is important that students always present themselves as ambassadors of the school including when they are in public places or travelling to and from the school.

The senior leaders at the school expect all students to adhere to the Uniform Policy.

All students are expected to wear the uniform detailed below. This uniform will be checked daily. Parents will be informed if the uniform code is breached, and secondary students are not permitted into lessons until they are correctly dressed in full school uniform. A member of staff will take students to the school shop to purchase correct uniform and contact the parent or carer of any student who does not adhere to the policy.

Aims:

- To encourage self-respect and pride in the school.
- To promote a professional approach to learning.
- To help promote the academic ethos of the school as a well-ordered environment in which to learn.
- To ensure that students are well presented and smart.

This will be achieved by:

- Parents and carers fully aware of the uniform requirements.
- Documentation for all new students to clearly state how the uniform can be obtained.



Primary uniform

Item	Description
Hoodie	Navy school hooded top. No other jumpers, hoodies, sweatshirts, or waistcoats will be permitted.
Polo shirt	White polo shirt with school emblem.
Skirt	Blue tartan school skirt
Trousers	Plain grey trousers or shorts with school logo.








PE kit

Please note, PE kit is worn on the days when the children have PE when they can remain in their kit all day.

Item	Description
Bottom	Blue school shorts or school tracksuit bottoms.
Top	White sports PE top with school emblem.






Secondary uniform

New Uniform

Item	Description
Hoodie	Navy school hooded top. No other jumpers, hoodies, sweatshirts, or waistcoats will be permitted.
Polo shirt	White polo shirt with school emblem.*
Skirt	Blue Tartan school pleated skirt.
Trousers	Plain grey trousers or shorts with school logo.

*Students in 6th Form have an option to purchase an additional school shirt.

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on acceptability. Students not adhering to the uniform policy will either be taken to the school shop to purchase items or sent home to change.

Roles and Responsibilities:	
Students will:	· Wear the required uniform and be properly equipped at all times
All staff will	· Monitor students ensuring rules are being observed · Check compliance every morning as students are registered · Invoke appropriate rewards/sanctions consistently in every cas
Tutors will	· Contact parent/carers to resolve any recurring problems · Inform Head of Section of those requiring an escalated sanction
Leaders	· Support tutors in their role · Collate merits for prizes
Parents/	· Support the school uniform policy · Ensure that their child complies fully with the uniform rules

Further guidance:	
Jewellery, hair and make-up	· Only discreet jewellery is to be worn. · A simple stud in either ear or the nose is allowed, but no other piercings are permitted. No hooped earrings or piercings should be worn. · Hair must be a natural colour and tidy. In primary it should be tied back.
PE footwear	· Trainers with a solid sole and support should be worn.
Socks	· Socks must be worn below the knees.
Belongings	· Substantial amounts of money and expensive personal effects must not be brought to the school. Nobel Algarve Almancil will not accept liability for any claim arising from theft, accidental loss or damage to personal effects, money, belongings, or clothing whilst on the school premises.
Phones	· Phones are not allowed in school under any circumstances. If a student needs to contact home, then they may call from the school office.

Religious clothing:	· Hijabs must be plain black or blue. · Beards should be well groomed. · A small cross may be worn under school uniform.

Monitoring, evaluation, and review

The SLT will review this policy at least every two years and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Breaches of this policy

Students in breach of this policy will be sanctioned appropriately which, in cases of non-compliance with reasonable demands, could lead to disciplinary procedures towards the student and even exclusion.

How to order

Please send an e-mail to shop.almancil@nobelalgarve.com to schedule a time to visit the school shop.

Equipment and reader list

There are no expectations for parents to purchase books. Books will be purchased by the school and will be used as needed in each of the classes. If a student loses a book, they will be responsible for replacing it. Students in Years 10 will be required to purchase class textbooks from the school. Students entering the IB Diploma in Year 12 will be required to pay for the subscription of Kognity online texts (the school will register students for this)

All students (from Year 1 upwards) should come prepared to school with the following basic equipment:

Equipment Required
Pencil case (with their name written clearly)
Ruler
Pencil(s)
Eraser/rubber
Pen(s)
Colour pencils
Highlighter
Glue stick

We would encourage you to write their initials on each piece of equipment.



