



SWISS
INTERNATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL
— D U B A I —

School Brochure 2021-2022





SWISS
INTERNATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL
— D U B A I —



75+

Nationalities

1450+

Students

Languages taught: **French, German, English, Arabic and more.**



IB Curriculum

50+

After-School-Activities

300+

Staff



+971 4 375 0600

admissions@sisd.ae

www.sisd.ae

Swiss International Scientific School, Dubai Healthcare City, Phase 2, Al Jaddaf



Virtual Campus Tour

Vision

The Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai (SISD) is a leading international day and boarding school where future generations are inspired to become confident and enthusiastic lifelong learners, ready to embrace the opportunities and challenges of a global world.

Mission

SISD provides an inspiring, inclusive and challenging learning environment while celebrating academic excellence. We encourage and support all our students to become successful, global minded, enthusiastic lifelong learners who will confidently take advantage of future opportunities and help make a difference. Together with our teaching staff and parents, we support our students to develop their potential fully in a motivating, multilingual and international learning environment.

SISD welcomes students of determination and gives them access to appropriate provision, resources and curricular options.

Swiss Canton of Patronage

The Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai (SISD) is under the patronage of the bilingual French/German-speaking Swiss Canton of Valais. Recognised for its high academic performance as per the PISA report (Programme for International Student Assessment), the Canton supports SISD in an advisory capacity on academic matters. The partnership with SISD is designed to collaborate in terms of knowledge transfer, as well as to reinforce quality assurance, assessments and examinations. Educational experts from the Canton of Valais provide additional professional development opportunities for our teachers. Further benefits include the opportunity for active cultural exchanges between our school and the Canton through winter and summer camps.

Our B.E.S.T. Values

Bilingual

Our unique international and multilingual environment provides students with authentic exposure to English, French, German and Arabic. Students in the immersive bilingual programmes learn to communicate, think and reflect in two different languages. As global citizens we celebrate diversity, promoting all languages and cultures with equal respect.

Excellence

We believe in maintaining high standards and aspire to be the best that we can be. We foster a spirit of enquiry, encouraging both creative and critical thinking.

Sustainability

We believe that social, cultural, economic and environmental awareness prepare us to play our part in shaping a better future, both for ourselves and for those around us. Our school campus is eco-friendly, using less energy to create a comfortable and healthy environment.

Together

In our international community, we know that we are at our best when we all work together. We view active participation in the community, from the most local to the most global, as the foundation of a valuable life.



BILINGUAL



EXCELLENCE



SUSTAINABILITY



TOGETHER

Welcome from the Principal



Dear Parents

Welcome, Bienvenue, Willkommen, Ahlan Wa sahlan, to the Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai; a school where your child will thrive and excel.

In our unique and ambitious educational experience, our commitment to supporting and nurturing all students to be their very BEST is what we do BEST! Our four underpinning values of **B**ilingualism, **E**xcellence, **S**ustainability and **T**ogether ensure that in all we do, your children will be collaborators, risk-takers, curious, open-minded, linguistically adept, flexible and happy people; equipped to approach learning and life with drive, kindness and consideration.

Offering a dynamic education, focused on both academic excellence and personal growth, SISD students are nurtured to become compassionate lifelong learners and responsible citizens, contributing to society through genuine intercultural understanding and respect. At SISD, a distinctive feature of school life is our diverse student body made up of more than 70 different nationalities. Our relentless focus on the acquisition of language makes us truly unique; bilingual programmes are offered in either French or German or alternatively, as additional languages in our IB, PYP and MYP programmes.

Our sincere commitment to a Swiss vision of excellence in all we do enables our students to fully embrace the wealth of opportunities available in our world-class facilities. We have enhanced the Early Years and Primary Years Programme to offer STEAM opportunities, a future-focused and integrated approach to learning that uses Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. Our sports, swimming, student leadership, creative and performing arts programmes are of a very high quality. Holistic approaches, where students' talents and interests are developed, contribute greatly to the personal wellbeing of all our students and to successful school community cohesion.

Our day school, as well as boarding – full and weekly options – provide great flexibility for families and every aspect of school provision is of the highest quality.

As a through-school our students from as young as 3 years through to 18 years of age are supported and challenged. Offering the IB curriculum from pre-KG through to IBDP and IBCP pathways ensures that enquiry, dialogue and critical thinking skills are all developed from an early age and gradually embedded as lifelong skills in our students.

