



KYOTO
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Inspiring active learners

Developing global citizens



PATHWAY TO THE WORLD
GENUINE
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
IN KYOTO



WIDA



EARCOS
East Asia Regional Council of Schools



SCHOOL HISTORY

Late in 1957, when the American School located on the Botanical Gardens Army Base closed, missionary families were forced to consider alternative options to educate their children. Doug Muir, the son of missionaries living in Kyoto, became one of the first students of what is now called Kyoto International School. Doug's mother decided to homeschool him, his best friend, along with one other student. Classes were held in a vacant bedroom in their family home. The following year, their large 2-story house on Ichijo-dori was turned into a day school (Kyoto Christian Day School), and a full-time teacher was hired.

1957 - School founded, with 2 students enrolled.

1958 - Name changed to Kyoto Christian Day School, with 28 students enrolled.

1966 - Name changed to Kyoto International School.

1992 - Accredited by WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges).

1997 - Relocated to the former Juraku Elementary School campus.

2006 - Authorized as an IB PYP World School.

2007 - Approved for Gakko Hojin status.

2022 - Authorized as an IB MYP World School.

2024 - Granted use of the former Taiken Elementary School campus for the secondary school program.

2025 - IBDP authorization achieved.

2025 - Accredited by COBIS
(Council of British International School).



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



I am honored and proud to welcome you to Kyoto International School (KIS). It is a great privilege to serve as the head of a school dedicated to nurturing each student's intellect, character, and creativity.

At KIS, we are guided by a clear vision—to create a vibrant, inclusive, and diverse educational environment. Education is not merely about the transmission of knowledge; it is about cultivating responsible individuals who think critically and possess a global perspective.

Our curriculum is designed to foster students' interests and talents across various fields, including science, the arts, sports, and the humanities. We also emphasize the importance of international collaboration and cross-cultural understanding to prepare students for an increasingly interconnected global future.

We are proud to have a dedicated and experienced teaching team that serves as mentors, friends, and guides throughout each student's learning journey. Our modern facilities and advanced technologies provide strong support for an innovative and effective learning process.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all parents and students who have chosen KIS as their place of learning. We are committed to offering the best possible educational experience to every student. We also invite you to learn more about our school through this prospectus.

Thank you for your support in shaping the future of our students. Let us work together to make KIS a place that inspires each child to reach their full potential.

Matt Topliss,
M.Ed. FCCT
Principal



INTRODUCTION TO KIS

Kyoto International School (KIS) has been serving the beautiful city of Kyoto since 1957. Accredited by the Council of British International School (COBIS), Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the International Baccalaureate (IB), the school is renowned for its inclusive sense of community and personalized learning for every student. As a not-for-profit institution, KIS channels all its resources into effective learning and developing students who thrive in positively influencing the global community.

Proud to be the first IB World School in Kyoto City, KIS is now the first and only full-continuum IB World School in the city, offering all three IB programmes—PYP, MYP, and DP—for students from Early Years (ages 4-5) to Elementary (ages 6-10) and Secondary School (ages 11-18).

At Kyoto International School, we prioritize providing a safe, fair, fun, and supportive learning environment for all our students.

Our Early Years and Elementary School, located on the site of the former Juraku Elementary School, lies in the heart of Kyoto's Nishijin textile district, one of the city's oldest and most traditional areas. Meanwhile, our Secondary School campus occupies the site of the former Taiken Elementary School, one of Japan's oldest elementary schools, situated right next to the famous tourist attraction, Nijo Castle.