Students in Years 10 and 11 will be required to bring in a learning device (ideally a laptop). The specifications can be found in the IT User Policy. Students will be expected to come to all of their classes with their device, unless instructed to do otherwise. When not needed, we recommend that the devices are left in their lockers.

To access the complete **It User Policy**, please click here:

Outdoor learning

Roald Dahl once said, “ The more risks you allow children to take, the better they learn to take care of themselves.”

At Nobel Algarve Almancil we believe we can challenge ourselves, take risks and seek to discover more than we know; this is facilitated through the range of outdoor learning experiences we offer, both as part of the curriculum.

The benefits of high-quality outdoor learning experiences quickly become apparent when the children are given the opportunity to take part in risk-assessed, but not risk-free activities.

The Duke of Edinburgh’ s International Award is offered in Bronze and Silver and is designed to provide a balanced programme of personal development and challenge.

Through developing transferable skills, increasing their fitness levels, cultivating a sense of adventure and volunteering in their community, the Award helps young people to find their purpose, passion, and place in the world.

Read more about **The Journey**, here.

In the primary phase, **Forest School** is part of the curriculum.

When children visit Forest School, they see the world around them, look up and appreciate a blue sky or a dark cloud. We live in a beautiful part of the world, and we make the most of all that has to offer. Children understand that learning occurs everywhere, inside and outside, and they learn to seize opportunities, be positive and seek out new challenges.



School drop-off and pick-up points

Drop-off

In the morning, parents have a number of options when dropping off students:

1. Pull up in the drop off zone outside of the school, stop, let your child get out of the car and enter the school, and you drive off.
2. Park your car (not in the drop off zone), come to the gate, and see your child off.
3. Park your car, come into the main court area outside of the front doors and see your child off.
4. Parents of students in Nursery and Reception will be able to enter and wait in the playground area until 9am when the students will be taken to their classrooms by the class teacher.

Pick-up

Students will be dismissed at different points.

1. Parents of Nursery and Reception will pick up their ward from the reception playground.
2. Students in Years 1, 2 & 3 will be brought to the front gate area. Parents can meet their children there to be dismissed.
3. Students in Years 4 to 6 will be dismissed at the double gate (to the right of the security gate as you face the school building).
4. Secondary students will be dismissed at the side gate, near the secondary canteen.
   Older siblings will be picked up at the same point as their younger siblings.



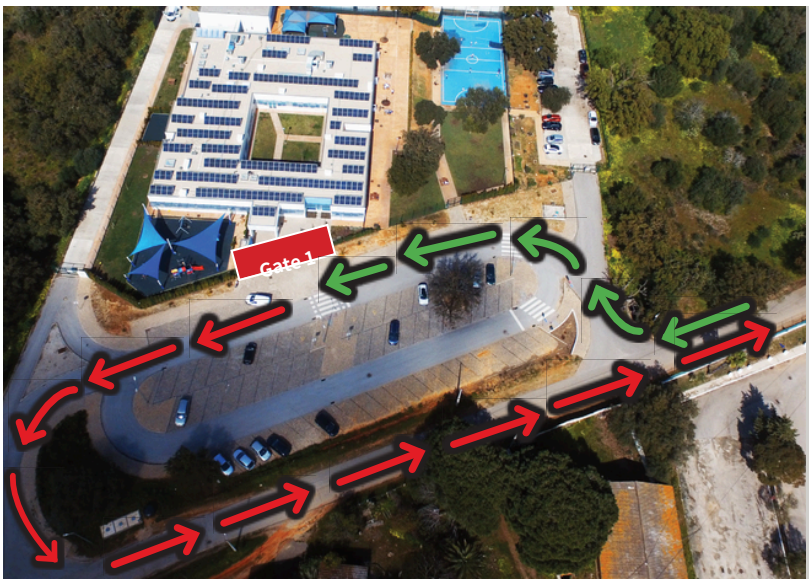
School map overview



Gate 1: Pick up for Years 1 - 3
Gate 2: Drop off and pick up for Nursery and Reception
Gate 3: Drop off for Years 1 - 6
Gate 4: Pick up for Years 4 - 6
Gate 5: Drop off Pick up for Secondary

Road
One way Route

Pre-School and Primary school | Drop-off



Drop-off and pick-up Pre-school and Primary students

Access
Drop-off point

Exit

Secondary school | Drop-off



Drop-off and pick-up Secondary students

One way route

Access drop-off point and pick-up point



School calendar 2026/2027

The full calendar for the upcoming academic here, can be found here:

Calendar and sponsorship of events

We have updated the events calendar, identifying those events we shall celebrate as a school. We have been working and discussing this with the Parents' club, and we would like to ensure that every event is clearly budgeted for well in advance. To create a whole school budget for this, parents will be asked to make a recommended "donation" of 25 euros per student specifically for events (though parents are free to contribute more or less). The school will then match the total received. This will form our events budget (for the Christmas show, Halloween, etc.).

