

BISHKEK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROFILE

Head of School: Dr. David Grant
Director of Studies: Mr. William Polan
IB MYP Coordinator: Ms. Frances Garsed
Inclusive Education Coordinator: Ms. Christine Barclay

CEEB Code: 666002
IB Code: 049262
UCAS No. TBD

VISION AND MISSION

- BIS' Vision is to be the best international school in Central Asia providing inspirational education in a happy environment for globally minded students who are the leaders of the future.
 - Our Mission is to enable our students to:
 - Develop their intellectual curiosity and achieve their academic, sporting and creative potential;
 - Be confident in their abilities and respectful of others;
 - Learn about local and global issues and prepare to tackle common challenges.
- In a school which:
- Delivers and celebrates excellent teaching for internationally accredited education;
 - Values diversity;
 - Contributes positively to development of the Kyrgyz Republic.

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

- Bishkek International School (BIS) is a liberal secular non-profit community school, founded in 2010 and opened in September 2011.
- Current enrolment is 250 students, with a Middle School comprising of approximately 50 students.
- BIS is a candidate school for –New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), with full accreditation expected in the Fall of 2018.
- BIS employs 54 part-time and full-time teachers. This provides the learning community with a 5-1 student-teacher ratio.
- BIS' student body includes representatives of over 30 nationalities, with 44% Kyrgyz Citizens and 56% from countries worldwide.
- Mother tongue: 33 different mother tongues amongst our school's student body, with English as the main language of communication in the school.

- Students are offered 7 foreign language choices across the entire school, with French, Russian, Madarin, and Kyrgyz offered to Middle Years students. Options for Spanish, German, Japanese, are available in certain grades and levels.
- Purpose built, secure, campus, with 3 fully equipped Science laboratories, drama hall, indoor sports court, Computer laboratory, 12,000+ book library, outdoor football field and basketball court, wi-fi accessible campus, common areas, etc

MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND ACCREDITATION

- BIS' middle school is inclusive, diverse and internationally minded. Students follow the internationally accredited IB Middle Years Programme (MYP).
- The inquiry-based nature of the MYP is central to enabling students to develop their intellectual curiosity and make interdisciplinary connections. Students have multiple opportunities both in an outside of the curriculum to participate in sport and the arts, including as part of the Extra-Curricular Activities programme.
- Students in MYP represent a diverse range of nationalities and cultures, which are celebrated in lessons, visually throughout the school and as part of whole-school cultural events.
- MYP students develop ATL (approaches to learning) skills, which include social and affective skills, as part of the MYP curriculum and engage in school or community service through the Service and Action programme. Unit plans are structured around global contexts, to allow students to view and apply their learning through global perspectives.

- Summative tasks use prescribed criteria, strands and grade descriptors published by the IB to assess and grade students. Teachers assess students against each prescribed strand at least twice each academic year.
- The MYP consists of 8 subject groups, some of which are subdivided into different strands. These subject groups are:
 - Mathematics
 - Sciences
 - Individuals and Societies
 - Language and Literature (English is offered to all students; native-speaking students also take Russian and currently follow the local programme, although this will be incorporated into MYP from January 2018)
 - Language Acquisition (languages currently offered are Russian, French, Mandarin, English)
 - Arts (divided into Art, Music and Drama)
 - Design
 - Physical and Health Education
- In addition, the school offers Kyrgyz language classes to prepare students for state exams in the future. These lessons are optional and do not follow the MYP model.
- The MYP curriculum also includes Approaches to Teaching and Learning (ATL) skills, which are embedded in unit plans across subjects, and Service and Action activities, which are coordinated through Form groups.
- ‘Subject Group Overview’ documents created by subject teachers outline the concepts, contexts, statement of inquiry, assessment criteria, ATL skills and content of each unit.
- Students in MYP 3 are required to complete a ‘Community Project’. This will be launched in January 2018 and will be led by the project coordinator.

ADMISSIONS AGE REQUIREMENTS

- MYP 1 – Age by 1 September: 11
- MYP 2 – Age by 1 September: 12
- MYP 3 – Age by 1 September: 13

Enrolment over the last 3 years (2015-2018)

- Middle School as of Jan. 1, 2016 - 22 students
- Middle School as of Jan. 1, 2017 - 29 students
- Middle School as of Jan.1, 2018 - 50 students

CLASS SIZE

A maximum of 20 students in a class group, with the last 2 spaces (19, 20) are reserved for children who have siblings joining the school. Common enrolment stops at 18 children. Other children join a waiting list and are offered places when they are free.

- The current breakdown of class sizes in the 12017/18 academic year is as follows (these numbers fluctuate throughout the year):
 - MYP1 – 14 students
 - MYP2 – 16 students
 - MYP3 – 20 students

Students are taught in these groups for most subjects, but are divided into two ability groups for English Language and Literature and are divided into language acquisition groups according to the language chosen and, in some cases, language proficiency.

FACULTY

As reflected in the diversity of the student body, our teachers also represent many different cultures and nationalities. MYP teachers come from the Kyrgyz Republic, Australia, USA, South Africa, France, UK, South Korea, Belgium and Canada. There are 21 full-time and part-time teaching staff in MYP. This creates a student/faculty ratio of 4:1 in the middle school.

STUDENT BODY

The Middle School student body is multicultural and diverse, with a wide range of nationalities and mother tongues represented among 50 students.

- Female: 46% ; Male: 54%
- 20 local students, 30 international students
- Number of nationalities: 19

SPORTS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students in the Middle School are able to participate in sports as extra-curricular activities (ECAs). Sports available for Middle School students include Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Swimming, and Cross-Country. As associate Members of the Central Asian Federation of Arts and Athletics, our sports teams enjoy international tournaments and competition.

Guitar, School band (Jazz), Chess, Anniversary show (Theatre), Art-studio, Badminton, Coding club, Etiquette

*Sports Teams practice during ECA time