Our team of international teaching and student support staff is made up of highly qualified professionals who all share the common goal of providing the highest quality of educational experience and support to all our children in a caring, nurturing and supportive environment.

On behalf of everyone at SISD, I welcome you to our website and I hope you will visit our state-of-the-art campus in the heart of Dubai!

I look forward to meeting you personally. Please feel free to contact us, should you have any queries about our wonderful and highly unique school.

RUTH BURKE
PRINCIPAL

At SISD we follow the framework of the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme from Pre-Kindergarten (PreKG) to Grade 12 and the Swiss Baccalaureate programme from Grade 6 onwards. The Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai is an IB Continuum World School authorised to offer and teach the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP), IB Middle Years Programme (MYP), the IB Diploma Programme (DP) and the IB Career-related Programme (CP).

As an IB world school, SISD shares a commitment to high quality, challenging, and international education. The IB programme creates, develops and sustains a community of life-long learners and provides a coherent learning experience. Please refer to the official IB Brochure for more information.

SISD offers three different streams with an emphasis on offering learners the chance to develop international-mindedness, to broaden their skills and capabilities and to acquire the information needed to access other cultures:

- IB Bilingual English/French (with Arabic)
- IB Bilingual English/German (with Arabic)
- IB with additional languages (French or German with Arabic) and personalised STEAM* programme.

IB Bilingual programmes (PreKG-Grade12)

The bilingual programmes are generally suited to learners with dual language competencies. Our language curriculum is delivered through the IB Continuum and takes into consideration Swiss, French and German standards.

Bilingualism is defined as the regular use of two or more different languages. We are committed to early immersion, which research has shown to be the most suitable tool that allows children to have command of more than one language at a highly functional level.

The aim of immersion at SISD is the development of two or more languages, as well as the appropriate knowledge of the subject content and intercultural competence. Learners are able to access the language in a natural setting where the languages of instruction are systematically used all around them. Language is age-appropriate, comprehensible and structurally rich. Language contact is also action and content-oriented. Both formative and summative assessment is carried out in both languages.

In alignment with UAE legislation, all students attend Arabic lessons either for mother tongue learners (Arabic A) or as an additional language (Arabic B, up to and including Grade 9).



International Baccalaureate (PreKG-Grade 12)

Our International Baccalaureate programme offers the choice of studying either French or German as an additional language. All subjects are taught in English and learners attend additional language lessons. During these lessons, the qualified additional language teacher communicates in the target language systematically, using an enquiry-driven approach while following a specific language acquisition curriculum. Learners build the communicative language skills and competencies they will use as global citizens. The school's unique international and multilingual environment provides students with authentic exposure to French and German, through regular daily contact with native speakers.

From PreKG to Grade 5, we offer a personalised STEAM programme. A future-focused and integrated approach to learning that uses Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics as access points for guiding student enquiry, dialogue and critical thinking. The programme is project-based, building on the foundations of the International Baccalaureate framework and allows students wider breadth of knowledge into STEAM subjects through a trans-disciplinary approach. It is designed as a continuum allowing students to build their knowledge and skills from personalised starting points. Students focus on the design process, design thinking and enhance their computational thinking. Approaches to robotics and coding are mapped out as a continuum for each grade level using age appropriate resources – starting with offline coding (e.g. Bee Bots) and moving towards designing coding patterns, coding for web design and app development. For each grade level, students complete STEAM projects to demonstrate their learning and apply their skills.

Swiss Baccalaureate (Grade 9-Grade 12)

In Grades 6-8 students are to attend preparatory classes. These years in our bilingual hybrid classes (IB combined with Swiss Baccalaureate) lay the foundation for a successful Swiss Baccalaureate education. Upon completion of this phase, a student can be admitted to the Swiss Baccalaureate section or continue with the IB Middle Years Programme. The final decision to join the Swiss Baccalaureate section is taken by the end of Grade 8 and is subject to sufficient numbers of students selecting and being admitted to this academically demanding pathway. The curriculum of this generalist qualification covers a broad range of subjects including Sciences, Humanities, Arts, Maths and Languages, one specialist option (starting Grade 9) and one supplementary option (starting Grade 10).