We will continue to explore opportunities for sponsorship of events, as a means of raising more funds, and we will also be working with the Parents club to plan various social and fund-raising events for future activities throughout the year. These are the events calendared for 2026/27:

- Halloween
- Christmas show
- Easter/Spring event
- Children's day
- School play
- STEAM fair
- International day
- Portugal day
- Year 13 graduation
- Y6 graduation
- Last day of school



Food policies

No nut policy

We are trying to be a nut free school. Please be mindful of this when sending in food with your child. We do have a number of students with severe nut allergies, and we want to ensure the safety of all of our students.

Healthy eating options

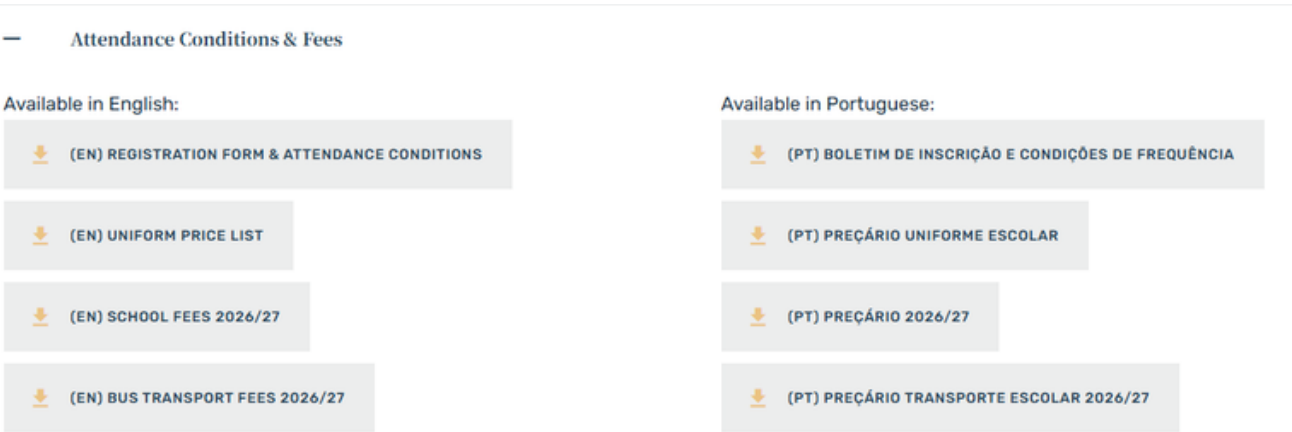
We would like to promote a healthy eating culture at school and we therefore encourage parents to provide a healthy lunch for their children, avoid junk food. While there are plenty of options out there.
Here is a link to some possible variations that may help parents.

School catering providers

The school offers an excellent well balanced and healthy catering service for all students. To order this service, please contact the Front Office.

Institutional documents

On our website there are **different types of institutional documents available for consultation** throughout the year (Registration Documents & Conditions, School Policies, Curriculum, School Bus Information (routes, schedules, and stops will be updated in august) and more).



Parents club

There is a strong Parents club at the school who work closely with the Head of School. Each class has a representative who sits on the club. If you are interested on being a member, please contact: **parentsclub.almancil@nobelalgarve.com.**

The events committee plans numerous school events hosted throughout the year, and also works on promoting different activities for parents:

- **Social & community events (coffee morning, social padel games)**
- **Educational & informative events (seminars, webinars, educational masterclasses)**
- **Seasonal & holiday celebrations**
- **Sports clubs (paddle, table tennis, book)**

If you would like to volunteer for the events committee, or even suggest another activity or event, please contact the Parents club.



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Shaping the world

a proud member of
globeducate