



Admissions & Testing

Information for Applicants

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Anglophone Section is a fee-paying International Section hosted by the *Cité Scolaire Internationale* (CSI) Lyon, a French public (state) school which functions accordingly. Anglophone Section students study within the framework of the French educational system. Their Anglophone Section classes represent up to 20% of their class time: the remaining 80% is taught by French teachers and covers the subjects of the French national curriculum.

The dual-language nature of the curriculum and the associated exam programme in secondary is a challenging educational choice, requiring real and sustained commitment to both the Anglophone Section and the French education system. To succeed, students need to be both linguistically and academically able, highly motivated and fully engaged in both curriculums. Parents are strongly encouraged to actively support both their children and the Anglophone Section within the CSI Lyon.

Each year, applications far exceed the places available and the CSI Lyon is unable to accept all the candidates that apply. Given this, and the demands outlined above, admission to the Anglophone Section is selective and all applicants are tested as part of the application process. This process is overseen by the CSI Lyon administration working closely with the Anglophone Section.

Families applying to the Anglophone Section need to be aware that the final decision regarding applications rests with the administration of CSI Lyon and not with the Anglophone Section. The Anglophone Section organises the language tests, and reports back to the CSI Lyon administration, but the Anglophone Section cannot guarantee the outcome of any application.

2. LANGUAGE TESTS & OTHER ASSESSMENTS

As part of the process of applying to the CSI Lyon, candidates will be tested to assess their level of English, French and Mathematics. More information about these tests is provided below.

Applicants should be aware that the CSI Lyon administration will take the results of *all* these tests into account when considering an application. While the candidate's ability to speak, read, write and understand English is obviously very important, the results of any French and Mathematics tests are also a key element of the overall assessment.

English language level

It is important to note that the Anglophone Section does not teach English, the Section teaches *in* English. Children applying to join the Section will be expected to have age-appropriate, native-level English language skills. Language skills will be tested during the admissions process.

French language level

The *mission* of the CSI Lyon is to provide instruction for students who want to follow an international programme within the French education system. Non-French speaking students are expected to be able to integrate into their French classes as soon as possible after arrival at the school. The French teachers will decide when a student no longer needs to attend French language/support classes.

The CSI Lyon provides “French as a second language” classes (FLE/FLS) for students with little or no French. Please note that:

- In primary, pupils will be offered FLS classes (*Français Langue Secondaire*).
- In *collège* (6ème to 3ème) and 2nde students will be offered FLS or FLE (*Français Langue Etrangère*) classes.
- Students joining the school in 2nde (year 12 / grade 11) whose French is not good enough to allow them to participate fully in their French classes will **not** be allowed to join their Anglophone Section classes in the first instance. They will focus solely on their French classes until such time as the CSI Lyon administration authorises them to join their Anglophone Section classes. This may not be until a full year after admission to the school. It is also possible that students will be required to repeat their 2nde year (this time within the Anglophone Section) rather than proceed directly to 1ère.
- Please note that applications to 1ère (year 13 / grade 12) from non-French speakers will not be accepted.