Inclusion (PreKG-Grade 12)

We are committed to being an inclusive school and strive to meet the needs of all our students by removing barriers to learning and supporting the extension of gifted and talented students. Due to the specific dynamics of a bilingual school curriculum, we carefully assess each student's suitability for our programmes at the admissions stage so that they are able to work towards reaching their full potential when they join our school. Inclusion is a shared responsibility and we ask parents to inform us of any individual needs, identified or suspected. Our inclusion team subsequently plans and implements appropriate intervention and support for optimum learning to take place. The intervention and support put in place depends on the needs of the student and may include, push in/ pull out support from the inclusion department, Individual Learning Support Assistant or a combination of ASDAN/mainstream curriculum in Secondary School. ASDAN provides courses for students who find it hard to thrive in the mainstream classroom and seeks to help students develop knowledge and skills for learning, work and life.

For more information on student services, fieldtrips and other learning opportunities at SISD, please visit our website sisd.ae .

Health

Your child's health is important to us. SISD has two fully-equipped medical rooms in the primary building and one school clinic located in the sports building. These are open every school day between 7:30am and 5:00pm and are staffed by DHCC registered nurses and a school doctor.

Nutrition

At SISD, we support healthy eating habits and pride ourselves on working with parents and students to create the best possible conditions for learning and development. Our team of chefs are dedicated to sourcing the finest ingredients with as much local and organic provenance as is practical. Our menus are changed on a monthly basis, the catering team meets regularly with the school representatives to implement changes and improvements.

Transportation

SISD has contracted the company Maverick Passenger Transport LLC to provide us with a safe and efficient transportation service. We provide our students with the best transportation experience thanks to a brand new fleet of buses responding to RTA standards with qualified and experienced bus attendants and drivers.

Uniforms

Students are expected to wear the SISD uniform at all times when present on campus unless specific permission otherwise has been authorized. School uniform is also to be worn when representing SISD off campus – for example, when attending sports fixtures or participating in field trips. SISD uniforms are ready for pick-up at Zaks Uniform Store on Jumeirah Beach Road.

Sports teams

Together with our coaches and teachers, we strive to provide our students with numerous opportunities to play different sports. We use training sessions and official matches as opportunities to teach students valuable life lessons.

After-school activities

SISD provides a rich after-school activities programme tailored to support student development. Students are able to choose from a wide range of activities that are offered daily and meet the needs of each year group. SISD offers both internal and external after-school activities:

- Internal activities are run by SISD teachers and are included in the school fees. They range from sustainability club, concert band, drama, homework help, TED club, MUN debate, piano, poetry, choir, design, language clubs, cultural clubs, book clubs, student council, arts and crafts to many more.
- External activities are offered by reputable external providers at an additional fee. The wide range of activities includes: football, tennis, swimming, wall climbing, basketball, rhythmic gymnastics, parkour, baby ballet, hip hop, yoga, drama, martial arts, mad science, robotics, coding, Spanish, Chinese and many more..

For more information, prices and online registration regarding the above please refer to the SISD website – sisd.ae



Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai (SISD) accepts applications from boys and girls as day students from Pre-Kindergarten (PreKG) up to Grade 12, and as boarding students from Grade 6 onwards. SISD welcomes students who are committed to the concept of an international education, whether they are local or international. Our inclusive admissions philosophy is open to all students who can benefit from the education offered, regardless of their nationality, race, gender or language.

We encourage all prospective parents to make an appointment to meet the Admissions Team and take the time to visit our school and learn more about our curriculum. We offer personalized as well as weekly school tours and the opportunity to discuss the educational needs of each applicant.

The Admissions Team supports new families through the admission process to make the transition in our school as smooth as possible. All applications are considered individually, taking into consideration the following factors: Previous school history, Language profile and level, Final goals of the applicant, Level of maturity, Age as per KHDA regulations.

Applying is a simple process.

STEP 1: Online application is completed and all supporting documents are uploaded: Most recent nursery or school report; All Passport(s) and ID's; Learning difficulty diagnostic testing or educational assessments (if any); Psychological assessments (if any); Custody papers (if any).

STEP 2: Interview and assessment: Once the completed application with all supporting documentation has been received, the admissions department request a confidential teacher recommendation from the applicant's current school. The applicant is then invited to an interview and assessment.

STEP 3: Offer and Acceptance: Once admitted to SISD, parents will receive an offer letter. A child's place is not secured until the admissions department has received the signed offer letter and proof of payment of the registration fee.

Day Applications

SISD currently accepts students from PreKG to Grade 12

APPLY NOW

Boarding Applications

Students from Grade 6 onwards have the option to join our Boarding School as weekly, full or flexi boarders

APPLY NOW

Please contact us for further assistance.

We very much look forward to welcoming your child at the Swiss International Scientific School in Dubai.

