

Being Together  
Living Together  
Growing Together



Lycée Français Saint Benoît  
ISTANBUL



## PRESENTATION OF LYCEE SAINT BENOÎT IN ISTANBUL

French has been being taught at Saint Benoît High School since September 1583, but the first traces of this education given to students date back as far as 1362. The first buildings were used by the Benedictines followed by the Jesuits and further taken over by the Congregation of the Lazarists by the royal decree of Louis XIV. In 1880 the school complex became the property of the Embassy of France. The Reunion of the Middle School for girls with Saint Benoît for boys was realized in 1987. Thus the school had 1600 students. It is the current Saint Benoît that actively follows this educational and pedagogical mission in the service of Turkey and France respecting the precious values of their founders and adapting them to the needs of the modern time.

Since 1988 the Lazarists have left the management of Saint Benoît high school to the secular.

## THE LABEL FRANCE EDUCATION, LABEL OF EXCELLENCE AWARDED TO LYCEE SAINT BENOÎT

This label is awarded to the most successful French high schools in the world. It recognizes the school's exceptional character concerning its excellence of teaching of the French language and culture. This label is given by the French state that describes it as follows :

*«The Label "FrancEducation" is granted to those educational establishments abroad that within the frame of their national education help promoting the French language and culture. It recognizes and increases the value of establishments that offer to their students an education enhanced by the French language and allow them to work in the French language in several subjects.»*

The label has therefore principally the duty to promote a bilingual francophone education of excellence. This quality brand is given by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after obtaining the opinion of a ministerial advisory committee. The latter consists of the representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of National Education, AEFÉ (Agency for French Teaching Abroad) and the French Secular Mission.

## INTERDISCIPLINARY WORK

One of the greatest challenges we have to face is the teaching of non linguistic subjects in French: Maths, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, IT. We work on the reinforcement of scientific notions in French and associate sciences (DNL) and French in projects (FLE).

At Saint Benoît this training is especially provided by the development and implementation of interdisciplinary projects. Notably, in cooperation with each other the teachers establish didactic bridges between the subjects in order to create learning and teaching methodology situations and using the communicative and the theoretical approach.



## THE STUDENTS – EQUIVALENCE OF THE FRENCH BACCALAUREATE

At present, more than 900 students are enrolled and 3% of them get a scholarship.

After Middle School, students are admitted to Saint Benoît having passed an entrance exam of high selection which is prepared by the Ministry of Education.

Only 10% of the students who gain a high score at this exam can claim to enroll. These selected students will follow a structural education during 5 years.

The first year which is called the «Prep Class» is essentially dedicated to the teaching of the basic foundations of the French language. It is a year of intensive French (90% of the training is in the French language).

The course of education lasts 4 years of high school. During their studies at Saint Benoît the students receive 50% of their studies in the French language and they tackle slowly literature by means of the FLE (French as a foreign language) method. The teaching of sciences (DNL) is done in French : Mathematics, IT, Physics, Chemistry and Biology. The teaching of the English language is obligatory. Numerous exchange programs are organized.

After the 3rd year of their course of education the students make a choice between different branches of education such as the natural sciences section, the literary section together with an intensive mathematical education or the social studies section.

Saint Benoît is an institution that is equipped with a framework of first class education. Its standards match with those of French schools completely responding to the requirements of the Turkish law and the National Ministry of Education. The school provides a high school diploma that is equivalent to the French Baccalaureate. This academic equivalence was registered in the Official Bulletin of the French National Education in march 1963 ; if our students wish to enroll at a French university or at other universities within the European Union it allows them to skip language exams. Our school doesn't need to deliver the National Baccalaureate.

A great number of our students choose to study at universities in France, the United States, Canada and Britain... More than 50 % enroll in prestigious Turkish universities.



## THE TEACHERS - THE ASSESSMENT

The teaching staff consists of about 100 teachers of which 60 % are French speakers.

The scoring is done out of 100.

<b>POINTS</b>	0 - 49,99	50 - 59,99	60 - 69,99	70 - 84,99	85 - 100
<b>RESULTS</b>	FAILING	PASSING	AVERAGE	GOOD	VERY GOOD

- The arithmetic average of the two terms must be 50 out of 100.
- The student must have reached this average in every single subject. If the student has less than 50/100 in the first term he needs 70/100 in the second term.
- The student can pass to the higher grade with a maximum of 3 debts of the current year and 3 debts of the previous year making a total of 6 debts.



## CERTIFICATIONS

Saint Benoît French High School has placed great emphasis on the French and the English language certification as well.

From Prep Class onwards and all through the course of education at school, the objectives set by the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) were taken into account for the elaboration of the educational progress of the French language teaching.

With the collaboration of the French Institute in Istanbul the students have the chance to pass the D.E.L.F., at levels A2 to C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference with the aim to allow a maximum of them to seek out higher education in France.

The school's policy for the English language is also developed :

- IELTS for students of advanced level which needs a specific preparation beyond the curriculum
- TOEFL which is integrated in the English lessons of the graduating level, but students can also study one period a week within the framework of extracurricular clubs designed for this purpose
- Cambridge ESOL (levels B2, C1 and C2) for students of advanced level whose objectives are integrated in the course of English lessons in the first three years.

