Korea International School

Design Your Future
HISTORY

Korea International School is a premier Pre-K to Grade 12 school boasting a rigorous North American curriculum. As a high-performing college preparatory school, we deliver a comprehensive education in humanities, world languages, engineering, arts, math, and science using both traditional and innovative teaching practices, applied learning opportunities, and a global perspective.

KIS opened its doors in 1999 with a handful of students in grades K-5. Today, our school boasts two campuses in the Seoul area, a sister school on Jeju island, and alumni who are studying at prestigious universities and working around the world.

True to the principles of our founding, we prepare today’s students for the global challenges of tomorrow through applied learning. KIS is a place where students discover personal talents and strengths through challenging academic coursework, a variety of clubs, off-campus experiences, and by leading and serving others. These experiences foster the development of critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration skills. These abilities are the hallmark of a 21st century education. We aim to prepare KIS students for future success by giving them the skillset they need to excel in jobs that are yet to be created.

OUR HISTORY

The KIS Mission:

To inspire students with a passion for learning and to cultivate the competence, self-assurance, initiative, and creativity necessary for success in the global community.

OUR VALUES

Korea International School will create a culture of excellence through modeling our core values of:

- **EMPOWERMENT**
  By providing opportunities to apply knowledge and skills to real-world situations that foster confidence, leadership, and responsible risk-taking.

- **GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP**
  By developing an appreciation and understanding of world cultures, communities, and perspectives.

- **ADAPTABLE**
  By providing a variety of challenging experiences that promote success and the ability to see change in a positive light.

- **INTEGRITY**
  By educating our school community to become ethical, fair, honest, and responsible citizens.

- **BALANCE IN LIFE**
  By nurturing physical, social-emotional, creative, and intellectual wellness leading to healthy self-actualization.

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### Faculty Information

- **Countries Represented**: +23 more
- **68% Faculty with Master’s Degrees**
- **Faculty Information**

### Student Population

- **Students Enrolled**: 1,300
- **Male to Female Ratio**: 49 : 51

### Co-curricular

- **More than Clubs**: 130
- **35 Sports Championships**
- **Varsity Sports**

### School Calendar

- **181 Instructional Days**

### School Resources

- **45,760+ Books in Library**
- **Access to: Historical Documents, Peer-reviewed Journal Articles**

### From Downtown Seoul

- **20 MINUTES**
At KIS, we demand more than memorization. We pursue resolutions. KIS faculty expect students to apply their knowledge and to seek solutions to real-world problems. Students are empowered to think independently, raise critical questions, and approach obstacles from a multidisciplinary perspective. Students discover possible answers to pressing community and global issues through research, analysis, experimentation, and evaluation.

“When you are sketching ideas on paper they seem easy to do, but when start building with the tools, you wonder if your idea will work. KIS wants us to focus on the beginning stages of creating, so that later, when we become inventors, we won’t keep questioning our ideas.”

Disha (India) - Grade 9
“In my class I get to learn in a group which makes learning fun because I get to do it with my friends. If you’re stuck, your friends can help you and I can help my friends.”
Grant (USA) - Grade 4

WELCOME HOME.

SEOUl CAMPUS
FEEL AT HOME WHILE YOU ARE AT SCHOOL.

1. Inquiry-Based Learning
- We provide opportunities to explore academic content through investigation and inquiry-based questioning. Our play-based ECE program and transdisciplinary approach emphasizes sciences, art, engineering, and design to support creativity and develop curiosity.

2. Making Learning Visible
- Showcasing student work validates their learning and provides them with the opportunity to share their experience and receive authentic feedback.

3. Developing the Whole Child
- We believe that every child needs to be healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. At Seoul Campus, students are provided opportunities to learn world languages, performing and visual arts, science, engineering, design, and physical education in conjunction with mathematics, English language arts, and social studies.

4. Personalized Education
- We focus on early childhood and elementary education with a commitment to maintaining low teacher to student ratios. We are able to individualise our instruction to meet the needs of each student.

5. Caring Community
- Our community, teachers, parents, and children are all collaborators in the process of learning. We believe it is essential to get our students into our community to experience learning in a variety of ways.

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“Learning is fun here. We don’t just sit and look at textbooks, we discuss things. In math you would think we just open a book and do problems but that is not the case. We do projects that incorporate what we learn so that is really fun as well.”
Jane J, USA/Korea - Grade 7

At KIS we believe in the power of collaboration. Students learn not only from highly trained faculty, but also from their peers and field experts. Shared knowledge, collective brainstorming, and working together to achieve a common goal broaden students’ perspectives and build their self-confidence. By creating an environment that cultivates teamwork, our students learn essential social skills, motivate and encourage one another, and achieve far greater results in their academic pursuits.

