Garden International School
Bringing Out The Best In You Since 1951

Our Core Values
• Being dedicated to a culture of excellence
• Upholding ethical practices at all times
• Being passionate in whatever we do
• Respecting and caring for each other
• Openness in communication
• Creating enjoyable environment

Our Purpose
To educate the youth of the world to take their productive place as leaders in the global community.
Welcome to the Garden International School community

At Garden International School we prepare our students to take their places as leaders in this ever-changing world. The leaders of tomorrow need a sturdy foundation, cultivated in an environment that is both caring and challenging. We continue to build on our reputation as a world-class leader in education. Through the nurturing of skills, values and attitudes, we are giving learners the tools to cope with the challenges and demands of a fast moving society. We are helping to unlock their ability to think for themselves by allowing them to derive their own understanding through inquiry and experience. Each learner is able to develop their resilience, capacity to work collaboratively, to empathise with others and the ability to take action as an effective global citizen. Aligned with high academic achievements, GIS learners are confident, proactive, productive members of society.

At GIS we are driven by providing a holistic education and ensuring every learner is well rounded and balanced. Our Student Vision leads us to this by focusing on the development of our learners as Adaptable Lifelong Learners, Active Citizens, Effective Contributors, Resilient Individuals, Independent Enquirers and Creative Thinkers and is central to our goal of educating our students to take their places as leaders in the global community. The Student Vision is embedded in everything we do both inside and outside the classroom. The very strong emphasis we place on the provision of our extensive co-curricular programme is central to supporting our vision. Each member of this community, including students, staff and parents are all encouraged to be effective participants and leaders in community service, global awareness and education outside the classroom.

We are one of the most forward thinking schools in the world and I encourage you to visit GIS to see for yourself the vibrancy of the educational experience provided by the school. The passion and belief in the capacity of young people to be their best is palpable here as is the sense of community and care for each other. Please visit our website for more information about the extensive educational opportunities. We look forward to welcoming you to Garden International School.

Colter Watt
Acting Principal

Garden International School is one the oldest and most distinguished schools in Asia along with being one of the most forward thinking and innovative schools in the world. We combine this mix of tradition and change to create our unique and dynamic learning environment where learners are able to flourish.
Student Vision

At GIS we aim to educate students to be confident in leadership roles and

As Adaptable Lifelong Learners

- Enjoy learning and optimise their talents to reach their potential
- Reflect and evaluate personal performance to identify their ongoing learning needs
- Are proficient in the use of academic English and competent in additional languages

As Creative Thinkers

- Critically challenge their own and other people’s assumptions.
- Use their imagination to explore possibilities and apply their thinking to real life situations
- Have the confidence to apply knowledge and higher order thinking skills creatively to approach complex problems

As Active Citizens

- Are motivated to take appropriate actions over local and global issues
- Empathise and support others through accepting and understanding diversity of their own and other people’s cultures and societies
- Respect our Core Values and the concept of human rights
As Independent Enquirers
• Work independently and collaboratively to identify questions to answer and problems to solve
• Locate, assess and manage information responsibly and effectively
• Analyse and evaluate information to support conclusions

As Resilient Individuals
• Develop a sound personal code of ethics through which they take responsibility and accept the consequences of their actions
• With ambition, enterprise and perseverance work towards goals and show initiative when challenged
• Enjoy a healthy, active and balanced lifestyle

As Effective Contributors
• Are articulate, reflective and open to others’ points of view
• Have the confidence to express themselves and discuss ideas
• Actively contribute towards their own and others development
The Curriculum

An internationally enhanced British style education

The school bases its curriculum on the National Curriculum of England and Wales with modifications designed to meet the needs of international students. The British system provides a high quality and broad education which enables pupils to move to any other English-speaking country fully equipped to succeed. Your child’s education will be enhanced by the time spent in the multi-cultural environment of GIS.

Early Years / Foundation
Nursery 3 - 4 years of age
Reception 4 - 5 years of age

Key Stage 1
Year 1 5 - 6 years of age
Year 2 6 - 7 years of age

Key Stage 2
Year 3 7 - 8 years of age
Year 4 8 - 9 years of age
Year 5 9 - 10 years of age
Year 6 10 - 11 years of age

Early Years
Primary
Key Stage 3
Year 7  11 - 12 years of age
Year 8  12 - 13 years of age
Year 9  13 - 14 years of age

Key Stage 4
Year 10  14 - 15 years of age
Year 11  15 - 16 years of age

6th Form
Year 12  16 - 17 years of age
Year 13  17 - 18 years of age

Secondary
Early Years

Our Early Years Centre offers our youngest children an exceptional first educational experience, that will introduce them to the joys of learning. It combines a curriculum that is stimulating, creative and integrated, with specific guidance on personal, social and emotional development.

High priority is given to the process of learning through practical, first-hand experiences.

