



Kindergarten at CIS 2024-2025

It starts with the toddlers

“Something beautiful is on the horizon.”

About.

NURSERY TO SENIOR KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten at CIS is the beginning of your child's educational journey. In Kindergarten, we believe in fostering a holistic approach to learning where each child's emotional, social, physical, creative and academic development are nurtured by our highly experienced and caring educators.

Our dedicated teachers respond to the unique learning styles and needs of each individual, creating a community of happy, confident and engaged learners. At the core of our ethos lies an inclusive and vibrant learning community ensuring each student feels a sense of belonging.

We offer a number of programme options for kindergarten students, these include:

- English programme
- French-English bilingual programme
- Chinese-English bilingual programme

The school day runs from 8.30am to 3.30pm, with half-day (12 noon pick-up) options for our Nursery students.



The CIS curriculum.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

CIS stands out as one of the select international schools in Singapore offering all three International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes, from the Primary Years Programme (PYP) to the Diploma Programme. Our students learn through the PYP framework from Pre-Kindergarten to grade 6.

PLAY-BASED APPROACH

Our play-based approach at CIS is intentionally designed to ignite curiosity, foster creativity, and lay the foundation for lifelong learning. Through play, our students learn to make sense of the world and grow in all areas of development: physical, language, social emotional, expressive arts, literacy and mathematics. Our learning spaces are filled with excitement as children engage in hands-on activities, guided by our passionate educators who seamlessly blend child-initiated play with adult-initiated learning opportunities. Whether exploring mathematical concepts or expressing themselves through art and music to enhance literacy skills, every moment in our PYP Kindergarten programme is a journey of discovery and growth for our students.

PYP UNITS OF INQUIRY

In Kindergarten, students dive into concept-based learning through PYP units of inquiry (UOI). Authentic connections support the exploration of transdisciplinary themes in context across six subject knowledge areas: language; mathematics; science; social studies; arts; physical, social and personal education. Students also have dedicated, stand-alone, literacy and mathematics lessons with homeroom teachers.

OUTDOOR LEARNING

Our outdoor discovery centre (ODC) provides wonderful opportunities for exploration and hands-on experiences, enhancing each child's cognitive, physical, and social emotional development. Immersed in the natural environment, children engage all their senses as they navigate the terrain and encounter diverse flora and fauna, sand, water and mud. Through outdoor learning, we nurture a deeper appreciation of the wonders of nature, laying a strong foundation for the future growth and well-being of our students.



Learning.

LANGUAGES

At CIS, we are committed to promoting multilingualism.

Language acquisition

From Pre-Kindergarten to Senior Kindergarten students in the English programme can choose to learn Chinese or French throughout the week.

Chinese-English and French-English

Both bilingual programmes provide students with experiences to learn equally in both languages. In Chinese-English, this model is achieved by offering two and a half days of instruction each week in each language whereas in the French-English model, students receive weekly instruction in both languages. A critical component of our bilingual programmes is to ensure that students learn about, experience and appreciate the cultural heritage of both languages.

BILINGUAL PROGRAMMES

CIS' Chinese-English bilingual programme was one of the first to be offered in Singapore by an international school. Our established track record makes us one of the most experienced and trusted international schools in the region to educate students in becoming fluent communicators in both languages. In our bilingual programme (offered from Pre-Kindergarten), students attend classes (with the respective teacher) in English one day, and in Chinese the next, ensuring equal exposure to both languages. In order for students to succeed, they should have a competent level of either English or Chinese to join the programme.

From Junior Kindergarten, students can opt to join our French-English bilingual programme. It is necessary for students to be competent in one of the two languages to join the programme.



Learning.

LITERACY

Our literacy and language programme emphasises creating rich learning environments that encourage exploration, communication, and expression. Through a combination of interactive activities, story-based learning, and scaffolded instruction, children are supported in developing their phonemic awareness, listening, speaking, early reading skills and writing. Our programme emphasises the importance of individualised support and differentiated instruction to meet the diverse needs of learners, ultimately aiming to cultivate a strong foundation for lifelong literacy success.

MATHEMATICS

Our mathematics programme prioritises hands-on exploration, problem-solving, and critical thinking to build a deep understanding of mathematical concepts. Children are encouraged to develop foundational skills such as numeracy, spatial reasoning, measurement, and pattern recognition through engaging activities and real-world applications. The programme emphasises the importance of play-based learning and inquiry-based approaches to foster curiosity and confidence in mathematics.

SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE

In our Kindergarten programme, social studies and science are blended into our units of inquiry. Through our social studies curriculum, our learners embark on exciting explorations rooted in the vibrant Singapore community, allowing for real-world connections to enrich their understanding. Our social studies units focus on families and communities, celebrations and traditions, myself and others, local environment, transportation and travel, food and nutrition, jobs and roles, and environmental awareness.

Through our science curriculum we foster skills such as; observing, measuring, explaining, using scientific vocabulary, questioning, planning investigations, testing hypotheses, evaluating findings, and communicating ideas. Our science units focus on; living things, earth and space, materials and matter, as well as forces and energy, sparking wonder and igniting a lifelong love for scientific inquiry.



Learning.

MOVE TO LEARN (PHYSICAL EDUCATION)

Movement is crucial for early brain development. Activities like crawling, climbing, jumping, balancing, and twisting help children prepare for formal learning cognitively, socially, emotionally, and physically. Our Move to Learn programme supports motor skill development and encourages risk-taking, perseverance, and resilience. It helps children build self-awareness, relationships, and a healthy, active lifestyle.

WATERPLAY AND SWIMMING

Gaining confidence in the water and understanding water safety are essential skills for our children to learn. With a covered, heated, shallow wading pool and an 8 metre pool in our Kindergarten wing, we strive to have our students experience the water on a regular basis. We have trained swimming instructors on our team who differentiate learning and ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all students.

ARTS, MUSIC AND DRAMA

In Kindergarten, students are exposed to art, drama and music everyday in their classrooms. They also learn to be artists through art and role play provocations in the Outdoor Discovery Centre and shared spaces. We have two well resourced art studios, where students dive into a land of creativity, process art and art expression supported by our art specialists. During the students' studio time they are invited to express themselves through a variety of mediums. In Senior Kindergarten students have music lessons once a week. Throughout the school year, all students in Kindergarten collaborate to create musical productions and exhibitions to share with the community.

STEAM

Science, Technology, Environmental Studies, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) form an essential part of our Kindergarten education. Our teachers provide dedicated resources and spaces for students to tinker, experiment, explore, create and engage in the foundations of design thinking.



Learning.

LIBRARY

Our Kindergarten library is a warm and welcoming place designed specifically to nurture a lifelong passion for reading and writing. We have a diverse collection of books catering to varied cultural backgrounds, and language abilities. Our teacher librarians actively support classroom instruction and collaborate with teachers to inspire our students, spark their curiosity and develop early reading and research skills.

DIGITAL LITERACY

Through age-appropriate activities and guidance, we introduce children to the fundamental concepts of digital literacy, including understanding the basics of coding. We integrate digital literacy into our units of inquiry while maintaining a healthy balance between screen/device time and other learning experiences.



Activities.

CO-CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Activities are an integral part of school life and student learning. Our activities programme is offered to Senior Kindergarten students. Opportunities are wide in scope including the arts, languages, games and swimming.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips serve as valuable experiences for our Kindergarten students, connecting them with the local community and enhancing their classroom learning. Through hands-on exploration, these off-campus trips deepen their understanding of the real world and foster a sense of independence.



Communication and reporting.

HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

We encourage parents to be involved in their child's school experience. We encourage face to face communication, and parents are welcome to schedule a meeting with their children's teachers at a mutually convenient time to discuss progress and wellbeing.

ASSESSMENT

We personalise the learning journey for each student by employing continuous observation, documentation and assessment practices. This personalised approach allows us to gain a deep understanding of each child's unique needs and next steps, enabling us to provide guidance and support as they progress in their learning and development.




Who to contact.

We recognise that choosing the right school for your child is a significant decision. Our dedicated team of school administrators, counsellors and teachers is available to address any inquiries you may have.

Whether you seek more information or simply wish to discuss your child's needs and their integration into school life, we are here to assist you every step of the way. We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to connect with you.

KINDERGARTEN

Angela Speirs	Principal
Yingtao Lang	Vice Principal
Jane Lobsey	PYP Coordinator (English programme)
Lorelie Brokenshire	PYP Coordinator (Chinese-English bilingual programme)
Allison Rabeau	French-English bilingual programme Lead

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Notes.

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