TOP: MIT students working with KIS students on coding and robotics.
RIGHT: The Varsity Volleyball Team in action.
BOTTOM: Middle School girls on an Experiential Education trip.
LEFT: High School students working collaboratively to apply science concepts.

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION
Qualified instructors and teachers lead elementary, middle and high school students on carefully planned day excursions and overnight adventures in Korea and abroad. Students are given the chance to discover unknown strengths, foster leadership skills and attempt new challenges individually and with their peers.

APPLIED LEARNING
KIS provides authentic learning environments where students rigorously apply knowledge and skills from multiple disciplines to solve meaningful problems and answer real-world questions. This focus allows students to take their learning from the theoretical to the practical.

MIT PROGRAM
Each year, KIS students benefit from our partnership with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. MIT students work alongside teachers and students for a month each year on projects and skills in science, technology, engineering and math.
“In the Design Center, we used a Makey Makey and connected it to a computer. We connected chords to make it do something. My group designed it to play music when you pressed the button. Then we had to present it to the whole school at the EXPO. Yes, I was a little nervous but our Principal came and my Dad came. I like it because my Dad gets to come see what I make.”

Charlotte (USA) - Grade 2
“I think KIS is a great school because of the sense of community. On the inside, we are all very proud of our school. You can see that at pep rallies. We are all cheering and shouting together.”

Juliet (Finland) - Grade 12

At KIS we believe everyone matters. As faculty, students, and parents we celebrate our differences and unite around our common interests, goals, and backgrounds. With support from the school community, students are able to take on leadership roles in sports, clubs and academics. From sports and house teams to special interest clubs and annual events, KIS is a place where every student can find mentors, forge meaningful friendships and find a place to belong.

ABOVE: Middle School students enjoying the sun and surf while on an Experiential Education trip to Fiji.
LEFT: Elementary School students celebrate international day.

By celebrating shared milestones, individual accomplishments, school achievements and cultural differences, we create a positive learning environment while building school traditions.

SPORTS
Adopting a healthy lifestyle, developing athletic skills, and learning sportsmanship are an important part of achieving a balanced life. KIS offers team sports in soccer, swimming, volleyball, basketball, tennis, cheerleading and a wide range of sports clubs.

CLUBS
KIS offers over 130 curricular and co-curricular clubs. These include sports, service, academic, and special interests clubs for all grades. Through our clubs, students connect with one another, discover new interests, and develop leadership skills.

CELEBRATIONS

COMMUNITY
A CULTURE OF CARE.

“I feel like KIS is a big community. Here, it feels like you actually connect with everyone: teachers and students. It has been easy to make friends here. Even though they had friends from elementary school, they welcomed me and that felt really nice.”

Atrin (Iran) - Grade 8

MIDDLE SCHOOL

WHAT MATTERS IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL?

1. Culture of Care
   The student advisory program occurs within the school day three times per week. These sessions focus on building community, developing quality study habits, and teaching valuable leadership skills.

2. Choice Matters
   We offer a robust elective program including robotics, engineering, costuming, creative writing, sustainability, stagecraft, and leadership to develop critical thinkers and well-rounded students.

3. Unlock Your Passion
   Makers in the Middle
   Through innovative courses, students use the MakerSpace and other design spaces to understand the Stanford Design Model based on core principles of engineering to solve real-world problems.

4. Keeping Connected
   All KIS MS students bring a MacBook to school each day as one of their academic resources. As a 1:1 school, we educate students on how to leverage technology while creating a clear understanding of digital citizenship.

5. Makers in the Middle
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“Peter Pan was an exhilarating experience with so many great minds coming together to act, sing, and teach for the drama community. Coming every day to rehearsal and seeing new and old actors work together to create an amazing show was truly fascinating. Every day bringing new creative ideas to make a unique production that will be forever remembered.”

Jared (USA) - Grade 10

At KIS we believe that every student is creative; it isn’t just a trait reserved for a select few. Across disciplines, teachers foster creativity and inspire innovation by encouraging students to view the world from multiple perspectives. We challenge them to take risks. It requires imagination, curiosity, courage, and determination to invent new ideas, ground-breaking solutions, and unique works of art.

FINE & PERFORMING ARTS
KIS offers Middle and High School students curricular performance opportunities in band, orchestra, choir, jazz band, drama, and percussion. Pre-K through Grade 5 students have music classes twice a week, including beginning band in fifth grade. Additionally, there are a wide variety of extracurricular music clubs and ensembles for students of all ages.

EXPOS
Several times each year, family and community members are invited onto campus for Expos where KIS students showcase their inventions and creative solutions to global issues.