京都インターナショナルスクール（KIS）は、1957年の創立以来、美しい京都の地で教育を提供し続けてきました。英国インターナショナルスクール協議会（COBIS）、米国西部地域学校大学協会（WASC）、国際バカロレア機構（IB）より認定を受けたKISは、包括的なコミュニティ意識と一人ひとりに合わせた学びで知られています。非営利の教育機関として、KISは全ての資源を効果的な学びと、世界に良い影響を与えられる人材の育成に注いでいます。

KISは、京都市で初めてIBワールドスクールの認定を受けた学校であり、現在では市内唯一のIB全課程一貫校として、初等教育課程（PYP）、中等教育課程（MYP）、ディプロマ課程（DP）の3つすべてのプログラムを提供しています。対象年齢は、幼児期（4～5歳）、小学生（6～10歳）、中高生（11～18歳）です。

私たちはすべての生徒に対して、安全で、公平で、楽しく、支え合う学習環境を提供することを最優先に考えています。

KISでは、生徒が思いやりのあるグローバル市民として主体的に活躍できるよう、必要なスキル、知識、理解力の習得を目指しています。世界で最も魅力的かつ住みやすい都市のひとつである京都の文化的豊かさを活かしながら、歴史ある伝統と現代的な革新の両方に触れられる環境が整っています。

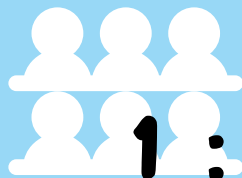
幼児・初等部は、京都の伝統的な織物地区である西陣の中心部にある旧聚楽小学校の敷地内にあります。

また、中等部は、観光名所である二条城のすぐ隣に位置する、旧待賢小学校の敷地内にあり、日本でも有数の歴史ある小学校の跡地を活用しています。

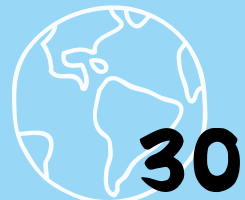
OUR CORE VALUES

- Balanced
- Caring
- Communicators
- Inquires
- Knowledgeable
- Principled
- Open Minded
- Reflective
- Risk Takers
- Thinkers

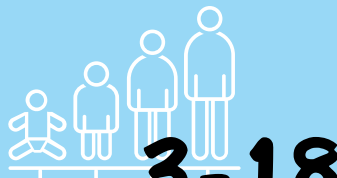
KIS SNAPSHOT



1:6
TEACHER-STUDENT
RATIO



30
NATIONALITIES



3-18
STUDENT AGE



10%
INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS



VISION

Inspiring active learners,
developing global citizenship

MISSION

In our community, we foster passionate,
collaborative, and internationally minded
individuals through an engaging and
supportive education.



YOUR CHILD'S ACADEMIC JOURNEY AT KIS



EARLY YEARS

PRIMARY

SECONDARY



EARLY YEARS



Primary Years Programme

The Early Years Education Program at KIS offers a dynamic and imaginative environment for young children. Our curriculum is tailored to individual needs, integrating play-based learning with structured activities to promote social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development. Experienced educators foster hands-on projects, creative arts, and outdoor activities. Extracurricular programs in music, art, and sports further enhance overall growth and development, fostering a lifelong passion for learning and facilitating a smooth transition to elementary school.



ELEMENTARY



Primary Years Programme

Our elementary school program aims to foster both academic excellence and personal growth in a supportive environment. We prioritize the development of critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills through inquiry-based learning. In addition to our rigorous academic curriculum, we provide a diverse range of extracurricular activities, including music, art, drama, sports, and community service programs. Our overarching goal is to equip our students with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in an ever-changing world, while also instilling core values such as respect, responsibility, and empathy.



SECONDARY



Middle Years Programme



Diploma Programme

The secondary school program at KIS equips students for success both within and beyond our school. Our comprehensive curriculum provides students with exceptional academic and extracurricular opportunities, positioning them as leaders in their educational journey. Our adept educators utilize inquiry-based learning approaches to foster critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills. Students delve into conceptual topics, forge multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary connections, and evolve into global citizens prepared for success in the contemporary workplace of the 21st century.

STUDENT LEARNING AT KIS



01 International Baccalaureate (IB) Programmes

As an IB World School, our curriculum is built upon the frameworks of the Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP), and Diploma Programme (DP). We inspire and guide students to become curious inquirers and critical thinkers who continuously explore new questions.