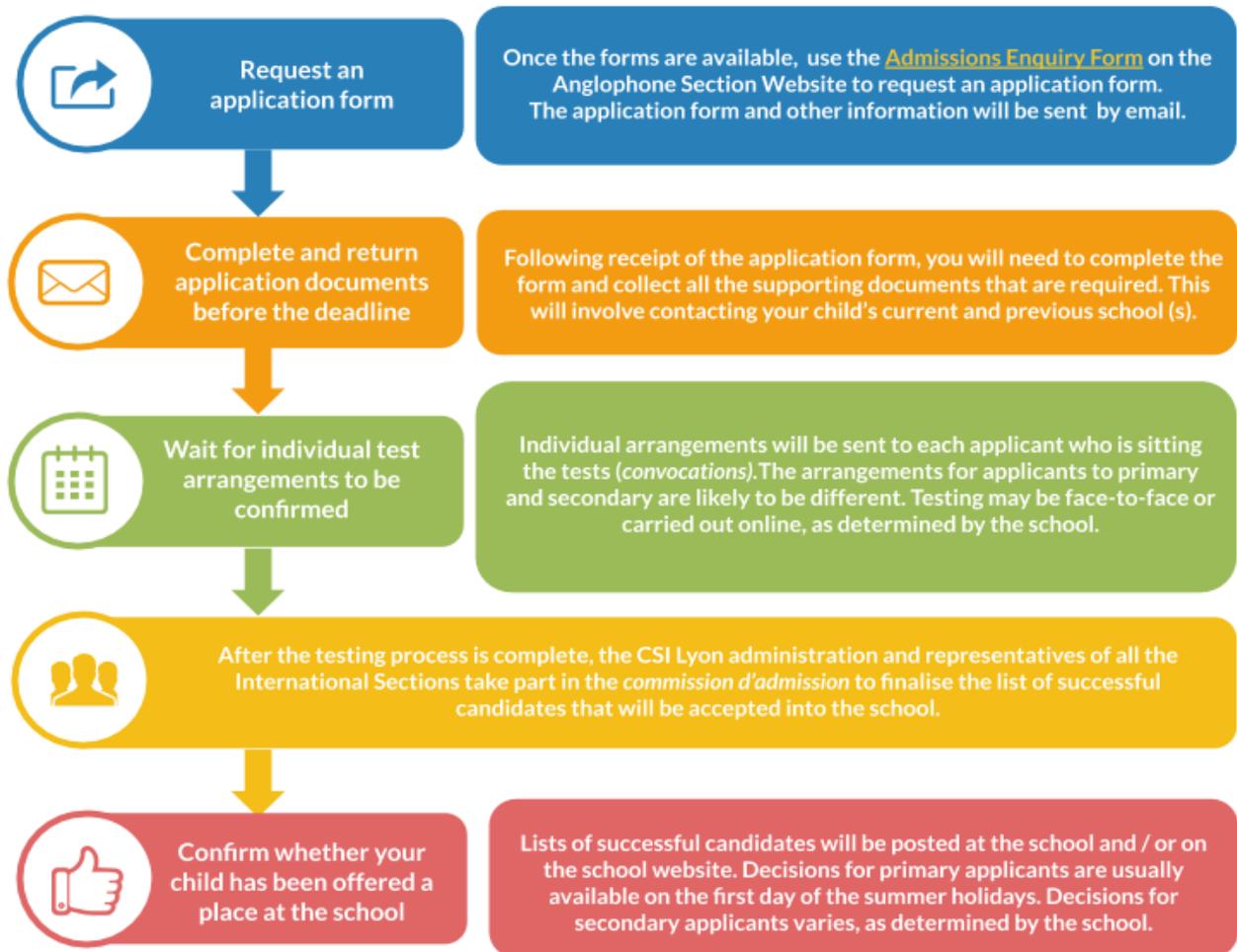
3. OVERVIEW OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The application, testing and admissions process is overseen by the CSI Lyon administration, working closely with the Anglophone Section. Application forms can be obtained from the school and completed applications (*dossiers d'inscription*) are to be returned directly to the CSI Lyon administration before the deadline. All applications are reviewed as quickly as possible by the CSI Lyon administration and the Anglophone Section, but it can take some time after submitting your application before testing dates and arrangements are confirmed.

To find out more about the application process, use the [Admissions Enquiry Form](#) on the Anglophone Section website or contact the Anglophone Section administration team on admin@csianglo.org. All deadlines and other important information will be made available on the Anglophone Section website as it becomes available. Information about the application process will also be made available on the school website www.csilyon.fr at the appropriate time.

Please note that the CSI Lyon administration will not necessarily confirm receipt of application dossiers.

The specifics of the application process (deadline for return of applications, supporting documents required, arrangements for testing, decision-making process, publication of final results etc) will change each year. The [How to Apply](#) page on the Anglophone Section website will be kept up to date with current information. A basic outline of the process is given below, for information only.