DESIGN & INNOVATION DEPT
Trained teacher facilitators work collaboratively to integrate the use of the Stanford Design Thinking Model into the curriculum at all levels to build creative confidence among our students. Through this process, students develop the habits of mind necessary to successfully problem solve.

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“KIS gives [you] so many opportunities; it is up to the students to grasp them, to take them and to maximize their potential.”

Matthew (USA) - Grade 11
“Playing the saxophone I learned that tone is important, and I have to tell people the story through music. Now I think about that when I write. What is the message? Without a message it is just words on paper. What it means is important.”

Hidemasa (Japan) - Grade 9

At KIS we believe that big ideas are not enough. We must effectively communicate those ideas to be a catalyst for change in a global world. From computer graphics design and world language skills to persuasive speech and writing, students are challenged to share their thoughts and ideas. Through the use of technology, students and teachers knock down the boundaries of time and geography, to make communication seamless.

ABOVE: Elementary students at recess. LEFT: Elementary students in the KoLAB.

Technology is fully integrated into the daily curriculum. Students in grades Pre-K through second grade receive technology instruction twice a week by a technology specialist. All students in third grade and higher use an iPad or MacBook as part of a 1:1 learning program.

KIS PUBLICATIONS
Twice a month, KIS publishes The Phoenix Flyer, an online magazine which highlights curricular and co-curricular achievements and events on both Seoul and Pangyo campuses.

GOOGLE APPS
KIS subscribes to Google Apps for Education which makes information universally available. In addition to email, students and teachers have the capability to share calendars and documents, engage in chats, and create working groups.

COMMUNICATION

TECHNOLOGY
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KIS College Counselors provide guidance to students and families throughout the college and career exploration process. We work closely with all Grade 9–12 students and families, guiding them through the necessary steps to be competitive applicants at their best-fit colleges. We also provide Academic Advising and Social/Emotional Support, preparing our students for success in college, the world of work, and global citizenship. Individual Student and Parent meetings are encouraged and welcomed as students and families work together with High School/College Counselors.

Grade 9
- Freshman Year Guidance and College Preparation Checklist
- Career Exploration: Career Interest Profiler Assessment, Career Cluster Finder, RoadTrip Nation Videos, Begin Resume
- Academic Advising: Four Year Planning, Academic Course Selection

Grade 10
- Sophomore Year Guidance and College Preparation Checklist
- Career Exploration: Strengths Explorer, Update Resume, College Entrance Requirements
- Academic Advising: Update Four Year Plan, Academic Course Selection

Grade 11
- Junior Year Guidance and College Application Checklist
- College Admissions Representative Visits
- Workshop 1: Best Fit College Factors, College Search Criteria
- Workshop 2: Understanding College Admissions Factors and Application Requirements
- Workshop 3: Essay Writing & Senior Student Panel Discussion
- Academic Advising: Course Selection
- Individual Meetings: Personalized Preparation for College Applications (with family)

Grade 12
- Senior Year Guidance and College Application Checklist
- College Admissions Representative Visits
- Workshop 1: Finalizing Your College List
- Workshop 2: Common Application
- Workshop 3: College Essays, Scholarships, College Applications, Transition to College
- Individual Meetings: College List and Application Criteria (with family), Counselor Letter of Recommendation Interview, personalized meetings throughout the college selection process
KIS Students Attend Top North American Colleges

Biola University
Cal Tech
Claremont McKenna College
Stanford University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Los Angeles

Cornell University
Carnegie Mellon University
Purdue University

Emory University
George Mason University
The George Washington University

Georgetown University
Johns Hopkins University

Northwestern University
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Notre Dame

Northwestern University

Boston College
Brown University
Dartmouth College
Harvard University
Wellesley College

Columbia University
New York University
Princeton University

Emory University
Savannah College of Art and Design

Duke University

University of British Columbia

Increased Individual Attention

Academic
Social/Personal
College Career
Global Perspective

4 HS Counselors

Average # of Seniors Each counselor advises

32

GPA

Grade Point Average Distribution

Average KIS Student Scores

3.00 - 3.49

18%

3.50 - 3.99

19%

4.00 or higher

100 + College Recruiter Visits Annually

SAT

USA Average (Middle 50%)

1260 - 1800

1880 - 2160

KIS Average (Middle 50%)

1 + 2

3 Math APs

2 English APs

6 Science APs

5 Social Science APs

3 Language APs

24 Advanced Placement Courses + AP Capstone Diploma
WE WANT TO MEET YOU!

VISITING KIS
You’ve read our story and seen our pictures. Do you see your son or daughter here? Is KIS the right fit for your family? The best way to get a sense of the academic and social atmosphere at Korea International School is to visit while classes are in session. Schedule a personalized tour today!

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