We encourage students to embrace challenges, take risks, and view setbacks as opportunities for learning and growth. Throughout their educational journey, our students develop empathy and open-mindedness, gradually becoming global citizens who actively contribute to society. Together with our students, we continuously reflect on how to improve and strive for excellence in all areas.



02 Language and Cultural Studies

At KIS, language and cultural learning are essential components of the curriculum. They not only allow students to gain a deep appreciation for global diversity but also place special emphasis on the rich cultural heritage of Kyoto. By integrating Kyoto's unique traditions, history, and customs into our programs, we encourage students to develop cultural awareness and sensitivity. Through language acquisition and immersive local cultural experiences, students gain a deeper understanding of both their host city and the wider world, fostering a global mindset rooted in respect and curiosity.



03 Student Wellbeing Support

At KIS, we prioritize students' well-being by offering targeted assessments and exam accommodations. We recognize that each student learns differently, and to ensure equal access to learning opportunities, we provide personalized support during exam periods —such as extended time, separate testing rooms, and assistive technologies.

This support enables students to reach their full potential in a fair and caring environment. Such comprehensive accommodations are relatively rare among international schools in Japan and reflect our strong commitment to creating an inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

STUDENT LIFE AT KIS



Diverse Community

Our school takes pride in its diverse student body, with students and teachers representing over 30 countries and regions. This vibrant, multicultural community enriches the learning experience and fosters the development of cross-cultural friendships.



Small Class Instruction

Our school adopts a small-class teaching model, allowing for personalized attention and tailored guidance for each student. With fewer students in each class, teachers can better understand individual learning needs and build closer relationships with their students.

This approach encourages active participation and ensures that every student can thrive. Small-class teaching not only enhances academic achievement but also helps students develop confidence, critical thinking, and interpersonal skills.



International Connection

We have established partnerships with several international schools and regularly carry out short-term student exchange and teacher collaboration programs. Our students have the opportunity to study at partner schools for a short period, gaining firsthand experience of different cultures and educational approaches. At the same time, students from our partner schools visit us for similar exchanges, fostering mutual growth through meaningful interaction.



Extracurricular Activities

Our students actively participate in a wide range of extracurricular activities, including sports, arts clubs, Model United Nations, and robotics teams. These activities help foster teamwork, leadership skills, and personal growth. Each year, we offer approximately 20 to 30 different after-school programs for students to explore and enjoy.



Academic Excellence

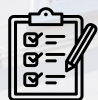
We place great importance on academic excellence. Our students are diligent and hardworking, with many earning outstanding academic honors and striving to pursue further studies at prestigious universities around the world.

ADMISSION PROCESS 入学審査手順

Admission Procedures

1. Complete the online application form, providing personal information, contact details, and academic history.
オンライン出願フォームに必要事項（個人情報、連絡先、学歴）を入力してください。
2. Submit transcripts from the most recent school attended, including report cards and standardized test scores (if required).
直近に在籍した学校の成績証明書を提出してください（成績表や標準学力試験のスコアが必要な場合を含みます）。
3. Include letters of recommendation from a teacher or an educator who can attest to the student's character and academic abilities.
教師または学生の人格や学業能力を証明できる教育関係者からの推薦状を添付してください。
4. Pay the non-refundable application fee of ¥31,500, which can be done online through the school's website
出願料 31,500円（返金不可）をお支払いください。お支払いは本校のウェブサイトからオンラインで可能です。

Detailed Process



Step 1 - Applicants start with visiting OpenApply and making an account. The Admissions Officer will contact the applicant when the online application form, required documents, and the application fee are received.

