



QAIS

Prospectus

2016 - 2017

Welcome to a lifelong love of learning

Looking through these pages, you will capture a glimpse of QAIS life and accomplishments, including what we stand for, our mission, vision, and values towards education and becoming globally minded citizens of the world.

www.qingdaoamerasia.org



QINGDAO AMERASIA
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Qingdao Amerasia International School

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Message from Director



Welcome to QAIS! Who we are and what we stand for!

The journey of QAIS has been one of phenomenal growth and achievement. Our enrollment continues to soar and now includes students from 29 nations including Canada, the United States, Finland, Russia, Italy, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Hungary, India, China, Japan, Australia, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vanuatu, Germany, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, Poland, Turkey, Romania, Brazil, Spain, France, Sweden, and New Zealand.

The QAIS family of staff now consists of representatives from 9 different nations including: Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Turkey, Mexico, Malaysia, China and 9 different states in the USA. Our staff are all certified in their content and specialty areas, over 70% of them have Masters or advanced degrees, and five have doctoral degrees. Our staff this year have teaching experience in over 20 different nations around the world and on all 6 inhabitable continents, giving us access to a true "global perspective". This international mindedness is one of the tenets that underlie the IB philosophy, and will be one of our greatest strengths this year as we strive to instill the attributes of the Learner Profile in all our students. We look forward to this global collaboration and sharing of best practices with each other as we continue our search for "more right answers".

While the QAIS community has become more global, it has also demonstrated a commitment to excellence that has enabled us to take our place as the first AMS-accredited Montessori school in all of Asia, the first IB World School in Shandong Province, and the 17th IB continuum school in China offering the Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP), and Diploma Programme (DP). We should celebrate these accomplishments and take pride in such monumental achievements.

Although these accreditations and authorizations symbolize a full school effort to raise our standard of academic excellence, the measure of our success lies not in whether or not we have achieved these "end goals", but rather, how we got there. I continue to stand proud of a community that faces all challenges with great optimism, a deep faith in one another, and a love for life and learning that has become the hallmark of the QAIS family.

In the end, we have been called to partake in a great journey of transformation. Our child-centered, inquiry-based, holistic approach aims for each student to self-actualize. For when individuals begin to discover their true nature and lift themselves toward their highest potential, they learn to value and cherish one another, live without prejudice, create more democratic communities, and use their powers of reason and creativity to solve the multitude of complex problems that currently afflict the human race. And as we strive to develop internationally-minded leaders, we allow our students to express themselves freely while surrounding them with unconditional support and love. In the words of Maria Montessori, it is precisely this freedom to discover the nature of the Self that will allow our children to "penetrate life's secrets, and win its rewards, not only for themselves but for all."

I want to thank all staff, parents, and students for their support of the QAIS mission and vision and look forward to our journey of continued collaboration throughout the 2016-2017 school year.

With Warmest Regards,

Chris Vicari, Ed.D
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chris Vicari".



About

Qingdao Amerasia International School

QAIS is a mid-sized school with just under 200 students from 24 different countries. We offer holistic, inquiry-based programs that promote a mastery of skills, while inspiring a lifelong love of learning.

QINGDAO AMERASIA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL provides individualized, inquiry-based curriculum from 18 months through Grade 12, to help your child thrive no matter where the future leads.

QAIS is an International Baccalaureate World School, offering the full IB Continuum: the Primary Years Programme, Middle Years Programme, and Diploma Programme. Our Toddler and Early Childhood Programs are the only programs in Asia to be accredited by the American Montessori Society.

English is the primary language of instruction, with Mandarin Chinese also taught daily.



OUR MISSION:

QAIS aims to inspire a lifelong love of learning through a holistic, child-centered, inquiry-based approach. By embracing each student's diverse needs, learning styles, and strengths, we strive to develop courageous global citizens who help to create a more peaceful world through community action, intercultural understanding, and respect for all life.

OUR VISION:

To cultivate an inclusive and vibrant community that promotes knowledge, creativity, independent thinking and mutual respect in a nurturing and safe environment.

OUR CORE VALUES

QAIS STANDS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, INDEPENDENCE AND IMAGINATION, PEACE AND RESPECT AND INTERNATIONAL MINDEDNESS.

Academic Excellence: We embrace academic excellence, guiding our children's innate curiosity and encouraging joy in learning.

Independence and Imagination: We foster independent thinking and spark imagination, inspiring our children to become the leaders of tomorrow.

Peace and Respect: We instill respect for self, respect for one another, and respect for our planet, enhancing prospects for peace.

International Mindedness: QAIS values International Mindedness by developing Multilingualism, Intercultural Understanding, and Global Engagement through all ten attributes of the IB Learner Profile. QAIS students are nurtured to become: Knowledgeable, Inquirers, Thinkers, Reflective, Risk-Takers, Caring, Communicators, Principled, Balanced, Open-Minded.



“As a QAIS student, I feel the teachers work together to help develop creative, intelligent, and internationally minded students, supporting us to have the courage to stand for community action, intercultural understanding, and respect for all life. QAIS is a good place for students to collaborate and interact with each other, while learning about cultures through education, experience and school events. Every year, our school spirit and pride grow even stronger.”

- Sarah Ryou, Student Council President ”

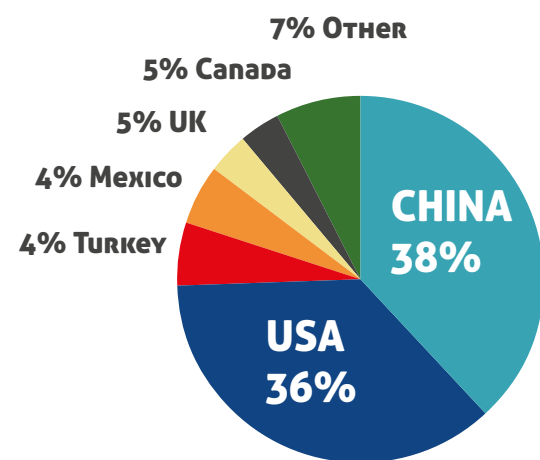
Demographic

QAIS in Figures 2016-2017

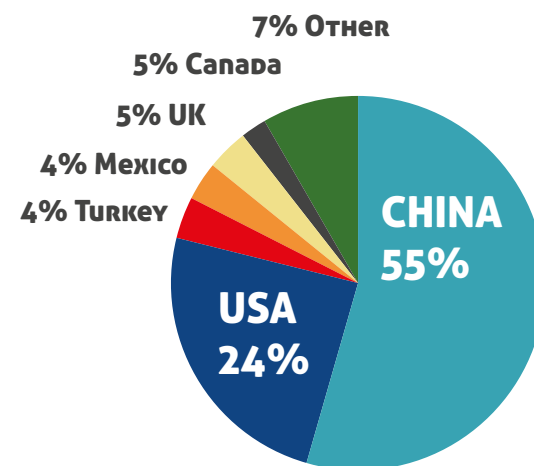
We are an international community of learners, comprised of students, faculty and staff from over 25 countries. Our small student-teacher ratios provide a safe environment for students to become fully engaged in learning and inquiry, growing both intellectually and emotionally.