Our aim is to provide a holistic experience that encourages your child to achieve their full potential in all areas, ensuring they are prepared for their future education. The foundation learning skills are taught through various activities that meet each child’s needs and abilities allowing learning to be a fun, natural journey.
A solid foundation for the early years

We create a partnership between your home and our school, beginning the development of learning habits necessary to access education. The curriculum underpins all future learning by supporting, fostering, promoting and developing children’s experience. We believe it is essential that during the early formative years, children begin to make sense of their world, through a broad and balanced learning environment. The Early Years Centre is purpose-built and is located about 5 minutes drive from the main school campus. The centre is a small school in its own right; having a multi-purpose hall, music room, library, Information Communication Technology (ICT) suite, indoor and outdoor playgrounds and multi purpose room.

A safe, stimulating child-centred environment

We encourage four main areas of development: independence and interdependence, creative communication, exploration and healthy living.
It provides a safe, stimulating child-centred environment designed for your children to thrive socially, intellectually and physically.

Class sizes are small, with a maximum of 20 children in each class. Each Nursery class has a teacher and two assistant teachers. The Reception classes have a teacher and an assistant teacher. Specialist teachers join us for Music, ICT, Bahasa Malaysia and Mandarin, and we encourage our families to come and support us in promoting learning.

We believe it is essential for your children to feel happy, confident, secure and cared for as they learn. We promote creative and imaginative opportunities for children to develop the core skills of early reading, writing and numeracy. The EYC curriculum is an integrated model using the best practice from the British Early Years Foundation Stage and the thematic approach of the International Primary Curriculum (IPC).

There are seven key areas of learning:

- Personal, social and emotional development
- Communication
- Language and literacy
- Mathematical development
- Problem solving and reasoning
- Knowledge and understanding of the world
- Physical and creative development
We recognise that your child has a unique set of attributes and abilities. Our goal is to nurture and develop each child to achieve their potential and fulfil the Student Vision. We aim to encourage them to be inquisitive, informed and independent students; who will be inspired to contribute to their community, become effective communicators and develop resilience as individuals.

Children are encouraged to be academically inquisitive, to take responsibility and to use their initiative.

We aim to ensure solid foundations are laid for your child’s future success.
Key Stage 1 welcomes children from the EYC into the Primary School and encourages each child to continue their development and maintain the fun, active approach to learning. The International Primary Curriculum (IPC) provides a thematic approach to teaching and learning. The English Literacy and Numeracy frameworks are taught alongside the IPC. Information Communication Technology (ICT) is central to the learning process, and it is used extensively across all areas of the curriculum. Classroom based learning along with a broad co-curricular programme and education outside the classroom ensure we provide a holistic education for your child.

The Foundation subjects of Science, History, Geography and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) are taught through the International Primary Curriculum providing stimulating, inspiring and fun cross-curricular themes.

The majority of learning takes place in the nurturing environment of the classroom facilitated by the classroom teacher and assistant teachers. Specialist teachers support the teaching of Art, Design and Technology, Music, ICT, Physical Education and Modern Foreign Languages. Bahasa Malaysia, the national language helps each child develop their cultural understanding of Malaysia whilst also allowing them to converse in the language.
GIS utilises both the classroom and education opportunities outside the classroom to provide a programme that develops life-long achievers.

At GIS we believe that our responsibility goes beyond producing outstanding academic results. We are fully committed to providing a holistic, well-balanced education as outlined in the Student Vision.

Key Stage 2 builds upon the strong foundations laid in the Early Years and Key Stage 1, preparing children for the secondary phase of their education. The delivery of learning is stimulating, varied, engaging and fun. The thematic IPC programme continues in Key Stage 2 with a focus on honing the key learning skills in the foundation areas of Science, History, Geography and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) that will be required at Key Stage 3. Literacy is taught daily with a strong emphasis on the development of speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. The development of practical, mental and applied mathematics is achieved through our numeracy lessons.

Additional Modern Foreign Languages are added to the curriculum in Key Stage 2. These include French, Mandarin and Spanish, as well as the option to continue studying Bahasa Malaysia. Homework is provided throughout the school, and is aimed at consolidating skills taught at school and encouraging you, the parents, to play an active role in your child’s education. Children’s progress is assessed throughout Key Stages 1 and 2 against standards from the United Kingdom ensuring we have a very good understanding of their ongoing progress, individual abilities and to ensure their future needs are met.

A high level of access to ICT supports all aspects of curriculum delivery.
Secondary School

The Secondary School curriculum at GIS focuses on supporting young confident adults to reach their potential, in line with the aims of our Student Vision. Students should leave us prepared to face the challenges of university life and beyond.

We recognise that the personal development of students is vital. For them to flourish we need to create the right kind of social and work environment so they are fully supported as they take on the challenges of learning and becoming young adults.

Our focus on involvement outside the classroom alongside academic excellence aims to create the opportunity for students to become active citizens in both their local and global communities as well as adaptable lifelong learners.
Our courses are designed to meet the academic, personal and cultural needs of our students and better equip them for future challenges, while at the same time creating enjoyable learning environments that inspire and motivate.

Students follow the full range of subjects, which are linked to the National Curriculum of England and Wales but modified to create challenges appropriate for an international education.

Courses in Drama, Art, Music, Design Technology, ICT, PE, History and Geography are compulsory at Key Stage 3, along with the core subjects of Maths, English and Science that they will continue up to age 16. They can also select two modern foreign languages chosen from Bahasa Malaysia, Mandarin, Spanish and French.