The school has been center of exam for the Cambridge ESOL exams since 2006.





## A VISION AND MISSION DEFINED IN 8 PRINCIPLES

Saint Benoît French High School associates each of its educational principles with the realization of a precise and specific project realized by the teaching team together with the students. This is an interactive "**Project based training**" in which the student is in the "heart of the project".

From their enrollment to preparatory class onwards the students participate actively in each of the school's projects. Thus they develop knowing (knowledge), know-how (methodology) and personal skills (behavior). We steer determinedly towards an education that pays attention to every single student that is autonomous and individualized.



### 1- Working hand in hand for the personal development

Humanism, universality and respect are fundamental values for the personal fulfillment of each of our students and they are reflected all across various social activities.

An education that is focused on everyone and is individualized and personalized due to the guidance of a vice principal, of a guidance counselor, of a class tutor and the subject teachers specific to the level.

The teaching staff of the school aims at training their students turning them into responsible citizens who can express themselves, analyze and have self-confidence.





## 2 - From tradition to modern ways – Saint Benoît, an IT leader

Being proud of its history Saint Benoît High School is also a pioneering school of digital practices due to its educational project called "digital satchel". This new learning tool allows the learners to follow a more interactive, more efficient training that is more orientated towards the education of the future.

The CDDR (Committee of digital development and research) supported by 30 teachers responsible for digital work sets up the digital strategy and policy of the school. The teachers are also in charge of the continuous formation of their colleagues and leader students formed to help the other students and if necessary the teachers as well. Thus the school organizes an International Digital Spring which has already hosted 18 different countries since its creation, more than 500 teachers of various schools, institutes and universities...



## 3- Educational policy of the valorization of scientific training

Every year the students of grade 12 (the final year) receive admission to the most prestigious universities in France and the United States or other countries in the world thanks to the implementation of the valorization of scientific education.

This promising future is offered to them thanks to the efficient and balanced training that the students receive along their training path at Saint Benoît and by the activities like : the Francophone Festival, the Science Festival and the Maths Week, participation in numerous scientific contests, Robotics and Makers Club. Our school organizes every year a robotics contest in partnership with a university and Makers Fair. The scientific partnership with the universities and a hospital are very productive.



## 4- The multilingual education – the Label FrancEducation

The Label FrancEducation was given to Saint Benoît in 2013 which is a proof to the exceptional character of the excellence of teaching of the French language and culture.

This label certifies the quality of the educational institution, of the teaching staff and the education given. Thus the label has the function to promote the excellent education of French as a second foreign language. This quality brand is presented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, after a consultation of an interdepartmental commission. The latter consists of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of National Education, the Agency for the French Education Abroad and the French Laic Mission.

The school offers also numerous international exchange programs, language trips and participation MUN conferences in Turkey and abroad.

Exchange programs are essential for an establishment whose objective is the exposure to the world and whose mission is to train young people who wish to continue their education abroad.

■ Ongoing exchange programs of which some have been continuing more than 10 years with :

- St. Paul High School in Vannes, France
- Lewiston - Porter High School in Niagara, USA
- Digital exchange programs with China, Finland, Romania, France...

The importance of the English language in the business world in the 21st century as well as in social relationships is evident. That's why, also the English language is one of our educational priorities. Thus, there is also a policy of the development of the English language at Saint Benoit High School.

■ Several educational language trips abroad with specific purposes are conducted :

- Language trip to Saint John University in Queens in New York, USA
- Language trip to London, UK
- Educational and sport trip to the alps in France
- Educational trip to Paris, France

■ language and civic activities, around 40 clubs that take place weekly :

Varied and very active clubs that bring forward the talents of each of our students who are free to choose any of them. These clubs contribute to the realization of a project of human education and aim at the development of conscious and responsible adults who are able to fit into the 21st century. Thus, the clubs are one of the possibilities that are made available to students :

- to gain personal and collective independence
- to grow in the awareness of the responsibility towards the world and the people around them.
- to give them the opportunity to play an active role in their lives and their country

These clubs offer a great variety.

They participate in the construction of the students' personal and professional future and train young people to become responsible individuals.







### 5 - The guarantee of a professional future - Project 'Orientation University'

The project "Orientation University" (Career Guidance) set up by the Guidance Department of Saint Benoit High School is designed for all levels, because the future of our students is essential!

This specific project of the school called "Orientation University" consists of three steps stretching over 5 years :

A	Self-Awareness
B	Choice of profession and specialization
C	Choice of University

■ It has 3 principal objectives :

- to orientate cleverly after high school
- choosing a professional track adapted to one's proper desires with especially the possibility of doing an internship in a company during 11th grade
- to construct a professional path and to go along the track of achievement.

From high school to university, from university to a profession!

One of our traditions is to prepare our students for professional life.





### 6- Spaces dedicated to sports and arts

Four centuries of history... Saint Benoit French High school is one of the oldest and most prestigious educational establishments in Turkey. It is precursor and innovator in the educational domain. It aims at upgrading our students' social life due to multiple activities that are offered to them. We accompany the student in order to support his personal fulfillment. Saint Benoit High School inspires the creativity of the expression of all talents throughout artistic, sport and cultural practices.

