

Welcome to Cascais, student!

Our schools offer a welcoming environment and opportunities for you to learn, grow and achieve your goals. You can count on us to support you on this new journey.



Did you know that...

- The school will conduct a diagnostic test to assess your command of the Portuguese language?
- You may be accompanied by a mediator (adult/student)?
- There are several projects and activities in which you will be encouraged to take part?

Cascais School Calendar

The school calendar in Cascais is organised into two semesters:

- **1st semester:** September to January
- **2nd semester:** February to June

Breaks during the school year: mid-term meetings in the 1st semester, Christmas, 1st semester assessments, Carnival, mid-term meetings in the 2nd semester, Easter and 2nd semester assessments.

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School Calendar
2025/2026

Reference People

If you need any support at school, there are trusted adults you can ask for help:

- In the 1st cycle (primary level), you have a **Head Teacher**.
- In the 2nd and 3rd cycles and in Secondary Education, you have a **Class Director**, who has a specific schedule to support the class and to meet with the guardian responsible for your education.
- **Other adults:** language and cultural mediators, psychologists, and team members responsible for welcoming newly arrived foreign students to the schools.

Duties of Students

At school, all students have duties that contribute to the smooth running of the school and ensure an environment of respect, safety and learning for everyone.

Therefore, at school you should:

- Attend all lessons and arrive on time;
- Bring the necessary materials;
- Remain at school during your timetable;
- Participate in educational or training activities;
- Respect your classmates, teachers and staff;
- Take care of the school: keep spaces clean and tidy.

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Learn more about
your rights and duties

School Facilities

Classrooms: Where lessons with teachers and other activities take place.

Library: A place with books and computers where you can study, read and work on your assignments.

Canteen: A place where you can have lunch every day.

Snack Bar (in 2nd and 3rd cycle schools and in secondary schools): A place where you can buy drinks and snacks.

Common Room (in 2nd and 3rd cycle schools and in secondary schools): A space where students can chat and relax.

Gym: A place where Physical Education lessons and other activities take place.

Stationery Shop (in 2nd and 3rd cycle schools and in secondary schools): A space that sells school supplies.

Portuguese as a Foreign Second Language (PFL/PSL)

In Portugal, schools offer Portuguese as a **Foreign/Second Language (PFL/PSL)** lessons for students who are not proficient in Portuguese.

Translation Apps

Here you can find apps that help with translation and understanding the language:

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SayHi



Reading
Coach



Google
Translate



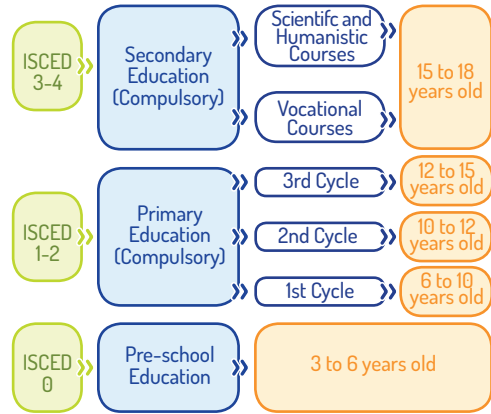
Microsoft
Translator

Welcome to Cascais, family!

Here your children and young people will find opportunities to learn, grow and achieve their goals



The Portuguese Education System



In Portugal, schooling is compulsory (from the age of 6 to 18), and all students have the right to free public education (including access to school textbooks).

Cascais Educational Network

Cascais has 11 school clusters, from pre-school to secondary education, plus one state-subsidised private school (with an association contract), distributed across the four parishes of the municipality. Your reference school cluster will, in principle, be the one nearest to your home (area of residence).



School Enrolment

The first step to attending public school in Portugal is to complete school enrolment between April and July, either online through the Enrolment Portal or at the office of the head school of the school cluster.

If you arrive outside the enrolment period, you must request equivalence from the school cluster in your area of residence and then proceed with the enrolment.

If you have any difficulties, or require further information, please contact the Department of Education of Cascais City Council: matriculas@cm-cascais.p

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Enrolment Portal



Enrolment Guide

Role of a Guardian

- A guardian is the adult responsible (in charge) for making all school-related decisions concerning the pupil until the age of 18.
- Together with the pupil, the guardian is also responsible for ensuring attendance (going to school every day) and punctuality (always arriving on time).
- The guardian participates in the child's or young person's school life and communicates with the school, attending meetings and being present when requested.

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Find out more about the duties of guardians

Portuguese Courses

In Portugal, foreign citizens can attend free **Portuguese as a Host Language (PLA)** courses in public schools, IEPF training centres, and Qualifica Centres.

The Municipality of Cascais also offers the free LOQUI Literacy Programme.

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Find out more about LOQUI

School Social Action - ASE

The School Social Action (ASE) is a measure aimed at low-income families that helps cover school expenses (meals, transport, purchase of school supplies and school field trips).

To benefit from ASE, you must provide proof of your family allowance bracket.

The cost of school lunches and snacks (pre-school and 1st cycle) for families depends on the bracket assigned.

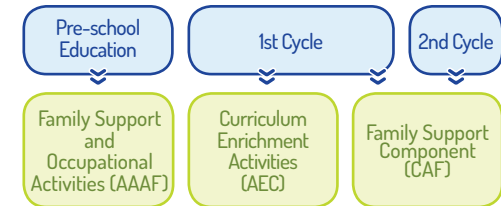
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Check the costs of school meals

Family Support Activities

The **Crescer a Tempo Inteiro (Growing Full-Time) Programme** in Cascais addresses the needs of families who require extended hours in kindergartens and schools for their children.



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Find out more about the Growing Full-Time Programme

Transports

Navegante Pass: Allows travel by train, bus, metro, and ferry throughout the Lisbon Metropolitan Area (AML) and is free up to the age of 23.

MobiCascais: Free MobiCascais buses are available for all residents, students, and workers in the municipality of Cascais.

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Find out more about MobiCascais

