



Part of the Dukes Education family.
Together we're extraordinary.



Educational Project

CJD International School

1. About us...

Founded in 1934, Colégio Júlio Dinis International School is one of the oldest private schools in the country and has grown with the aim of establishing itself as a centre for innovative and high-quality education.

The school's name honours one of the most important Portuguese writers of the 19th century, who was born and studied in Porto.

The CJD project was born from a dream and a shared passion for education among a group of teachers and educators. Over the years, the project has expanded, and today, Colégio Júlio Dinis International School is one of the most important and recognised educational institutions in northern Portugal.

We believe that education is a dynamic and holistic process, with a purpose far greater than merely assimilating content from different subjects and disciplines. For us, educating means making a significant contribution to the overall growth of our students, engaging in a process that helps shape individuals who are aware of their social role and place in an increasingly demanding and challenging world.

We are committed to valuing the learning process, effort, dedication, and personal growth of each student, promoting the development of skills that will be essential not only in the academic world but also in their daily lives.

At CJD, our goal is to shape competent, well-qualified, and happy individuals who can fulfil their personal dreams while contributing to collective projects.

The future is bright, and we are dedicated to providing our students with the very best that education has to offer.

2. Timeline

1934 | Foundation of Colégio Júlio Dinis (30th May): A girls' boarding and semi-boarding school established on Rua do Vigorosa.

1975 | Introduction of the first mixed-gender classes, operating exclusively as a day school.

2006 | Opening of the Nursery.

2008 | Mr. Marco Carvalho became the Principal of CJD.

2011 | Launch of Secondary Education.

2016 | Expansion of facilities to Rua de Silva Tapada.

2017 | Opening of Creche Feliz.

2023 | CJD joins the Dukes Education group.

Relocation to the CJD Campus.

Opening of the International School.

3. Our Mission, Vision and Values

At Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, we believe that education is the key to a promising future. Our mission is to provide a stimulating and inclusive learning environment where each student is encouraged to develop their individual strengths, equipping them with a solid foundation that prepares them for the future. While we promote academic excellence, we also value personal and social growth, fostering autonomous, adaptable, and open-minded individuals who are multicultural, fluent in foreign languages, and ready to embrace change - ultimately shaping responsible citizens who can integrate and evolve with modern society.

The core values of Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, combined with the promotion of soft skills - interpersonal and emotional competencies - create an integrated educational approach that prepares students for success both academically and socially.

1. Academic Excellence and Critical Thinking

At Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, we strive for academic excellence not only in the traditional sense but also by fostering essential soft skills such as critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. Through active learning methodologies, students are encouraged to question, analyse, and synthesise information, cultivating an analytical and creative mindset. These skills are fundamental for navigating an increasingly globalised and technologically advanced world.

2. Responsibility and Citizenship with Leadership and Empathy

Social responsibility and active citizenship go hand in hand with the development of leadership and empathy. By engaging in community projects and volunteering activities, students learn to lead with responsibility while developing an understanding of others' needs. These experiences nurture emotional intelligence, a crucial skill that includes the ability to recognise and manage emotions - both their own and those of others.

3. Respect and Ethics with Effective Communication

Respect for others and ethical conduct within the school foster an environment that promotes effective communication. Students learn to express themselves clearly

and respectfully in both formal and informal settings, enabling them to share ideas and emotions constructively. Collaboration and teamwork are also encouraged, creating a culture where mutual respect is highly valued.

4. Inclusion and Diversity with Adaptation and Resilience

At Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, we embrace inclusion and diversity, exposing students to different cultures and perspectives, which enhances their adaptability and resilience. By working alongside peers from diverse backgrounds, students develop flexibility and an open mindset, equipping them to navigate challenges with confidence. Embracing diversity also fosters tolerance and respect for differences, essential qualities in today's increasingly multicultural world.

5. Autonomy and Initiative with Time Management and Creativity

Encouraging autonomy and initiative equips students with essential skills such as time management and self-motivation. At Colégio Júlio Dinis, students are given the space to take responsibility for their own academic journey, fostering self-discipline and personal organisation. Furthermore, by being challenged to take initiative, they develop creativity and innovation - key competencies for a rapidly evolving professional world.