QAIS STAFF NATIONALITIES 2016-2017

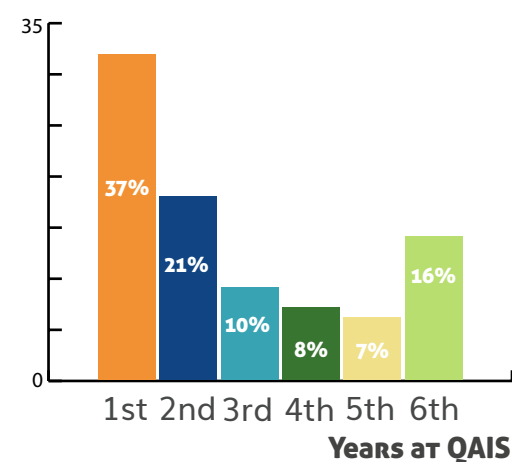
ACADEMIC STAFF



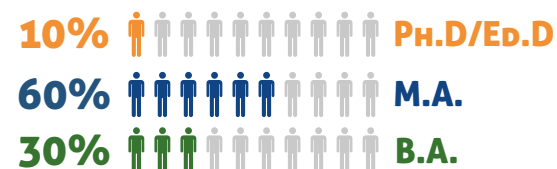
ALL STAFF



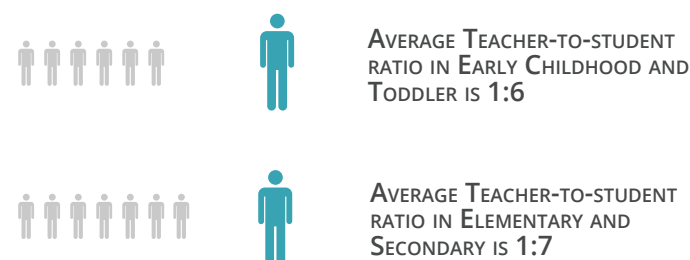
COMPLETED YEARS OF SERVICE AT QAIS



ACADEMIC STAFF HIGHEST DEGREES

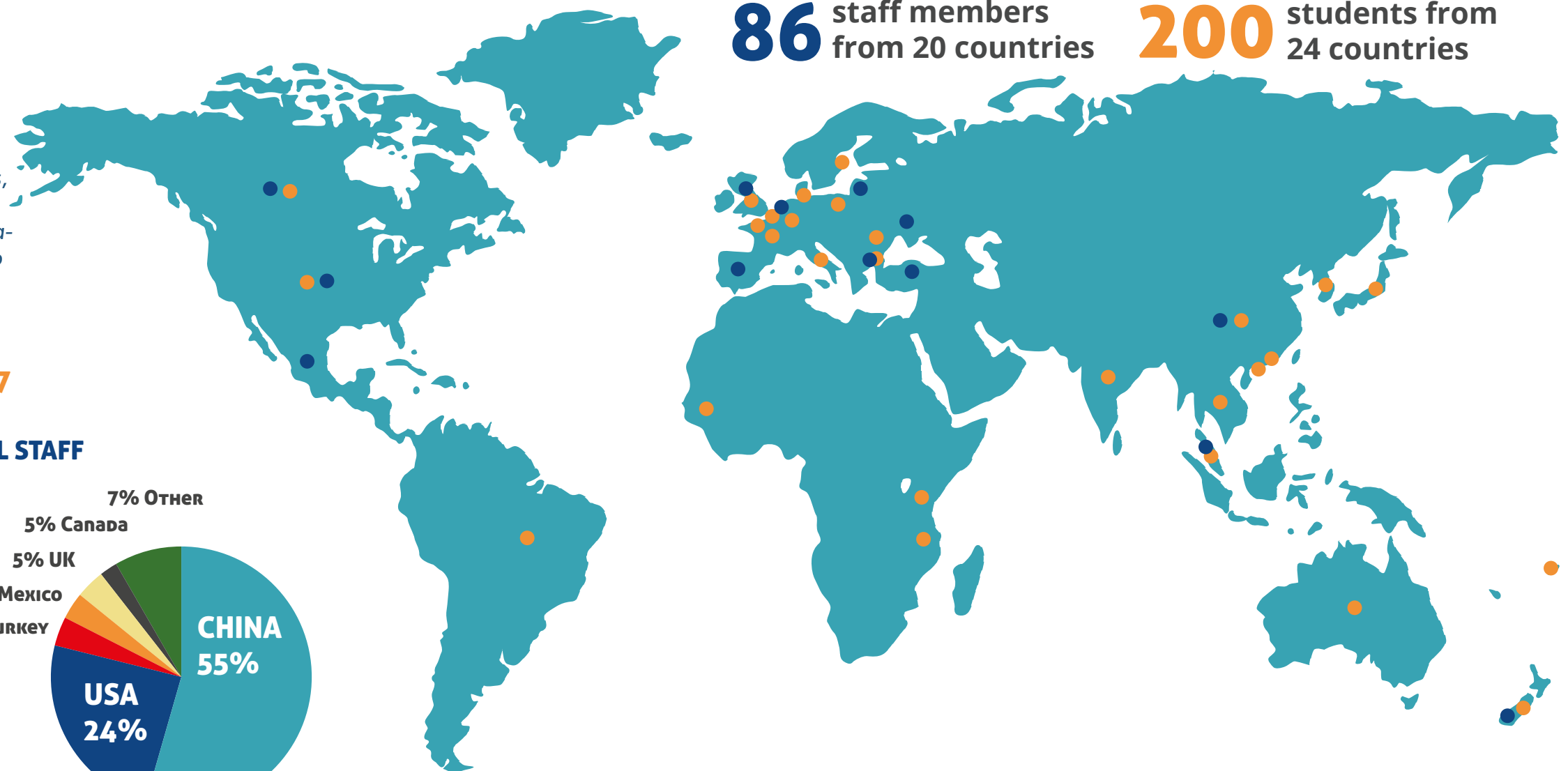


TEACHER-TO-STUDENT RATIO

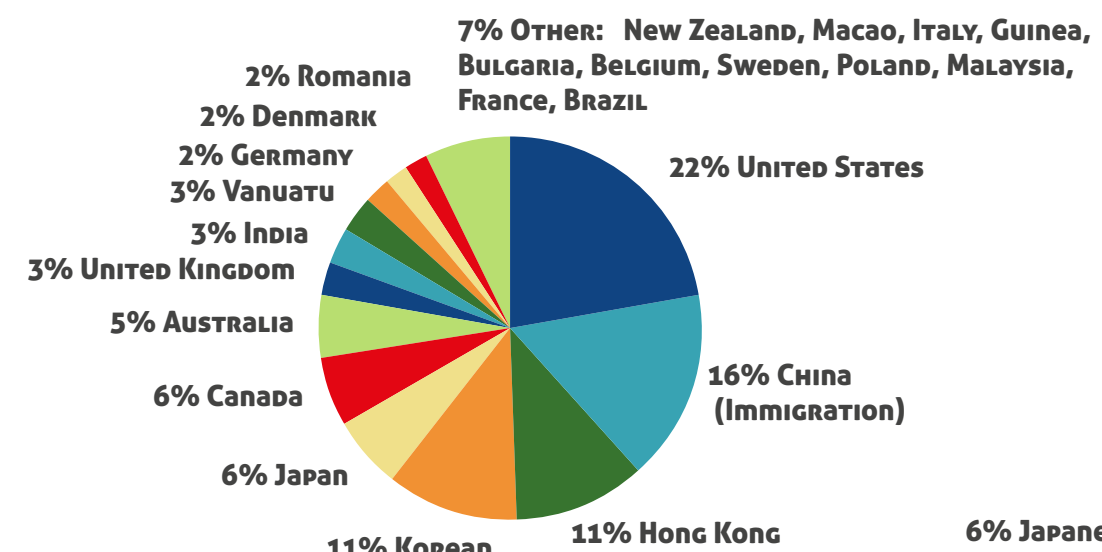


86 staff members from 20 countries

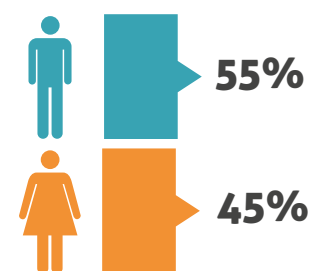
200 students from 24 countries



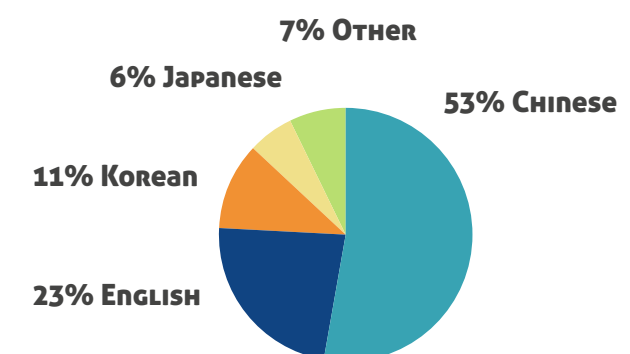
QAIS STUDENT NATIONALITIES 2016-2017



STUDENT GENDER



STUDENT FIRST LANGUAGES



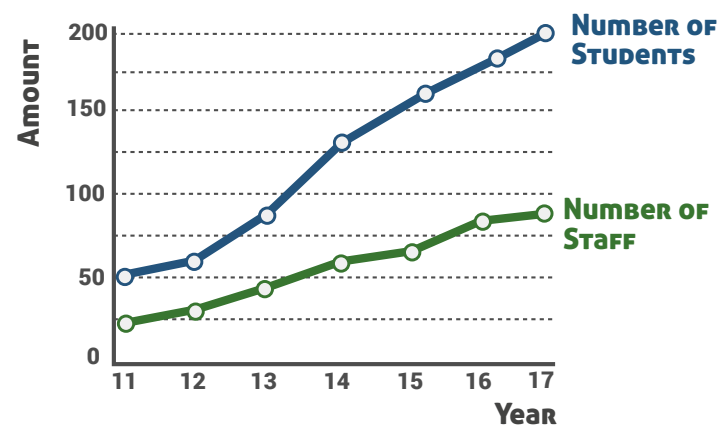
18 EARLY YEARS **11** ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO HIGH SCHOOL
AVERAGE STUDENTS PER CLASS

Demographics

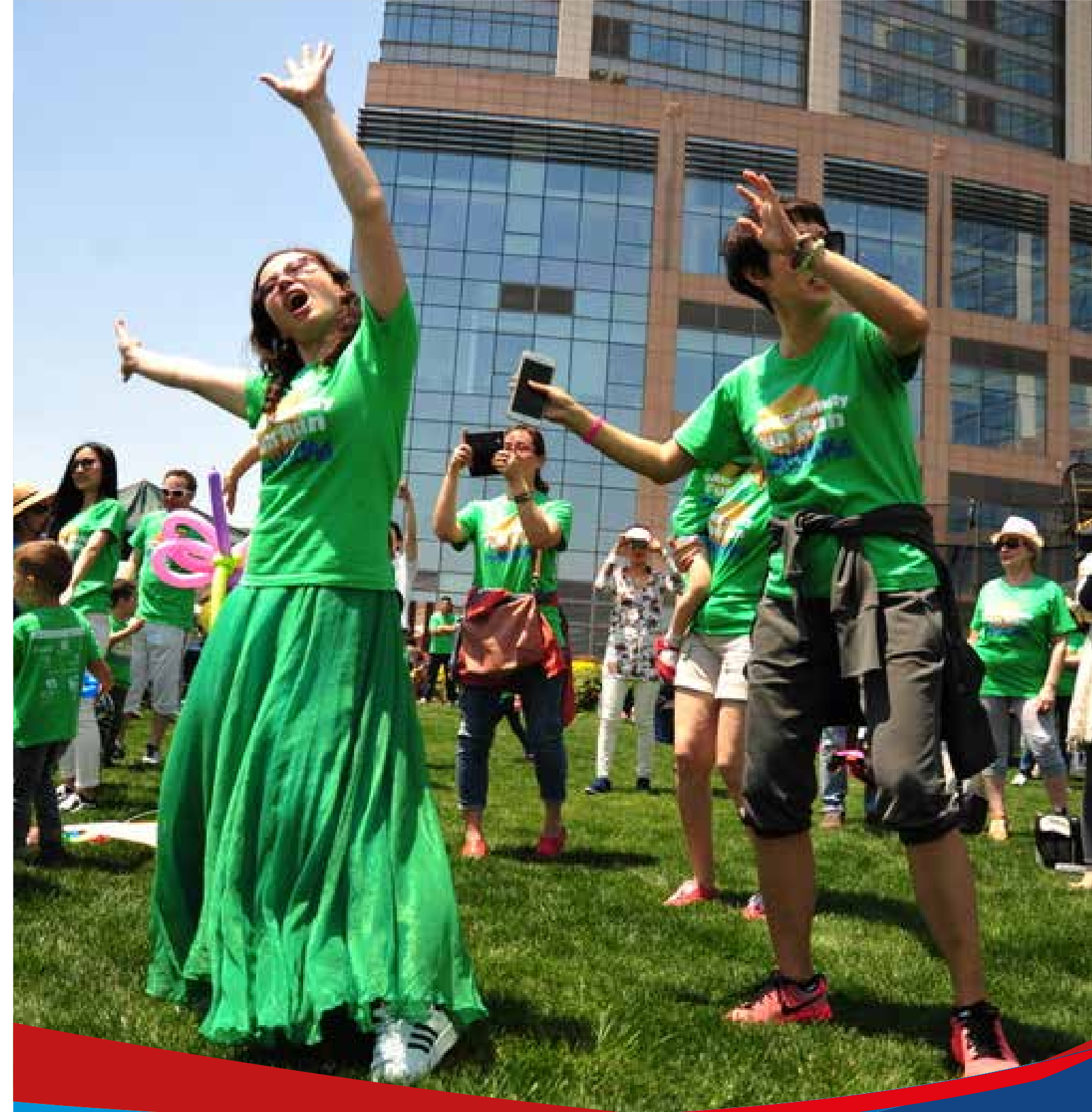
QAIS in Figures

QAIS ADMISSIONS

ENROLLMENT



ACCREDITATIONS



UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCE

100% MATRICULATION SINCE OPENING IN 2011

- Seoul National University
- Korea University
- Yonsei University
- Ohio State University
- Miami University of Ohio
- Brigham Young University
- Lewis and Clark College
- Cornell College
- BYU-Hawaii
- University of Utah
- Utah State University
- SUNY Albany
- College of Wooster
- Reed College
- Centre College

“

Our student enrollment has grown at an incredible rate since our start in 2011. Most of the students that want to join our school come through the referral of other parents. It is a privilege to have so many parents who feel so passionately about the school and programmes.

-Lynn Wang, Director of Admissions

”



The perfect place for learning QAIS Facilities

Located less than 1km from the beach, in between two mountains and less than 5km from downtown, QAIS provides the perfect location for school life.

Spacious classrooms, boasting natural light and educational resources are spread over five floors to create a secure environment for students to learn. The facilities include well-equipped classrooms; kid-friendly zones with both outdoor and indoor edu-tainment; one cafeteria and cafe; a private library with over 10,000 books; an auditorium, sound proof music rooms; a community room; a fully equipped science lab, a large art room and a design teaching space with 3-D printers.



“
I'm proud of the fact that QAIS has been able to retrofit purposely built learning facilities in the space of a couple of floors. It was nothing short of a complete overhaul so that our student body could enjoy a quality education.
- Chris Borodenko, Facilities Manager
”

Academic Programs

Montessori Children's House (Ages 2-6)

Independence. Concentration. Love of Learning. These three characteristics are among the most noticeable outcomes of a Montessori education. Children learn experientially, manipulating specially-designed materials to attain deep understanding of practical and intellectual concepts. Language, Mathematics, Science/Social Studies, Practical Life and Sensorial Education are all part of the program, helping students learn that they control their own education, even from an early age.



