



# St Edmund's and St Joseph's Catholic Primary Schools



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23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

Dear Year 5 Parents

RE: The Ombrosa Lycée Multilingue de Lyon

We have the exciting opportunity to work with a school in Lyon, France, therefore I am asking if any of you would be willing to act as host families to pupils visiting from 15th to 27th June 2026 and thus give your child the opportunity to create international friendships, whilst at the same time improving their language skills.

*At the Multilingue Ombrosa School, children learn English by total exposure to the language from an early age. The children at Ombrosa learn English from Nursery and throughout Primary school where classes are taught in English one week out of two. By the age of 9 or 10, most pupils have gained enough fluency and maturity to benefit from a two-week immersion in an English-speaking environment.*

*Visits are arranged during term time and outside the British children's residential trips so that the Ombrosa children may participate fully in the daily activities of their British counterparts. We like them to be fully involved in family life including going to school as normal pupils subject to usual rules, lessons, discipline, and where appropriate, homework!*

*We do not expect teachers in England to make special provision for them and in order to encourage optimum integration we try to place a small number of children in any one school. Although a return visit is not planned as part of our programme, we would be more than happy to welcome your child back to Ombrosa school at a time that suits you (please note that the English school does not get involved in arranging this). A financial contribution is given to the British hosts (£70 per week of stay). This is to help with the cost of food, transport, activities and day trips. We also ask that a DBS check is completed, with the help of your child's school, for each 18+ adult with whom the French children will reside.*

*The visit will last for just under two weeks - from 15th June till 27th June 2026 – give or take one or 2 days depending on final flight booking; a teacher from Ombrosa always stays locally to maintain contact with everyone involved and to deal with any problems that might arise (homesickness, health issue, phone call...). She will be reachable at all times and will be visiting the French children on a regular basis in the school, and at home if required or requested. We also encourage the children to interact before meeting (post / email / videocall...).*

*"We learn together in God's love by encouraging and supporting one another."*



*Over the years that we have been organising these successful visits, numerous strong family friendships have been formed, with many of our pupils returning to their first hosts in subsequent years.*

We hope you will consider taking part in this worthwhile scheme and that we may welcome you as hosts for 2026. Places are limited to one or two per class. The final exact details concerning the French children's arrival should be given to you by mid-May.

The opportunity to host a French pupil is offered to all year 5 children this year, the dates do not clash with off-site school activities and residential trips.

This has been a very enriching experience for the families who have taken part in the past.

If you are interested, please email the office by Friday December 5th 2025 for the attention of Mrs Wallace, with the name and class of your child and confirmation that you would like to host a French pupil in June 2026. We will then send you a questionnaire to fill in so that your child can be matched to another of similar age and interests.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria kemble".

Mrs Kemble