6. Sustainability and Environment with Global Awareness and Teamwork

Education in sustainability and environmental preservation not only nurtures global awareness but also strengthens teamwork skills. Through participation in eco-friendly projects, students learn to collaborate towards shared goals that benefit both society and the planet. Environmental responsibility also helps develop a long-term vision, encouraging students to make ethical and responsible decisions.

At Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, every day is an opportunity to learn, grow, and make a difference. *Together we're extraordinary!*

4. Educational Programme

Programme leaders: Helena Silva and Ana Cardoso (Cambridge Programme);
Francisca Ferraz, Ana Duarte, Francisco Ferraz e Rui Oliveira (National Programme)

Nursery

At Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, affection, care, and attention form the foundation of our daily nursery routine.

Recognising the immense responsibility of welcoming children at such a young age, we provide a safe and nurturing environment that supports their growth and well-being. Our dedicated team ensures that each child's daily routines—feeding, sleep, and hygiene—are met with care and consistency, always respecting their individual pace and needs.

The first three years of life are crucial for a child's physical, intellectual, and emotional development. Through daily interactions, babies develop a strong bond of affection with our team, fostering a sense of security and trust in both the adults and their surroundings.

With plenty of cuddles and affection, babies experience their first milestones and learning moments, discovering themselves and the world around them. Our approach includes stimulating, exploratory, and creative educational activities, laying the groundwork for curiosity, confidence, and joyful learning.

Early Years

Nurture, encourage, and explore - these are the fundamental pillars of our daily routine in Early Years.

Understanding the important responsibility of guiding young children, we create a safe and engaging environment that supports their holistic growth and development.

The Early Years are critical for a child's social, emotional, and cognitive development. By respecting each child's individual pace and unique interests, we establish daily routines that foster play, learning, and discovery. Through these interactions, children build strong connections with our team, feeling valued, secure, and confident in both the adults and the space around them.

With laughter and shared moments, children achieve important milestones and embark on exciting learning adventures, discovering themselves and the vibrant world around them through a variety of stimulating, interactive, and creative educational activities.

As part of the Early Years routine, we integrate a diverse and engaging educational program, including English (Cambridge English Program), Musical Expression, Physical Expression and Movement and the Emotions Workshop. Additionally, we run several special projects common to all Early Years: Now, I Speak! (Agora Falo Eu!), Now, I choose! (Agora Escolho Eu!), Day On Wheels (Dia Sobre Rodas), Loose Parts Area and an Educational Garden.

The 4 and 5-year-old groups also take part in the 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 project. Additionally, 5-year-olds engage in the I'm a Graduate (Sou Finalista) and Community Puzzle projects.

Recognising that every part plays a vital role in the educational journey, our teaching approach is based on the strong connection between the school, the child, and the family, fostering shared experiences and integrating them into the group's daily routine.

Lower and Upper School (years 5-9)

Education is a continuous process of holistic and intentional development, and in Basic Education, it is essential to establish the core pillars of our Educational Project.

To achieve this, we create learning environments that foster autonomous and responsible students, open to change, adaptable to a multicultural and digital world, and proficient in English. Colégio Júlio Dinis International School has developed a flexible model for this stage of education, led by a team of dedicated teachers who ensure a diverse curricular and extracurricular offering, always placing the student at the centre of the learning process.

With a strong focus on autonomy and curricular flexibility, we promote meaningful learning experiences through a contextualised curriculum, allowing students to engage in varied activities and projects aligned with the Educational Project, including:

- The Artistic Component (Theatre, Dance, Choir, Music Academy, and the Creative Arts Workshop);
- The Technological and Scientific Component (Robotics, The Inventors, Technology in Action, and Science in Reaction);

- The Sports Component (Rugby, Volleyball, Football, Basketball, Swimming, Chess, and Martial Arts);
- Themed Rooms (Study+, the Numbers and Letters Lab, and subject-specific clubs for Portuguese, Mathematics, and English, as well as initiatives in Health and the Junior eTwinning Academy).
- The school also engages in Projects such as eTwinning, Erasmus+, and Eco-Schools.