The Montessori Toddler Program

Ages 1.8 - 3

Children in a Montessori Toddler Program are in the period of life where they are rapidly forming their self-identity and personality structure. To support this important work, the relationship that is shared between the children and the adults is vital. The adult caregivers willingly respond to the varying needs to support personalized care. In Part, this support is provided through the establishment of consistent routines and procedures that aid the children in their development of independence and trust in both themselves and the environment.



Toddler Exploration in Outdoor Environment

The opportunity to move freely, developing both fine and gross motor skills, is important from a physical and psychological standpoint.

Toddler Curriculum

The Toddler classroom is a rich educational setting, filled with hands-on activities for this critical age of development. Dr. Montessori discovered that children all over the world, when given a choice, were drawn to real, purposeful activities including:

- Practical Life
- Food Preparation
- Sensorial Materials
- Art
- Music
- Language
- Grace and Courtesy Lessons



Montessori Early Childhood Program Ages 3-6

Dr. Maria Montessori (1870-1952) believed that children effortlessly absorb knowledge and have a natural and intense desire to learn about the world, particularly before age six. In the EC program, children are nurtured in a prepared environment which allows them to act freely on their own initiative, meeting needs through individual activity. Children learn to work intently on their own tasks, building concentration and self-discipline.



Geography and Cultural Studies

Geography, biology, botany, zoology, and music are presented as extensions of language activities, and are integrated into the environment as part of the curriculum. Children learn about people and cultures in other countries with an attitude of respect and admiration. Through familiarity, children come to feel connected to the global human family. Lessons and experiences with nature inspire a reverence for all life. Art and music in the classroom give children the opportunity to enjoy creative activities, as well as gain knowledge of the great masters.



Mathematics

Mathematical activities help children learn and understand the concepts of math by manipulating concrete materials. The work helps children acquire a solid understanding of basic mathematical principles, and prepares them to reason abstractly as they grow older.



Practical Life

Practical life exercises instill care for self, for others, and for the environment. These activities include some of the daily routines children have already observed at home: preparing food, washing dishes, dressing oneself, and practicing grace and courtesy.



Sensorial Awareness

Sensorial materials are designed to develop cognitive skills, and to help children classify and order impressions by touching, seeing, smelling, listening, and exploring all the physical properties of the environment.



Language

Language development is vital to all human development. The Montessori classroom is rich in oral language opportunities, allowing children to experience conversation, poetry, and stories.

Academic Programs

IB Primary Years Programme

The Primary Years Program (PYP), for students aged 3 to 12, focuses on the development of the whole child, nurturing their emotional, social, language, cognitive, and physical needs. The PYP curriculum therefore balances the acquisition of knowledge, concepts and skills, with the reinforcement of positive attitudes and student-initiated action. The PYP is the result of years of research that carefully examined a variety of national systems and independent schools. The aim of PYP is to develop internationally minded learners who are inquirers, knowledgeable, and caring, and who help to create a better more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.



Six Transdisciplinary Themes

The most significant and distinctive feature of the PYP is the six transdisciplinary themes. These themes are about issues that are important to all of us. The program offers a balance between learning through the subject areas, and learning beyond them.

The six themes are:

- Who we are
- How we express ourselves
- How we organize ourselves
- Where we are in place and time
- How the world works
- Sharing the planet



Academic Programs

IB Middle Years Programme

Modern life places many shifting demands on students transitioning through adolescence. They are at a crucial period of personal, social, physical and intellectual development of uncertainty and of questioning. The Middle Years Programme is designed to help them find a sense of belonging in the ever-changing and increasingly interrelated world around them, and to foster a positive attitude toward learning. The MYP for students 12 to 16, provides a framework of academic challenges and opportunities for growth and achievement.



Global Context Framework

The MYP provides a framework for learning within and across subjects, by introducing 'global context' that show how issues in the real world cut across disciplines.

The global contexts are: Identity and Relationships; Personal and Cultural Expression; Dimensions of Time and Space; Scientific and Technical Innovation; Globalization and Sustainability; and Fairness and Development.



Academic Programs

IB Diploma Years Programme

The IB DP is designed as an academically challenging and balanced program of education, culminating in final examinations that prepare students for success at university and life beyond. The program is traditionally for students aged 16 to 19 years and taught over two years. The IB DP has gained recognition and respect from the world’s leading universities and institutions of higher learning. Students choose courses in Literature, Acquired Language, Individuals and Societies, Math, Science, and the Arts (Music, Film, and Art are all offered at QAIS).



DP students study six academic courses, ensuring breadth of experience in languages, social studies, the experimental sciences, mathematics, and the arts.

In addition, the program has three core requirements that are included to challenge students to apply their knowledge and understanding:

The **extended essay** requires students to engage in independent research through in-depth study of a question relating to one of their subjects;

Theory of knowledge is designed to encourage each student to reflect on the nature of knowledge by critically examining different ways of knowing (perception, emotion, language and reason) and different kinds of knowledge (scientific, artistic, mathematical and historical)

Creativity, activity, service requires that students actively learn from the experience of doing real tasks beyond the classroom. Students can combine all three components or do activities related to each of them separately.



GRADING and RUBRICS

At QAIS, our curriculum is derived from our school and IB Mission Statements and clearly defines what we want our learners to know, understand, and do. In turn, this defines what and how we want our students to achieve. Assessment is the way of measuring whether we have achieved our curriculum aims.

At QAIS we believe that teaching, learning and assessment are fundamentally interdependent. Assessment helps to improve student performance, develop critical and creative thinking skills, and reflect the international-mindedness of our school by placing assessments in a variety of cultural and linguistic contexts, thereby support both the QAIS and IB Mission Statements.

IB GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GPA	LETTER GRADE
7	Excellent	4.0	A+

Consistent and thorough understanding of the required knowledge and skills, and the ability to apply them almost faultlessly in a wide variety of situations. The student consistently demonstrates originality, insight, and analytical thinking. The student produces work of high quality.

IB GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GPA	LETTER GRADE
6	Very Good	4.0	A

Consistent and thorough understanding of the required knowledge and skills, and the ability to apply them in a wide variety of situations. The student consistently demonstrates originality, insight, and analytical thinking.

IB GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GPA	LETTER GRADE
5	Good	3.3	B+

Thorough understanding of the required knowledge and skills, and the ability to apply them in a variety of situations. The student occasionally demonstrates originality, insight, and analytical thinking.

IB GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GPA	LETTER GRADE
4	Satisfactory	2.7	B-

General understanding of the required knowledge and skills, and the ability to apply them effectively in normal situations. There is occasional evidence of analytical thinking.

IB GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GPA	LETTER GRADE
3	Mediocre	2.0	C

Limited achievement against most of the objectives, or clear difficulties in some areas. The student demonstrates a limited understanding of the required knowledge and skills and is only able to apply them fully to normal situations with support.

IB GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GPA	LETTER GRADE
2	Poor	1.7	C-

Very limited achievement in terms of the objectives. The student has difficulty in understanding the required knowledge and skills and is unable to apply them fully to normal situations, even with support.

IB GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GPA	LETTER GRADE
1	Very Poor	1.0	D

Minimal achievement in terms of the objectives.

IB GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GPA	LETTER GRADE
0	Failure	0	F

Student Leadership

QAIS students may choose to participate in Student Council and Model United Nations. Student Council has managed several School-wide initiatives and projects in the past few years. Students also coordinate participation in MUN activities throughout the region.