4. OVERVIEW OF THE TESTING PROCESS

The language skills of all applicants will be assessed as part of the application process. The purpose of assessing candidates is to evaluate their ability to speak, listen, read and write in English at an age-appropriate, native English-speaker level, and their potential to maintain and develop these skills whilst being educated in a primarily francophone environment.

Tests may be carried out in person, at the CSI Lyon or they may be held online. The school will determine the arrangements that are put in place for individual candidates applying to different levels.

All tests in the Anglophone Section are carried out by our own teaching staff.

Grade equivalencies for French, American and English school years are provided in an Appendix at the end of this document.

TESTING FOR PRIMARY APPLICANTS

Children will sit tests in English, French and Mathematics. While the English tests are organised and carried out by the Anglophone Section, the French and Mathematics tests will be organised by the CSI Lyon administration.

Anglophone Section primary tests: assessing spoken and written English

The tests are designed to assess the children's level of spoken and written English. Four key language skills are tested (Speaking & Listening, Reading, Writing and Organisation).

The complexity of the tests increases with the age of the child, as shown in the table below:

| | CP | CE1 | CE2 | CM1 | CM2 |
|---------------------------------|--|-----|--|-----|-----|
| Speaking & Listening | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Reading | | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Writing | | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Organisation | 2 teachers with a group of 4 children. | | 2 teachers for a group of up to 12 children. Children tested individually for speaking and listening. | | |

| CP (Year 2, 1st Grade) | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Children must: | Be able to talk confidently and fluently and listen well |
| | Have experience of stories, handling books and recognising rhyme |
| Activities in the test: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk inspired by manual activities • Discussing / predicting a story • Telling a story using pictures • Listening to a story and showing understanding |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Test Info | Children are tested in a group. The test lasts for 45-60 minutes. |
|-----------|---|

| CE1 (Year 3 , 2nd Grade) | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Children must: | Have confidence and fluency in speaking and listening; be reading in at least one language |
| Activities in the test: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral comprehension • Reading and discussing a story • Grammar in sentences • Letter sounds • Creating a short story |
| Test Info | Children are tested in a group. The test lasts for 45-60 minutes. |

| CE2 (Year 4, 3rd Grade) | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Children must: | Children must be confident and fluent when speaking and have good listening skills |
| Children should be: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading early chapter books • Writing short structured texts • Use some basic punctuation • Spelling words either by memory or using their phonic knowledge |
| Activities in the test: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing a reading test to assess their reading age • Oral comprehension of a text (explaining in own words, answering questions) • Listening comprehension (following instructions) • Grammar exercise (using punctuation correctly) • Writing a short story (clear, interesting, high-level vocabulary and punctuation) |
| Test Info | Children are tested individually for oral activities. The test lasts for 45-60 minutes. |

| CM1 (Year 5, 4th Grade) | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| CM2 (Year 6, 5th Grade) | |
| Children must: | Be confident and fluent when speaking and listening. |
| Children should be: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading chapter books • Writing longer, structured texts • Writing sentences that are mostly grammatically correct • Using punctuation more consistently • Using a range of high level vocabulary |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Activities in the test: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing a reading test to assess their reading age • Oral comprehension of a text (explaining text in own words/answering questions) • Grammar exercise (using punctuation correctly) • Reading comprehension (answering questions about a text) • Writing a story (showing ability to use high level vocabulary, different writing techniques, varied punctuation) |
| Test Info | Children are tested individually for oral activities. The test lasts for 45-60 minutes. |

French language tests for primary applicants

Unless already identified as non-French speaking, all applicants to Primary are expected to sit a French test.

Mathematics tests for primary applicants

All applicants in Primary are required to sit a Mathematics test, which is organised by the CSI Lyon administration.

- If the applicant is fluent in both English and French, the test will be in French.
- If the applicant does not speak French, the test will be in English.

TESTING FOR SECONDARY APPLICANTS

Candidates will sit English, French and Mathematics tests. While the English tests are organised and carried out by the Anglophone Section, the French and Mathematics tests will be organised by the CSI Lyon administration.

Anglophone Section secondary tests: assessing spoken and written English

The aim of the tests is to assess the candidates ability to read, write, speak and listen in English, to a native-speaker level.

