

Early Years Prospectus

Welcome to Early Years at ICS, the global home of **#themonalisaeffect.**

This prospectus contains much of the information you will need to help you make the right decision for your child's education. However, if you do have any further questions, we are more than happy to answer them personally.

School Mission

The International Community School provides a personalised, high quality education, drawing on the best of British and international practice. We will continue to nurture and invest in an inclusive and diverse learning community of happy, confident and creative global citizens.

School Vision

ICS is a school where every child can thrive.

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The Candle of Curiosity

In the earliest years of each child's life, every child has a candle of curiosity, which burns brightly and hungrily. Our aim throughout the school is to fan this flame and feed this curiosity, with an engaging, child-led and child-centred curriculum catering directly for the needs, strengths and interests of every child.

In Early Years, our curriculum is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework from the UK, modified for our local and international context, and drawing on the very best of global practice and pedagogy. We keep a close and caring eye on each child to ensure they fulfil their potential in a supportive and nurturing environment.

In embracing the best early years practice globally, our environment has been designed to ensure our youngest children feel safe, secure and are able to learn in a variety of ways. We recognise that every child learns differently, and, just as the Reggio Emilia approach considers the '100 languages' of learning, so, too, do we aim to find the 'learning language' of each child, and speak and listen through that.

Our Early Years Curriculum is a two year journey, from the ages of three to five, and enables your child to transition into our Primary school.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child into the ICS community.



Further Information

You are very welcome to come and speak with any of the Primary Leadership Team, who can be reached via email as follows:

- Primary Headteacher Ms. Georgina Scho ield (g.scho ield@ics.edu.jo)
- Deputy Head of Primary Ms. Melanie Greenwood (m.greenwood@ics.edu.jo)
- Assistant Head of Primary (Early Years) Ms. Mia Owens (m.owens@ics.edu.jo)

You are invited to contact the school to make an appointment should you have any further questions. Appointments can be made through Mariam Al Nahhas, the Primary Headteacher's PA, via email [m.nahhas@ics.edu.jo]





Our Curriculum

Our Early Years curriculum provides your children with a range of skills to build the right foundation for their future progress. Throughout their journey, our practitioners focus on the seven areas of learning:

- Communication and Language how your child listens, understands, communicates and develops vocabulary and speech
- Physical Development how your child moves and uses gross motor skills, develops fine motor skills, learns about healthy living, and manages self care independently
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development how your child develops confidence, manages their feelings and behaviour, makes friends and shares
- Literacy how your child enjoys using books, learning to write and exploring sounds
- Mathematics how your child learns about numbers and counting and explores measures, capacity, shape and space through play
- Understanding the World how your child recognises the passing of time, discovers nature and the world around them and talks about people in their local community
- Expressive Arts and Design how your child enjoys being creative, playing imaginatively, singing, dancing, making music and expressing themself

What makes us different?

Our highly skilled and qualified teaching team brings with them a plethora of experience from across the globe, enabling us to blend the very best classroom practice from around the world. We aim to be a centre of excellence throughout the region in Early Childhood Education, and, indeed, our entire school builds on this through our #earlyyearsup strategic goal.

Through this goal we embrace a play-based approach to learning. We encourage our children to organise and make sense of their social worlds through play, as they actively engage with other children, adults and the environment. As in any outstanding Early Years classroom, learning is both child-initiated and teacher-facilitated, enabling children to explore, experiment, discover and solve problems in imaginative and playful ways.





Our Guiding Principles

Our curriculum is underpinned by seven core values

Integrity

We do the right thing and we make good choices.

Determination

We try our best.

Respect

We respect each other.

Compassion We are kind.

Equity

We are fair to each other.

HappinessWe include each other.

Challenge

We take risks and try new things.

Our learning conversations are based around these core values, and we encourage the use of this language during family time.





Communication

At ICS, we believe that parents play a vital role in the learning, wellbeing and development of their child. Strong and continuous communication between parents and teachers is essential as we seek to grow happy and successful children and young people.

When this strong relationship begins in the Early Years, that firm foundation can only grow stronger as the child moves up through the school.

Parents will be invited to Parent-Teacher Consultations three times a year. However, in the Early Years, daily contact is encouraged and our staff are always keen to chat about your child.





Transition into Primary

At ICS, we provide a seamless transition from the end of Early Years into Year 1 and the Primary School. Both in the Early Years and Year 1, our staff work together to ensure your child feels safe, secure and prepared for the next stage of their learning journey.

However, the transition into the Primary School does not mean the end of an Early Years approach, and we work hard to build upon prior learning experiences. We believe that much of the best pedagogy and practice can be found within the walls of Early Years classrooms around the world - this is what #earlyyearsup is all about.

At ICS, we know that a discovery-led, play-based education actually improves attainment, and that the more each child is engaged with, and has ownership of, a multimodal learning experience, the more they will achieve and thrive.





Accreditations & Memberships























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