Trips

Since 2012, QAIS Secondary students have taken the following overnight trips: Paris, France; London, England; Seoul, Korea; Berlin, Germany; Beijing, Qufu, Xi'an, Guilin, Chengdu, Changchun, Laoshan national Scenic Area and outlying islands.

PERFORMANCE AVERAGES

Advanced Placement	3.6
Grade Point Average	3.2

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Math	4
English	4
Second Language	2
Science	2
Social Science	2
Fine Arts	2
PE/Health	1
Technology	1
Electives	6
Total	24



“ We acknowledge and celebrate International Holidays at QAIS including Chinese New Year, Christmas, Diwali, Peace Day, International Day. To us this is both a cause for celebration and a chance for reflection. Respecting all cultures is a huge aspect of our school, and as a member of the community, the opportunity to learn and respect different cultures is one that I feel lucky to share.

- Rosanne Goedhart, Marketing Director ”

School Related Services



SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS SUPPORT AT QAIS

The Special Education Needs (SEN) specialist provides direct and indirect instructional support to students in a positive environment, works closely with staff to ensure best practices are being implemented in the mainstream classroom, and provides support for families of students with special needs. The SEN specialist employs a child-centered, holistic approach to assist students in the following areas:

- Instructs students in academic subjects using a variety of techniques to meet individual needs
- Provides social-emotional support and enhances social skills as determined by the specific needs of each student
- Creates individualized educational programs (IEPs) by employing techniques in an overall positive behavioral support system
- Enables students to successfully develop to their fullest potential by implementing evidence-based practices

COUNSELING AT QAIS

In order to offer continuous support and encouragement, QAIS offers both college and guidance counseling to its student body. The College and Guidance Counselor connects with students to offer assistance with university and scholarship research and selection, as well as CV, essay, recommendation letter, and admission preparation for colleges across the globe. The counselor also works with students one-on-one to help meet emotional and academic needs, while focusing on their overall well-being.



LANGUAGE SUPPORT

QAIS provides extensive, targeted English language support for all students in the form of extra ESL classes (when needed) in order to ensure universal, meaningful participation in our rigorous academic programs and school life.

Learning beyond the classroom

Field Trips & After-School Activities

Field Trips and after-school activities help students to take on new challenges, to develop their passions and to be balanced.

Throughout the year, QAIS students participate in activities which take them beyond the walls of the school to enhance their opportunities for academic growth and to strengthen the bonds of our student community. Our students get the chance to speak with experts and do their own research, for example, exploring how raw materials can be used to create new products at a food processing factory, investigating the role and logistics behind electricity production at a solar power plant, determining the extent of damage to environments by doing a beach cleanup, or examining how distribution of wealth affects communities and individuals by assessing need at a local public school.

Every year, QAIS Secondary students are offered the chance to travel to major regional and international destinations such as Beijing, Changchun, Jimo, Chengdu, London, Frankfurt, Paris, France, Seoul. This year secondary students plan to visit Rome for an MMUN symposium.

Two blocks of Afterschool Activities run on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:40pm – 4:30pm for students in grades 1-12. Clubs include cooking & baking, ballet, soccer, basketball, minecraft, 3d printing, guitar, band, drum, chess, math, calligraphy, trampoline and aerobics, lego, arts, crafts and more.



“

Each year, QAIS 7th & 8th graders travel within China to experience a cultural and historical part of the country. Last year, students visited Fujian Nanjing Tulou. Tulou is a living world heritage site, a place of harmony and happiness, and an example of Hakka culture. The main objectives of the trip were to promote an awareness of keeping national heritage, and to deepen the understanding of service and action.

- Almon Yao, Chinese Teacher

”

Healthy Body Healthy Mind

Physical Education & Sports

Being active is an essential part of a balanced education and lifestyle, and at QAIS students benefit from a variety of physical activities.

Rolling, tumbling, climbing, and running are basic forms of exercise, and they all contribute to healthier lifestyles. Learning the importance of physical health while young, inspires us to continue this throughout our lives. QAIS coaches train our sports teams, which participate and compete in leagues and tournaments. Activities include soccer, basketball, table tennis, dance, and a variety of others. Additionally, to further support holistic health, QAIS students learn about proper diet and safety.

Students from Grade 1 to Grade 11 have Physical Education classes several times a week. Not only do these classes provide fun ways of gaining athletic skill, they also teach students important life concepts, such as team work and cooperation.



“ PE helps in the development of Internationally Minded students by using the IB Learner profile/PYP Attitudes as a way to enhance the vision of creating a well rounded and caring community. Students are encouraged throughout each unit to reflect on what it means to be a thinker, principled, knowledgeable, effective communicator, openminded, caring, reflective, balanced, risk takers and inquirers. Having the students think about these traits along with the attitudes of the PYP, students gain an appreciation of what it takes to be a global citizen.

- Reuben Fitzgerald, QAIS P.E. Teacher

”

Thinking outside the box

Music and Art

At QAIS we foster each child's creativity to help students think outside of the box and apply their imagination to other aspects of their lives.

Creativity is in addition to knowledge and personal development, and is a vital link in the comprehensive development of children. QAIS has a wide range of creative opportunities for students to enjoy. Art, Music, Violin, Design, Drama and Band are offered, in addition to after school activities that promote the arts.

In our vision for the broad development of children, we pay close attention to their expressive development. Within our school there is a continuous line of bringing together knowledge and skills in drawing, drama, music, crafts, art and culture.



“Units focus on enduring human themes, such as traditions and identity, that show students the relevance of visual art in their own lives. Lessons offer opportunities for active inquiry as students learn and understand that art offers a way for people to share what they see and feel about themselves and others across time and place. Visual art techniques and skills are learned not as isolated concepts, but as ways in which students interpret ideas and express their own.”

By emphasizing the importance of thinking, planning, and reflection in creating original artworks, students go beyond simple “arts and crafts.” Emphasis is placed not on the final product, but on the experimentation and inquiry that takes place throughout the art-making process.

- Devin Smith, Art Teacher at QAIS

The core of learning Languages

At QAIS we believe that language is the core of learning and recognize that language acquisition and progression is essential for discovering and sustaining cultural identity, personal development, and intercultural understanding.

As English is the primary language of instruction, QAIS recognises the need for a programme that enables students to achieve full competence in this language. At QAIS, all faculty members understand their role as language teachers and acknowledge their responsibility to respond creatively and purposefully to the challenges presented by a multilingual and multicultural classroom.

QAIS strongly believes in the importance of Chinese Language and culture study for students; therefore each classroom, from Toddler through grade 4, is staffed by a qualified international teacher and a qualified Chinese teacher. Grades 1-12 see additional Chinese programmes taught by specialist PYP, MYP and DP Chinese teachers, allowing students the chance to graduate with a high degree of Chinese Language fluency and to excel in Chinese literature. Students are encouraged to use Chinese outside of the classroom as often as they can to maintain and advance their skill level.

Research has shown that maintaining one's mother-tongue proves highly beneficial in learning other languages. Being multi-lingual supports our mission and vision of valuing intercultural education, and QAIS encourages this in both its students and staff.



“Mastering one or several foreign languages is a powerful tool. In the era of information, possessing the skills to access ideas, and to contribute to the construction of knowledge in multiple languages is what distinguishes learners and knowers. More than adding to the international perspective, speaking foreign languages enables people to understand different value systems, different degrees of truth, and different conceptions of life... In a few words, this skill can make us better learners and human beings. This is why we value foreign languages at QAIS, because not only is this belief aligned with our mission statement, but also with our hope that we inspire students to become actively engaged in being part of the global community.”