All candidates can expect to sit an oral and a written test. The format of the test may change from year to year.

- **Oral test (reading, speaking & listening skills):** this is an informal discussion where the candidate has an opportunity to speak freely in English with the tester. A piece of text may be provided as a starting point for the discussion, which the candidate is expected to read, understand and discuss with the tester.
- **Written test (reading & writing skills):** the structure of this test varies depending on the year-level to which the candidate is applying.
 - At *collège* level, candidates will be expected to write a short piece of text. The aim is to assess the candidate's ability to communicate effectively and imaginatively; to write clearly, using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures and to use accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation.

- At *lycée* level, candidates will be asked to write a longer piece, and may be asked to interpret a specific text (which might be a poem, a script or an extract from a book).

The overall aim is to assess whether the candidate has an age-appropriate, native-level of spoken English, in terms of a wide and appropriate vocabulary, correct grammatical constructions and an ability to express themselves well. The complexity and depth of the text, and the expected responses from the candidate, will increase with the year-level being applied to.

French and mathematics tests for secondary applicants

All candidates who are non French-speakers and / or are applying from schools that are not affiliated (*sous contrat*¹) to the French *Education Nationale* will likely be required to sit a French language test and, where considered appropriate, a Mathematics test (in French). The CSI Lyon administration will confirm whether an individual student needs to sit one or both of these tests during the application process, and when these tests will be held.

The French language and Mathematics tests are both written exams, which last between 60 to 90 minutes (depending on whether the candidate is applying for Collège or Lycée).

5. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Parents should contact the school as soon as possible if an applicant is affected by a particular circumstance (illness, bereavement etc) that might have an impact on their ability to sit the test.

Please also tell us well in advance about any disabilities or other conditions that need to be taken into account during the testing process (hearing loss, visual or sight problems etc).

Please note that the structure and content of the tests presented here is subject to change under certain circumstances, such as the closure of the school for any reason. Candidates will be kept informed by the French administration and / or the Anglophone Section of all changes to the procedures presented in this document.

6. NOTIFICATION OF DECISIONS

It is important to note that the final decision as to whether an individual student is accepted into the CSI Lyon (and the Anglophone Section) rests with the CSI Lyon administration, and not with the Anglophone Section. After testing, the Anglophone Section makes recommendations to the CSI Lyon administration and decisions are then finalised at a *commission d'admissions*, taking into account candidates from all nine International Sections.

¹ In France, many private schools operate '*sous contrat*'. This means that their teachers are paid by the French government and that they follow the French national curriculum and schedule.

Following the *commissions*, the CSI Lyon administration will provide a list of the successful applicants on the school website and / or at the school itself (posted on the door / noticeboard of the primaire / Collège / Lycée). The information will also be made available on the Anglophone Section website.

7. SIBLINGS

Unfortunately, demand for places in the Anglophone Section is such that we are not able to prioritise siblings in the selection process. Each child will be assessed on his / her own merits.

APPENDIX

Grade equivalencies for French, American and English school years

Year groups in France are made up according to the child's year of birth running from January to December, whereas the school year runs from September to June each year.

Grade equivalencies in primary

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Age (approx) | 6-7 | 7-8 | 8-9 | 9-10 | 10-11 |
| French | CP | CE1 | CE2 | CM1 | CM2 |
| English | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
| American | Grade 1 | Grade 2 | Grade 3 | Grade 4 | Grade 5 |

Grade equivalencies in secondary

Secondary schooling in France is organised into two distinct phases: collège and lycée.

| | <i>Collège</i> | | | | <i>Lycée</i> | | |
|--------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Age (approx) | 11-12 | 12-13 | 13-14 | 14-15 | 15-16 | 16-17 | 17-18 |
| French | 6ème | 5ème | 4ème | 3ème | 2nd | 1ère | Terminale |
| English | Year 7 | Year 8 | Year 9 | Year 10 | Year 11 | Year 12 | Year 13 |
| American | Grade 6 | Grade 7 | Grade 8 | Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grade 11 | Grade 12 |