By offering a strong foundation for academic progression, Colégio Júlio Dinis International School also fosters closer relationships with families, ensuring that students develop the essential skills and knowledge needed for Upper/ Secondary School (3rd Cycle) and beyond.

Secondary Education

At Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, Secondary Education is designed as both a consolidation of key knowledge from previous years and a preparation for the challenges of university-level education.

Recognising that education is a continuous journey, and in alignment with the core pillars of our Educational Project, the curricula for our three study pathways—Science and Technology, Languages and Humanities, and Socioeconomic Sciences—are structured to promote greater autonomy and responsibility. This approach ensures an interdisciplinary connection between concepts across different curricular areas, equipping students with the critical skills needed for future academic and professional challenges.

Under the guidance of a dedicated team of teachers, who focus on meeting students' individual needs and enhancing their learning experience, Colégio Júlio Dinis International School provides a broad range of activities and strategies to ensure a diverse and enriching curriculum that fosters learning development and academic success.

Offers:

- Supplementary lessons and specialised study groups in core subjects (*Portuguese, Mathematics A, Physics & Chemistry A, Biology & Geology*);

- Exam preparation classes, available from the beginning of the academic year.
- Weekly support sessions for multiple subjects (*Portuguese, Mathematics A, Philosophy, Biology & Geology, Economics A, History A, Geography A, and MACS*), starting from Year 10.
- Possibility of subject substitution, allowing students to exchange one biennial or annual subject within their study programme for a corresponding subject from a different course, in accordance with Decree 226-A/2018;
- Personal and Social Development Sessions (from Year 10 onwards), designed to monitor student performance and provide guidance towards choosing the most suitable university course;
- eTwinning Programme; Erasmus+; Eco-Schools Programme.

By combining academic rigour with a variety of learning strategies, Colégio Júlio Dinis International School ensures that each student develops the necessary independence and progress to confidently face their future.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

At Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, we are committed to providing a comprehensive education that prepares students for success in the global community. Our curriculum is designed to challenge and inspire students worldwide while catering to their individual needs and interests.

From the Primary Years Programme to Secondary Education, we offer a broad range of subjects across key disciplines, including Languages, Mathematics, Sciences, Humanities, and the Arts. Our team of passionate and experienced educators is dedicated to helping each student reach their full potential.

In addition to a strong academic foundation, we believe in fostering a well-rounded education that extends beyond the classroom. Our students have access to a variety of extracurricular activities and opportunities to develop leadership skills, community service engagement, and cultural awareness.

Therefore, we provide Study Rooms, specifically for Primary and Lower Secondary levels, where students can reinforce what they have learned throughout the day and complete their homework. Additionally, we offer a diverse range of

Extracurricular Activities, organised into three main areas: Sports, Music, and Technology.

Our curriculum is designed to cultivate curiosity and a lifelong commitment to personal and academic growth. As a Cambridge International School, we take pride in offering the Cambridge Curriculum, ensuring that our students graduate fully equipped for success in whichever path they choose.

Cambridge Primary

Cambridge Primary sets students on an enriching educational journey, providing a strong foundation during their early school years. Designed for students aged 5 to 11, it ensures a smooth progression through the Cambridge learning pathway, tailored to each age group's developmental needs.

This flexible learning approach allows students to benefit from the core Cambridge curriculum while also integrating national curriculum subjects, creating a more diverse and enriching educational experience. This adaptability ensures that students receive a well-rounded education, supporting both their academic growth and personal development.

Cambridge Lower Secondary

Cambridge Lower Secondary is designed for students aged 11 to 14, serving as the next step in their educational journey and preparing them for the challenges ahead.

The curriculum maintains a strong focus on core academic subjects, while also emphasising creativity, self-expression, and well-being. It builds upon the foundations established in Cambridge Primary, ensuring a smooth and progressive transition. At this stage, students deepen their knowledge across different subject areas, fostering critical thinking and creative expression. Simultaneously, Cambridge Lower Secondary lays the essential groundwork for the next levels of education, equipping students with the skills and confidence needed for future academic success.