- J. Rafael Ángel, Teaching & Learning, and Language Coordinator

Frequently Asked About School Information

School Hours

Monday to Friday:

- Montessori
8:30am to 3:30pm
- PYP & Secondary
8:20am to 3:40pm

School Uniform

A QAIS uniform is required for all students from Early Childhood to Grade 12. Uniforms are intended to achieve similarity of appearance, clearly identifying the students as part of QAIS, while minimizing distractions due to clothing choice.

Students who choose not to arrive at school with their uniform will be given a uniform to wear for the school day. The student will be charged a rental and dry-cleaning fee of ¥50 for the day, which may be deducted from the deposit if unpaid.

Meals and Snacks

Snacks are provided by QAIS every morning and afternoon to all students.

A catered, nutritionally balanced meal is served daily in the cafeteria. In Toddler and Early Childhood, students eat with their classes and with their teachers. A weekly menu is sent home electronically every Sunday.

Students whose religious, medical, or personal needs necessitate that they bring their own lunch and snacks should adhere to the Nut-Sensitive Campus policy.

Homework and Reading

Homework is seen as providing students with opportunities for meaningful and engaging continuations of learning from the classroom into the home when appropriate. Homework will support the development of five transdisciplinary skills (research, thinking, self-management, social and communication) as well as develop or deepen student understanding of concepts currently explored in the units of inquiry and /or subject areas.

Homework for Lower School will be given every night Monday through Thursday.

Teachers are expected to assign reasonable amounts of homework to support this philosophy and to further extend the students' learning in valuable ways.

QAIS Info wechat

QAIS uses a WeChat account to support communication between home and school administration. It is intended for informational purposes only as the communications will be sent home from time to time regarding upcoming events, policy reminders, or a change in schedule. Separately, parents can use the QAIS info Wechat to communicate with our front desk during business hours.

School Bus

Students at QAIS can choose to take the school bus which goes to various destinations around Qingdao. Each bus is accompanied by a bus monitor that will ride the bus until the last child is off.

Special Events

QAIS will hold several special events throughout the school year, such as Peace Day, International Day, Journey through Montessori and IB, Montessori for Toddlers, Chinese New Year, Family Fun Run, Spring Concert, and Graduation. Parents are asked to participate in helping to organize and execute these events to ensure that they run smoothly for the school community.

Yearbook

Individual and class group pictures are taken at QAIS. QAIS and the secondary Yearbook Committee put together a yearbook including photos of all children and activities throughout the year.

Academic Year and Daily Schedule

The Academic year is comprised of thirty-six weeks, divided into three trimesters of 12 weeks, totaling one hundred eighty (180) school days. The annual calendar, with beginning and end dates for each trimester, holidays, parent conferences and teacher workdays, is provided separately.

School Meetings

Towards the beginning of the school year, parents are invited to an open event at which they will meet teachers and hear presentations. Throughout the year there will be parent teacher conferences to discuss student progress and concerns at home. Please refer to the school calendar for an overview.

Parent/Teacher Communication

Each teacher maintains consistent communication with parents using a variety of methods including managebac, Wechat, email, mobile, or communication books. Newsletters are regularly distributed by email.

In Early Childhood, students carry a communication book so parents can monitor performance and read special notes.

Parent Hub

All parents have access to the password protected Parent Hub where you can have access to all important administrative documents and forms such as:

- Documents: Master Schedule, Rotating Schedule, Campus Map, Policies etc.
- Uniform Order Form
- Student Absence/Dismissal Forms
- Record Requests
- Withdrawal Notice
- Other

Monday Messenger

QAIS sends a Monday Messenger by email every week during the academic year, to include upcoming event information, important school notices, and information about recent happenings in the school. You can sign up for our Monday Messenger through our website. Please add info@qingdaoamerasia.org to your address book to ensure that you receive this important information.

Managebac

QAIS utilizes the web-based Managebac system to support organization of the school's program. Additionally, this system is utilized to facilitate communication between home and school. Information related to your child's performance in school as well as end-of-term reports will be shared through this system. All parents and families have access to the Managebac System, and each account is password protected. Parents will receive login information during the orientation process.

Parent Education

Parent education events are regularly coordinated at QAIS. The more knowledge the parents have about both the Montessori and IB philosophies, along with the school's policies, the more consistent a child's environment will be, and the more effective our work will be. In addition, parental support is imperative to the success of a child's education and to the school's growth and development. Parent Education nights and/or lesson showcase provide a forum for all of us to learn more about each other and how to best help the child.

In addition, QAIS has many parent resources available in the library. Parents are encouraged to check out materials related to Montessori education and child development, as well as International Baccalaureate Literature and International Issues in Education.

Parent Association

At QAIS we have a parent association that includes all parents of the school. Newcomers can choose to be part of the official Parent Association that meets on a regular basis.

In cooperation with the school the parent association organizes a number of activities such as International Day, Cultural and Holiday Celebrations, Charity events, Family Fun Run, Teacher appreciation day and more. The Parent association also plays a role in welcoming new families and providing support for existing families.

Where there is need the Parent association organizes meetings on important issues. The objective of the parent association is to promote the relationship between school and families.

Computer

Secondary students are required to have their own laptop computer. The computer must run Mac OS 10.7 or higher. Each student is responsible for making sure that his/her computer remains in good working condition for any word processing, web browsing, or other classroom uses. This includes ensuring that the battery is charged, that software is up-to-date, etc. Student computers must run licensed, recent versions of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel; Pages, Keynote and Numbers (from Apple's iWork suite) are also recommended for students using a Macintosh OS. At time of writing, 'open-source' software suites are not recommended.



Academic Programs

International Grade Level Equivalents

Age	QAIS	US	UK (English & Wales)		Australia	China (PRC)	France
1.5-3	Toddler						
3-4	Early Childhood	Pre-School	Nursery/ Reception	Key Stage 0	Year 1	Kindergarten	Petite
4-5							Moyenne
5-6			Year 1	Key Stage 1			Grande
6-7	PYP Grade 1	Grade 1	Year 2	Key Stage 2	Year 2	Grade 1	CP
7-8	PYP Grade 2	Grade 2	Year 3			Grade 2	CE1
8-9	PYP Grade 3	Grade 3	Year 4			Grade 3	CE2
9-10	PYP Grade 4	Grade 4	Year 5			Grade 4	CM1
10-11	PYP Grade 5	Grade 5	Year 6			Grade 5	CM2
11-12	PYP Grade 6	Grade 6	Year 7	Key Stage 3	Year 6	Grade 6	6ème
12-13	MYP Grade 7	Grade 7	Year 8		Year 7	Grade 7	5ème
13-14	MYP Grade 8	Grade 8	Year 9		Year 8	Grade 8	4ème
14-15	MYP Grade 9	Grade 9	Year 10	Key Stage 4 GCSE/ IGCSE	Year 9	Grade 9	3ème
15-16	MYP Grade 10	Grade 10	Year 11		Year 10	Grade 10	2ème
16-17	DP Grade 11	Grade 11	Year 12	Key Stage 5 AS/A Level	Year 11	Grade 11	1ème
17-18	DP Grade 12		Year 13		Year 12	Grade 12	Terminale

“ Since joining QAIS in September 2016 the changes and advancements of my daughter have been an absolute joy to behold. The attention her teaching team give to her development is a phenomenon and she has massively advanced her skills in a number of independent learning areas. Before she attended QAIS our daughter struggled with confidence at attempting reading - 6 month later she is now reading more advanced words and attempting to read higher level books and we astounded at her progress.

At QAIS it is clear that going the extra mile is the standard approach and that the teaching teams listen intently to feedback from parents on the observations they make of their children. They have also offered guidance so we can help enhance her progress at home and we are particularly grateful for the pinyin translations of Chinese language songs!

