

Satit Patumwan Demonstration School

Bangkok, Thailand



Thailand's oldest laboratory school, born in 1953 as the country's first co-educational secondary, still teaching steps from Chulalongkorn University's gates

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	58/100
Academic outcomes	70/100
University placement	70/100
Prestige & heritage	75/100
Alumni network	0/100
Facilities	55/100
Transparency	38/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Satit Patumwan earns attention on history alone. Founded in ****1953****, it is Thailand’s oldest demonstration school and the country’s first co-educational secondary school. That matters because this is not a private newcomer trading on glossy branding; it is a public institution built for teacher training and classroom practice, with a long-standing role in Thai education. Its address in central Bangkok, close to Chulalongkorn University, gives it an urban, academically minded identity. Parents who value ***institutional seriousness***, ***educational pedigree*** and a school with roots in the national system, not

outside it, will find a clear reason to shortlist it.

The school teaches the Thai National curriculum for ages **12-18**, with instruction in Thai and English. That places it in a different market position from Bangkok's international schools. Satit Patumwan suits families who want a strong Thai academic base, public-school credibility and access to English without leaving the local system. The attraction is not campus spectacle or imported prestige. It is *academic discipline*, *cultural fluency* and a school culture shaped by observation, training and scrutiny. A demonstration school lives with a higher bar for teaching practice; that legacy still gives Satit Patumwan its edge.

The ideal student for Satit Patumwan is academically able, comfortable in a competitive city environment and ready to work within a mainstream Thai framework rather than a looser international one. This is a fit for pupils who want *structure over show*, who do not need hand-holding, and who value being in a school with *historic weight* and a public mission. It will not suit families chasing boarding, niche pastoral packaging or an overseas curriculum. It will suit students who want a respected Bangkok day school with deep roots, clear purpose and a place in Thai educational history.

STRENGTHS

- Established in 1953 as one of Thailand's oldest laboratory (demonstration) schools, run by the Faculty of Education at Srinakharinwirot University.
- Entrance exams are highly competitive and the school has a strong record of producing top scorers in Thailand's national university admissions tests.
- Offers an English Program for Talented Students (EPTS), established in 1997, which teaches most core subjects in English alongside the mainstream Thai-medium track.
- Central downtown Bangkok location on Henri Dunant Road, directly adjacent to Chulalongkorn University and within walking distance of Siam Square and major BTS Skytrain stations.
- As a public demonstration school its fees are a small fraction of Bangkok's international-school costs, historically listed around 25,700 baht per year.

TRADE-OFFS

- Secondary-only school covering ages 13-18 (Mathayom 1-6), so families need a separate arrangement for primary education before this school becomes relevant.
- Entrance is by a competitive Thai-language exam, and places are reportedly limited with some seats reserved for children of university staff, which can disadvantage newly arrived expat children.
- The core curriculum is delivered in Thai and follows the Thai National syllabus, so children without strong Thai proficiency will struggle outside the smaller EPTS bilingual stream.
- As a large public demonstration school built for teacher training, class sizes and facilities are geared to national norms rather than the smaller, boutique setups typical of premium international schools.

ADMISSIONS

Entry is via a competitive written entrance examination held in Thai, typically in March before the June start of the academic year, open mainly at Mathayom 1 (Grade 7) with some movement at other grades subject to space. Demand for places is high, with only a minority of applicants for the top state and demonstration schools securing their first-choice offer. A separate, English-medium EPTS track exists alongside the mainstream Thai program, though it too requires an entrance assessment. Families should confirm current-year quotas, fee levels and Thai-language requirements directly with the school, as published details vary by year and are not consistently available in English.

WTS RATING 

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