The students and the teachers can profit from specific facilities :

- A Gallery - "La Galerie" - dedicated to art is open to all kinds of expositions of the students and also hosts the works of great names of the artistic world.
- A professional theater hall "Silüet" with a capacity of 400 people presents regularly various plays of great quality.
- Various halls for workshops within the frame of a conference
- A modern gym
- 4 schoolyards that are open to all kinds of activities
- A sound studio for professional recordings
- An orchestra room
- A welcoming and modern médiathèque
- A fencing hall, and many more !



### 7- A development adapted to new technologies

A very efficient digital working environment.

A teaching staff trained for dynamic and interactive teaching welcomes the students and offers new teaching methods.

Every student and teacher has access to an exceptional digital working environment. All classrooms are equipped with a tactile monitor and the students work with computers in class. Our school is a leader of a pertinent digital training.

The intelligent and efficient use of IT is another of our priorities. The students use tablets as a learning device. Many of the classrooms are equipped with Vestel monitors and the teachers are trained in the usage of IT due to the program set by the Community of Digital Development and Research (CDDR).

All other classrooms are equipped with computers, video projectors and smart boards. The teaching staff develops a system of remediation on the Moodle Platform. There is a virtual teacher's room on this very same platform. All digital devices are used with pertinence for an education of highest quality worthy of the 21st century.





## 8- A school sensitive to the environment and the individual: the Environmentally Friendly Project

Saint Benoit High School is abundant with green areas ! Active Environmentally friendly committees! The homely and warm atmosphere of the school provides everyone with a feeling of well - being and relaxation. The students arrange their green spaces and their environment, learn the sense of responsibility, with the environmentally friendly project !

5 environmentally friendly committees have been formed :

- Hygiene and quality of life
- Social environment and rules of conduct
- Habitat and rules of conduct : buildings and equipment
- Habitat and rules of conduct : environment and waste
- Mutual assistance and support

Saint Benoit High School is a member of TURÇEV, Türkiye Çevre Eğitim Vakfı.

The works and sensitive approaches of our students have been recognized and our school is a member of the foundation FEE, the foundation for Environmental Education, representing Turkey on the European scale since march 2015. Our school participates in international projects with the Globe Reporter Association, projects organized on environmental issues with the participation of 195 countries.

## PRIVILEGED MEANS FOR THE STUDENTS : THE CLUBS

The clubs are one of the tools made available to our students : to win personal and collective independence, to grow in the awareness responsible of the world and people surrounding them, to give them the opportunity to play an active role in their lives and their country :

- Clubs designed for the valorization of scientific education : robotics, maker-faire, science club, Young Reporters of the Environment
- Artistic and sports clubs : French and Turkish Drama club, script writing, music, art, photography, sports, especially fencing, handicraft
- Clubs for students who are interested in international relations: MUN, EYP
- Social Welfare Clubs : aiding underprivileged schools, learning sign language in solidarity with the hearing impaired, common project of mutual help between establishments for refugees.





## PARTNERSHIPS

A Policy of Partnerships pursues and develops to make the name of Saint Benoit shine by associating the school with the universities, associations and others officially recognized but also to open the school to the outer world, Istanbul and Turkey, all to train our students for professional life and university.

### ■ Partnerships on projects

- Bahçeşehir University : Sciences, Science Festival and Robotics Contest
- Istanbul University : Literature, realization of an exposition on "The Little Prince" in may 2017
- Istanbul Technical University : Sciences, on Physics and Chemistry
- Istanbul Kültür University : Sciences, experiments in their labs
- St. Georges Hospital : Educational and scientific project and internships

### ■ Linguistic Partnerships

- St. John University (New York) : School trip
- Oxford House College (London) : School trip
- St. Paul St. Georges Campus (Vannes) : Exchange program
- Lewiston-Porter High School (Niagara) : Exchange program
- INSA (National Institute of Applied Sciences) : Presentation of the INSA in Rouen to our science students

### ■ Environmentally friendly partnerships

- TÜRÇEV : Association of environmental education in Turkey whose mission is to promote the sustainable development through environmental education programmes for young people
- Young Reporters for the Environment : The Young Reporters for the Environment point at the environmental problems from a journalist's point of view
- Globe Reporters : a project that creates gateways between different worlds : the French language, cultural

### ■ Welfare Partnerships

- GETEM is, on the premises of Bosphorus University, a technological lab and virtual library. GETEM allows a coordination between libraries, the institutions and civil society organizations. Its mission is to make sound recordings of books for the visually impaired.

### ■ Digital Partnerships

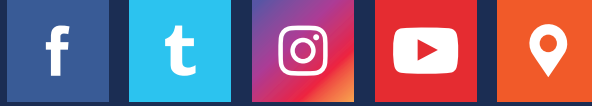
- Microsoft.
- Vestel (Partner of the Digital Spring)

### ■ Cultural Partnerships

- French Institute for Anatolian Studies
- French Institute in Turkey (Partner of the Digital Spring)



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