In all we are absolutely delighted with the progress and happiness of our daughter at QAIS, she is fast developing into a confident, happy girl whom has a strong enquiring mind and a real love for learning. Thank you!

- John Gardner, Parent of EC Student ”





Teachers Workday (No School)	AUGUST 2016							SEPTEMBER 2016						
Registration Day	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Beginning of Term		01	02	03	04	05	06					01	02	03
Parent Conferences	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Special Events	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
End of Term	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Spring Break / Smog Makeup Day	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	
School Closed/ Holiday														

OCTOBER 2016							NOVEMBER 2016							DECEMBER 2016						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						01	30	31	01	02	03	04	05					01	02	03
02	03	04	05	06	07	08	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
09	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JANUARY 2017							FEBRUARY 2017							MARCH 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01	02	03	04	05	06	07				01	02	03	04				01	02	03	04
08	09	10	11	12	13	14	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
29	30	31					26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL 2017							MAY 2017							JUNE 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						01		01	02	03	04	05	06					01	02	03
02	03	04	05	06	07	08	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
09	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	

SEMESTER ONE		
AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Aug 15-19: PD Day for Teachers (No School) Aug 22: Registration Day Aug 23: Beginning of Semester 1	Sep 16: PD Day for Teachers (No School)	Oct 3-7: Autumn Holiday Oct 10: School Resumes Oct 13: Half day for Students + Parent Conferences Oct 14: Parent Conferences Oct 22: International Day
NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY
Nov 24: Half Day for Students + PD Day for Teachers Nov 25: School Closed/Holiday	Dec 19-30: Christmas Holiday	Jan 5: School Resumes Jan 19: End of Term (Half Day) + Parent Conferences Jan 20: Parent Conferences Jan 23 - Feb 3: Spring Festival Holiday

SEMESTER TWO		
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
Feb 6: Beginning of Semester 2	Mar 10: PD Day for Teachers (No School) Mar 30: Half day for Students + Parent Conferences	Apr 10-14: Spring Break/Smog Makeup Day
MAY	JUNE	
May 1: May Day (No School) May 20: Family Fun Run	Jun 21: End of Term Jun 22: Teachers Workday (No School) Jun 23: Parent Conferences Jun 26-27: Teachers Workday (No School) Jun 28: Start of Summer Holiday	



Read to take the next steps?

Admissions

We hope this information has stimulated your interest in QAIS. We are looking for families who are a good match for our school and who believe in our mission and our core values.

If you would like to join our QAIS family you can read through the admissions policies below and follow the admissions process on page 34. Our application is designed to help us get to know your child's interests and needs, while introducing you to our school culture and values.

Evaluation Period

Students enrolling at QAIS for the first time will be evaluated for 60 days so that the school can determine the level of support the student requires. If a student shows cognitive or emotional need, the school will discuss counseling and academic assistance options with the family. If any condition prevents the child from participating in school life, QAIS will support the family in withdrawing from the school to secure adequate care for the child.

Denial or Retraction of Admissions

QAIS may retract admission if a student is expelled for acts which are a violation of school rules and regulations. QAIS may also retract admission if there is a failure to pay tuition and fees on a timely basis, without prior written authorization from QAIS Administration.

Siblings

Families with one child enrolled at Qingdao Amerasia International School may receive a discount of 5% from the tuition price of enrolling each additional child at the school. (We consider the child in the highest grade as 'first', regardless of when each child enrolled.) The third child is discounted 10%; the fourth (and any subsequent children) will be discounted 15%.

Language Support

English is the operational and main instructional language of QAIS and admission requires English assessment to ensure that the student can access the curriculum delivered in English, or that systematic support can be provided for the student to work towards developing meaningful access to the curriculum.

QAIS has recognized a minimum entry level for students in different grades, and, hence, has devised different procedures for language placement assessment in English and Chinese. The language acquisition department is responsible for assessing potential candidates.

The results of the diagnostic tests are used to assign students to an appropriate language class, and to indicate the support and accommodations students will be provided on an individual basis. A sample report on how diagnosis assessment data is employed to inform the community can be viewed in the Language Policy.

We use information included in the diagnostic assessment report to build language portraits by identifying past and present language learning experiences and abilities, and consult with students, teachers and parents to construct language learning pathways which reflect the aspirations,

needs, abilities of the student and the potential opportunities available.

Because we understand that a student's ability and experience in their mother tongue is often correlated to their cognitive development and acquisition of further languages, whenever possible, we additionally assess the mother tongue language of students if it is not English or Chinese in all programs so as to develop a more informed student language portrait.

Payment Currency

All tuition and fees are based on the renminbi amount. QAIS can also accept payment in US dollars to the account listed on the tuition guide; however, the payee assumes all fees related to international transfer and exchange, such that the amount QAIS is able to withdraw in renminbi is equal to the balance due. If QAIS is able to withdraw more than the stated amount, the surplus will be returned to the payee in cash renminbi.

Late Enrollment

For mid-year applications, the tuition fee will be calculated on a weekly pro-rata basis, based on a 36-week period and inclusive of the week in which the student plans to start attending school.

Tuition and Fees

Program of Study	Cost
Montessori Toddler	¥140,000 / year
Montessori Early Childhood	¥136,600 / year
Grades 1 - 6	¥162,000 / year
Grades 7 - 10	¥175,000 / year
IB Diploma Programme (Grades 11 - 12)	¥196,000 / year
Fees Item	Cost
Application Fee (non-refundable)	¥3,000
School Nutrition (daily snack and lunch)	¥6,000 / year
School Transportation (bus transport to and from school)	¥6,000 / year
Uniform (complete set)	¥1,800 / year
Deposit (refundable on graduation or withdrawal)	¥2,000

Bank Information

Payment may be made by cash or bank transfer. Bank information is as follows:

Account Holder:	Qingdao Amerasia International School 青岛美亚国际学校
Bank Name 开户行:	Bank of China Qingdao Xianggang Xi Lu Sub-branch. 中国银行青岛香港西路支行
Bank Account Number 账号:	2403 1242 6983
Swift Code:	BKCHCNBJ500

QAIS may also accept payment to this account in US dollars. Please see Admissions Policies for information on paying in other currencies.

Payment Deadline

Tuition payment must be received by the school before a student may attend class. Parents are responsible for seeing that payment is properly made, and for notifying the school of payment. For mid-year applications, the tuition fee should be paid within seven (7) days after issuance of the invoice, and in any case before the student begins to attend school.

Early Payment

Families paying the full year's tuition before April 30, 2016 may receive a discount of ¥2,000 on their children's tuition.

Deposit

A deposit of ¥2,000 is due at time of enrollment, and the school will issue a shouju (receipt) for this amount. This deposit is refundable when a student withdraws or graduates from QAIS, provided there are no outstanding fees for lost and/or damaged books, materials, equipment, or facilities. Payment for damage is due within 15 days of the invoice date and is refundable if the lost item is found and returned in good condition. If no payment is received, the amount will come out of the student's deposit. On withdrawal or graduation, the school will issue a fapiao for any amount withheld from the deposit.

Application Fee

The Application Fee is a one-time payment for new students, to cover administrative costs related to enrollment. This fee is non-refundable. A shouju will be provided on payment. When tuition and fees have been paid, the parent may bring the shouju to the accounting office for the ¥3,000 to be reflected on the fapiao.

Withdrawals

Students leaving the school are required to fill in the QAIS withdrawal form and clear all obligations before final records will be forwarded to the next school.

Admission Policies

Refunds

If a student voluntarily withdraws from QAIS, tuition may be refunded according to the schedule below. Nutrition and transportation fees will be returned on a pro-rata basis, counted from the first day of the month following the student's last day of school.