This extensive curriculum is taught by highly qualified specialist teachers who make full use of the school’s wide-ranging specialist facilities. Class sizes average around 22 and in Languages, Maths and English, classes are arranged so that students are taught in groups of similar ability. This enables all students to receive both the challenge and the support necessary for them to make the most effective progress and achieve their potential.

Students’ personal and social development from Years 7 to 9 is a key issue to be addressed. Individual mentoring is provided to students by their personal tutors. There is a structured programme of camps that form an important part of the curriculum. These opportunities outside the classroom are designed to develop interpersonal and leadership skills, environmental awareness, independent learning and time management skills.

We provide an intensive English programme for students for whom English is not their first language in preparation for fully transferring students into the mainstream curriculum during Key Stage 3. The curriculum is designed to challenge students to develop independent learning skills and apply knowledge to real life situations. They are expected to achieve a high level of fluency and literacy in English, to develop a sound grasp of mathematical concepts and to use ICT confidently in order to underpin their work in other subjects. Above all, as they progress through Key Stage 3, your child should become self-motivated, independent and an enquiring learner, ready to take on the challenge of IGCSE courses.
GIS achievements have been recognised by the award of accreditation from the Council of International Schools.

Students follow a full range of courses leading to International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) Examinations. These examinations are the modern equivalent of 'O' levels and are internationally recognised as the basis for further education and training. Through the expertise and dedication of our teaching staff and the support they provide to our students, GIS consistently achieves excellent results in these examinations. All students follow courses in English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science and PE, including a Global Awareness Project. In addition, students choose a range of subjects suited to their individual aspirations and abilities. There is a detailed guide to the courses available and advice provided by senior teachers in helping students make the best decision.

Careers education and advice form part of the PSHE programme and students take part in a work experience programme following the completion of IGCSE examinations. Students who show the necessary characteristics of reliability and commitment have the opportunity to become school prefects and contribute to many aspects of the school community that will help build their resilience, leadership and collaborative skills.
The Sixth Form experience at GIS is designed to prepare high-attaining students for admission to top universities all over the world. Through supporting students to develop a passion and competency in a smaller number of subjects studied at AS and A Level and continuing to be involved in activities outside the classroom, the programme is designed to prepare our students for the challenges ahead leading to the award of the GIS Diploma. This includes all students studying for the Extended Project and CSLA (Community Sports Leader Award).

There is a wide range of AS and A Level courses available with subject combinations tailored as far as possible to meet the needs and choices of individual students. The intake to the Sixth Form is deliberately restricted in order to provide small teaching groups and to enable individual academic and pastoral guidance to be provided to each student.

We provide excellent specialist facilities and make full use of ICT as a medium for learning in all courses. There is a large and well-stocked learning resource centre with laptops available for independent research. Commitment to study, high standards of work, attitudes to work and sense of responsibility that might be expected in a professional working environment are our expectations for all Sixth Form students. Students are nurtured to become self reliant and independent in preparation for a successful transition to university life. The Sixth Form has its own Sixth Form...
Centre for socialising and study within the school. All courses take place within the security of the GIS campus at Bukit Kiara. Membership of the GIS Sixth Form is not only about achieving good academic results but also developing students’ individual talents, social skills and leadership abilities. Sixth Form students are encouraged to tackle the highest levels of the International Award, formerly known as the Duke of Edinburgh Award and pursue their personal interests. Personalised counselling and advice on higher education options for universities worldwide is offered by our experienced pastoral staff including the Sixth Form tutors, Assistant Head of Sixth Form and Head of Sixth Form.
Creating a safe nurturing environment to develop the whole child

We strive to create a safe and secure learning environment, conducive to the pursuit of knowledge and the attainment of excellence.

- Medical centre
- 2 large cafeterias
- Recreational and social areas
- Sixth form common area
- Specialist counselling facilities

A foundation of educational excellence built upon academic learning and practical exploration

Facilities that are designed to maximise opportunities for our students to excel academically:

- 11 Science labs
- Design Technology workshops
- Learning Resource areas (libraries) for Primary, Secondary and the EYC
- 15 ICT suites
- School bookshop

Facilities
An emphasis on personal growth and opportunities to learn outside the classroom

We encourage active participation in sports and recreational activities designed for use in the tropics.

- Sports hall
- All-weather football field
- All-weather tennis courts
- 2 covered hard court areas
- 25m 8-lane swimming pool
- Gymnasium with weight training

ICT utilised and integrated into learning at all levels

- ICT suites for the Visual and Performing Arts, Modern Foreign Languages and Design Technology
- WiFi throughout the school
- Access to laptops for all students via our ‘laptop trolleys’
- E-research facilities/resources in the libraries
- School-wide Student Information Management System (SIMS)

Building an affinity for learning through creativity and the arts

Specialist facilities are available to develop the creative arts of Music, Art, Design Technology and Drama

- Performing Arts block for Art, Drama, Music and Dance
- Multi-purpose performance hall
- Specialist Design Technology labs
- Access to industry standard ICT to support Design, Filmmaking and Photography
Campuses

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