応募者はまず OpenApply にアクセスし、アカウントを作成します。オンライン出願フォーム、必要書類、出願料が受理され次第、入学手続きの担当者が応募者へご連絡いたします。



Step 2 - The decision about enrolment will be made by the Principal based on information gained from the application and review process, available space, and school policies. 校長が、出願内容と審査過程、空き状況、学校方針に基づいて入学可否を決定します。



Step 3 - Upon acceptance, an acceptance letter, documents outlining the school expectations and procedures, a parental agreement form, and a registration invoice are sent to the applicant.

合格の場合、合格通知書、学校の期待事項や手続きをまとめた書類、保護者同意書、登録料の請求書が応募者に送付されます。



Step 4 - When the Admissions Officer receives the parental agreement form and the registration fee, the application process is complete.

入学手続きの担当者が署名済みの保護者同意書と登録料を受領した時点で、入学手続きは完了となります。



Step 5 - KIS Starts

KISでの新しい学校生活が始まります！

WHY KIS

Diverse and Inclusive Community where students, staff, and parents from various backgrounds feel a sense of belonging and respect.

Holistic Development

Well-rounded education that nurtures academic excellence, character development, and personal growth.

Engaging Curriculum that is not only rigorous but also challenging students to reach their full potential while fostering a lifelong love for learning.

Global Perspective with diverse cultural experiences and connections that prepare them for an interconnected world.

Pathways to Success in their future endeavors, offering pathways to prestigious universities and fulfilling careers.

Kyoto's Unique Location allows KIS to offer a unique setting for learning, exploration, and inspiration.

WHY LIVING IN KYOTO

Rich Cultural Heritage

Kyoto is renowned for its preserved historical sites, traditional architecture, and vibrant cultural traditions.

Scenic Beauty

Kyoto is surrounded by picturesque landscapes, including lush forests, tranquil rivers, and majestic mountains.

Quality of Life

The city is known for its cleanliness, safety, and well-maintained infrastructure, making it a comfortable and convenient place to live.

Education and Research

Kyoto is home to several prestigious universities and research institutions, making it an ideal destination for academics, researchers, and students.

Arts and Entertainment

Kyoto boasts a vibrant arts and entertainment scene, with numerous museums, galleries, theaters, and performance venues showcasing both traditional and contemporary works.



京都
KYOTO

GLOBAL ALLIANCE

KIS is pleased to announce the inclusion of the following schools and organizations as our global alliance partners, aimed at nurturing our students' innovative learning. One of our primary goals for this global alliance is to foster international-mindedness among our students through engaging classroom activities and collaborative projects with peers from our partner schools. Moreover, this initiative offers an invaluable opportunity for extensive professional development, enabling teachers to collaborate with educators worldwide.

We are also committed to offering short-term exchange programs to our secondary school students, providing them with an unparalleled opportunity to broaden their horizons and make a significant impact in their lives.

KISは、生徒たちの革新的な学びを育むことを目的として、以下の学校や団体を海外姉妹校として迎えることになりましたのでお知らせいたします。

この提携関係の主な目標の一つは、姉妹校の生徒たちとの交流を通じて、生徒たちが国際的な視野を広げられるよう、魅力的な授業活動や共同プロジェクトを推進することです。

さらに、この取り組みは教員にとっても世界中の教育者と協働する絶好の機会を提供し、専門性の向上につながる貴重な機会となります。

また、中等部の生徒には短期交換留学プログラムを提供することにも取り組んでおり、視野を広げ、人生に大きな影響を与えるまたとない体験を得られるよう支援してまいります。





KYOTO

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



317 Kitatawara-cho, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto, Japan 602-8247 (Juraku Campus)
〒602-8247 京都市上京区北俵町317 (聚楽キャンパス)

536-1 Waraya-cho, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto 602-8144 (Taiken Campus)
〒602-8144 京都府京都市上京区藁屋町536-1 (待賢キャンパス)



kis@kis.ac.jp (General / Office)
admissions@kis.ac.jp (Admissions)



075-451-1022 (Juraku Campus)
075-334-8208 (Taiken Campus)



www.kis.ac.jp



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