Refunds may be paid by check, or by bank transfer. Any refund by bank transfer must be paid to the same account from which initial payment was made. No refund can be given in cases where a fapiao cannot be provided. Refunds will follow the procedure below. Refunds will follow the procedure below.

Those paying full tuition will be eligible for refunds as follows:		Those paying half-year tuition will be eligible for refunds as follows:	
Date of Withdrawal	Maximum Tuition Refund	Date of Withdrawal	Maximum Tuition Refund
Before start of Fall Term	95%	Before start of Fall Term	95%
Before Sept 30th, 2016	75%	Before Sept 30th, 2016	50%
Before Dec 16th, 2016	50%	Before Dec 16th, 2016	No refund given
Before Jan 31st, 2017	25%	Before Jan 31st, 2017	50% of paid amount
After Jan 31st, 2017	No refund given	After Jan 31st, 2017	No refund given

- 1. Parent submits a digital request for withdrawal (Withdrawal request form on **Parent hub**) and tuition refund, along with the original fapiao, and bank information for the account from which the payment was initially made. Information must include the name and address of the account owner, the name of the bank and address of the bank branch, and the bank's SWIFT code. If payment was made through an exchange agency or any other third party, the refund must be paid through the third party. The recipient is responsible for any agency fees associated with the refund process. Student submits a sign-out form (available from Reception) to ensure that all materials have been returned and bills have been paid.
- 2. Parent visits QAIS (if possible) to verify bank details and sign a settlement confirming the amount which QAIS will refund.
- 3. QAIS pays the refund.

Temporary Leave

For temporary leave, the parent must notify the school in advance, in writing and with reasons for the leave and a scheduled date of return to resume enrollment. Failure to notify the school of an upcoming leave may result in the loss of the student's place in an impacted class. There will not be any refund of tuition or fees for a student on temporary leave.

Uniform

The ¥1,800 uniform fee paid at enrollment includes complete Sport uniform, Formal uniforms (one each for Summer/Autumn), and polo shirts. In subsequent years, the uniform fee is not billed along with a student's tuition; replacement articles may be purchased individually, as needed.

Late Enrollment

For mid-year applications, the tuition fee will be calculated on a weekly pro-rata basis, based on a 36-week period and inclusive of the week in which the student plans to start attending school.

Late Fee

All tuition payments and outstanding balances are subject to a late charge if not paid within the specified deadline. The late charge is 2% per month for the current school year. If an arrangement for payment of fees is not made within 30 calendar days of its due date, the student may be suspended from school, and the seat will be open to new applicants.

Proof of Receipt

QAIS will provide an official invoice (fapiao 发票) when payment has been received. If payment is coming from a company, please provide the company registration information in Chinese.



“The IB curriculum at QAIS is exactly what universities are looking for, as it challenges students to be critical thinkers and problem solvers. Our kids are exposed to rigorous content and encouraged to explore their passions.

- Trisha Hasbrouck, College & Guidance Counselor

Ready to take the next steps?

Admission Process

We hope this information has stimulated your interest in QAIS. We are looking for families who are a good match for our school and who believe in our mission and our core values.

If you would like to join our QAIS family you can follow the admissions process on the next page. Our application is designed to help us get to know your child's interests and needs, while introducing you to our school culture and values.

01

Application Submission

Fill in the online application form on: <http://qais.openapply.com> or go to our website. If you are having any trouble filling in the form, please call one of our representatives at (+86 532) 8388-9900.

02

Documents Submission

Please make sure to upload the following documents onto your student application account in step 1:

- 3 recent passport sized photos
- Photocopy of student's and parents' passport information page
- Photocopy of student's and parents' visa information page
- Medical Form and a photocopy of the up-to date immunization record
- Academic records in English (official records in other languages can be submitted, please provide a certified English translation if requested)
- Any available standardized test scores
- Records of any special needs testing (if applicable)

03

Application Fee Payment

Pay the application fee of 3000 RMB per bank transfer or cash.

04

Assessment & Interview

After the above steps have been completed, your admissions officer will set up an appointment for your child's academic **Assessment and Interview**. Acceptance is determined through consideration of the application materials, assessment, and interview.

05

Tuition Payment

If we are able to enroll your child, the Administrative team will issue an invoice for tuition and fees, after which the parent will have two weeks to pay the tuition. During this time the health examination form should be completed. You can find a copy of the tuition and fees on: <http://qingdaoamerasia.org/tuition-fees>.

06

Orientation & Enrollment

A school representative will organize your enrollment date and will invite you for an hour orientation where they will familiarize you with school policies, bus routes, administrative communication, email addresses, school uniform and other administrative procedures.

Admission Criteria

QAIS seeks a diverse student body with a strong blend of international and cultural backgrounds. The school does not discriminate with regard to race, religion, or culture. Please note that per international school rules in China, QAIS may deny or give preference to applicants based on the following criteria:

School Capacity and Class Size

Admissions will be granted according to enrolment limits which ensure that standards of excellence will be maintained. In the event a grade level is at capacity, the Admissions Office will place applicants into a 'Waitpool' status. Waitpool applicants are considered for admission once an opening becomes available. Applicants will not be considered chronologically, but rather determined based on the QAIS admission priority ranking (see below).

When an opening becomes available, the Admissions Office will decide on a candidate and that candidate's family will be notified immediately.

Family Policy

QAIS is a family oriented school. With that in mind, siblings of current QAIS students may be given priority if they meet the academic requirements for enrolment.

QAIS Admission Priority List:

- Tier 1: Children of full time QAIS teachers
- Tier 2: Siblings of currently enrolled QAIS students
- Tier 3: Former QAIS students returning from time spent overseas
- Tier 4: Children of Consulate families in Qingdao
- Tier 5: Children of QAIS Alumni (both graduated or former students)
- Tier 6: IB transfer students
- Tier 7: Other Applicants

Competitive Admissions

Due to the competitive nature of admissions, preference is given to the most academically capable students.

PRC Regulations

In compliance with Chinese government regulations, QAIS can only accept applications from foreign passport holders or residents from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan. Applications can also be received by any Chinese passport holder who has one or both parents holding a foreign passport, green card or resident from Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan. Families must have a work permit issued in Qingdao or be in the process of obtaining one.

English Fluency

Students applying to QAIS will be evaluated for English level, including reading, and writing ability. As the school wishes to maintain an environment where English is the primary language of academic instruction, preference is given to those students who are most functional or have the greatest potential to be functional at their grade level in English. All entering Secondary students not having English as their native language must, at a minimum, be at a level from which they can work to complete the IB.

Special Learning Needs

QAIS values diversity and may enroll students with minor special needs. Parents of students who have special learning needs will need to consult QAIS to ensure the school has resources available to serve their child before applying for admission or arriving in Qingdao. Consideration must be based on the current class enrollment and the teacher's ability to effectively meet the child's needs as well as the needs of the class as a whole.

QAIS has elevator and wheelchair access for students with physical challenges. However, students admitted to QAIS must be able to function within the regular classroom setting and be able to work towards the successful completion of QAIS academic requirements.

Note: If after a period of time (usually 60 days), or according to the parameters in a student's conditional contract, it is decided by the school that the child has not benefited from the classroom experience, then the school reserves the right to dismiss the child.

Guardianship

Local government requirements in regard to proper guardianship of students mean that QAIS may accept students who are a) resident with at least one parent, or b) resident with an approved guardian (with power of attorney). Students are not permitted, under local regulations, to be under the supervision of non-resident guardians. Students who are not living with at least one parent or authorized guardian cannot be enrolled at QAIS.



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