Cambridge Upper Secondary

Cambridge Upper Secondary is designed for students aged 14 to 16. At Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, we offer the Cambridge IGCSE, an internationally recognised qualification that equips students with essential skills for future academic success. This stage provides a dynamic and engaging learning experience, encouraging students to explore a broad range of subjects and make meaningful connections across different areas of knowledge.

The Cambridge IGCSE curriculum focuses on creative thinking, research skills, and problem-solving, ensuring that students are well-prepared for more advanced levels of study. Our students have the flexibility to choose from a variety of IGCSE subjects, allowing them to deepen their knowledge and develop a strong interdisciplinary foundation for the future.

Our goal is to offer a well-rounded education, providing a wide selection of Cambridge IGCSE subjects that foster intellectual curiosity and interdisciplinary connections. By nurturing critical thinking and independent learning, we prepare students to confidently progress to the next stage of their academic journey

Cambridge Advanced

Cambridge Advanced is designed for students aged 16 to 19, offering advanced studies that prepare them for university and higher education. At Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, we provide the Cambridge International AS & A Levels, internationally recognised qualifications that open doors to top universities worldwide.

The prestige of Cambridge qualifications, awarded by the University of Cambridge, enhances not only students' academic development but also strengthens their university applications, giving them access to a world of opportunities.

The Cambridge curriculum supports students' personal growth and well-being throughout their academic journey. By building a strong foundation in multiple subjects and fostering conceptual understanding, students develop key competencies, learning habits, and attributes that shape them into global citizens ready to make a positive impact on the world.

At CJD International School, Cambridge students will experience a safe, welcoming, and supportive school environment, designed to be as diverse, inclusive, and multicultural as possible. This ensures that every student feels valued and empowered to thrive in an ever-changing global landscape.

5. +Projects

Eco-Schools

At Colégio Júlio Dinis, we are proud to raise the Eco-Schools Green Flag, a recognition awarded by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE).

This project actively engages students, encouraging them to reflect on their role in protecting the planet and take meaningful action towards environmental sustainability. As a whole school initiative, Eco-Schools aims to involve the entire educational community, fostering awareness, responsibility, and sustainable habits.

By promoting exploration, active participation, and critical thinking, we inspire future generations to develop a deep sense of environmental responsibility, carrying forward a message of hope and confidence in a better world.

eTwinning

Colégio Júlio Dinis has proudly held the eTwinning School Label for several years, recognising our commitment to innovative, interdisciplinary learning through national and European award-winning projects.

As part of this initiative, we established the eTwinning Junior Academy, a free extracurricular club open to students aged 10 to 15. This academy provides a dynamic space for collaborative projects with other schools across the eTwinning network, fostering creativity, teamwork, and active citizenship.

eTwinning is an initiative under the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, aimed at fostering collaborative networks among European schools. An eTwinning School promotes inclusion and innovation, teamwork, and active student engagement, serving as a model for other institutions. An eTwinner student is a catalyst for change.

STEM

The STEM concept (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) brings a dynamic and forward-thinking approach to our school, equipping students with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate today's competitive world. Our goal is to foster innovation and provide opportunities for students to shape the future, all within a collaborative and dynamic environment, supported by the latest technology.

Through the interdisciplinary nature of these fields, students are encouraged to develop solutions, tackle complex challenges, create new problems, and cultivate critical thinking - empowering young minds eager for discovery and achievement.

Digital Leaders

Colégio Júlio Dinis International School is one of many schools participating in the national Digital Leaders project. This initiative aims to engage students in promoting awareness of safe and responsible Internet use and digital environments, while also fostering the development of Digital Citizenship.

Students involved in the project become part of the CJD Digital Leaders team, whose mission is to support their peers and the wider educational community by encouraging a critical, thoughtful, and responsible approach to the use of technology and digital spaces.

6. Extracurricular Activities

At Colégio Júlio Dinis International School, we believe that the holistic development of our students extends beyond the academic curriculum. Equally important is the promotion of social, physical, cognitive, and creative skills. For this reason, we offer a wide range of extracurricular activities designed to provide students with a more diverse and enriching educational experience.

These activities are structured to enhance their abilities, encourage teamwork, and support both physical and mental well-being. Below are some of the main activities available to our students:

- **Rugby:** Rugby at Colégio Júlio Dinis International School gives students the opportunity to develop important values such as teamwork, perseverance, and respect. Our teams compete in regional and national championships, allowing students to test their skills and grow through different levels of competition.
- **Football:** One of the most popular activities at the school, with federated teams competing in regional and national championships. This sport helps students develop technical skills, leadership, and teamwork.
- **Volleyball:** This is another sport with federated teams competing in various championships. Students learn both game techniques and the importance of communication and teamwork.
- **Basketball:** Basketball is a highly valued activity at Colégio Júlio Dinis International School. Through regular training, students develop motor skills and discipline while strengthening teamwork in regional and national competitions.
- **Floorball:** Floorball is a fast-growing sport at the school, played in teams and helping students improve agility, focus, and quick decision-making during games.
- **Skating:** Provides students with the opportunity to develop coordination and balance while also encouraging artistic expression and a love for physical activity.
- **Karate:** Teaches students discipline, respect, and focus while also providing an excellent form of physical exercise.
- **Judo:** As part of our federated club, judo teaches students the importance of self-defense, confidence, and perseverance while also being highly effective for physical and mental development.

- **Jiu-Jitsu:** A martial art that builds self-confidence, self-control, and physical endurance, helping students develop both strength and the discipline needed to overcome challenges.
- **Padel:** A rapidly growing sport, ideal for students who enjoy playing in pairs. Through regular practice, students develop teamwork skills and improve their physical fitness in a fun and engaging way.
- **Yoga:** Yoga focuses on the balance between body and mind, helping students improve flexibility, concentration, and stress management while promoting overall well-being.
- **Robotics:** A dynamic activity that fosters creativity and critical thinking. Students have the opportunity to develop technological projects, learn programming, and collaborate in teams to solve problems.
- **Chess:** An excellent activity for enhancing concentration, strategic thinking, and problem-solving skills. Students can participate in both internal and external tournaments, refining their cognitive abilities.
- **Dance and Creative Dance:** Dance is an artistic expression that promotes coordination, creativity, and emotional expression. Creative Dance allows students to explore new movements and develop their own artistic identity.
- **Ballet:** Ballet helps students develop discipline, posture, and flexibility. It also provides an opportunity for artistic expression through classical dance while enhancing motor and artistic skills.
- **Design Thinking:** A creative methodology that teaches students how to solve problems innovatively. Through this practice, they develop critical thinking, collaboration skills, and the ability to find effective solutions to complex challenges.
- **Acrobatic Gymnastics:** Helps students build strength, flexibility, and coordination while working together in performances and competitions.
- **Natação:** A full-body physical activity that enhances endurance, muscle strength, and motor coordination. Students have the opportunity to compete and refine their aquatic skills.

These extracurricular activities are an essential part of our educational program, offering Colégio Júlio Dinis International School's students opportunities to grow in various areas while developing values such as respect, responsibility, and teamwork. We believe that by participating in these activities, students not only broaden their horizons but also prepare themselves for future challenges.

Music Centre

Through music, we develop a wide range of skills, including motor coordination, physical dexterity, enhanced concentration, memory, and logical reasoning. Regular practice requires focus and discipline - valuable skills that can be applied to other areas of life. Additionally, the gradual progress and positive learning environment foster confidence and self-esteem.

With this in mind, Colégio Júlio Dinis International School established the CJD Music Centre, a dedicated space for children, young people, and adults who wish to learn music. Our goal is to provide high-quality musical education, using teaching methods tailored to each student's individual needs and abilities.

Knowledge Centre

Our Knowledge Centre is an initiative dedicated to learning and personal development. With expert guidance, engaging courses, and diverse teaching approaches, we create a seamless and effective learning experience for both children and adults in academic and professional settings.

Our areas of focus include Foreign Language Certification, First Aid Training, Parenting, Positive Psychology, Emotional Intelligence, IT and Programming, Communication and Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Mental Coaching, and more.



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INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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