

# Xiamen International School

Xiamen, China



*Grown from Xiamen's 1990s Kodak-era boom, this Fujian pioneer graduates seniors with bilingual IB diplomas at nearly triple the global rate.*

## RANKING DIMENSIONS

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Overall              | 54/100 |
| Academic outcomes    | 55/100 |
| University placement | 53/100 |
| Prestige & heritage  | 53/100 |
| Alumni network       | 52/100 |
| Facilities           | 56/100 |
| Transparency         | 43/100 |

## EDITOR'S VERDICT

Xiamen International School has one claim that cuts through the usual international-school fog: an average of **\*\*74%\*\*** of its seniors earn a bilingual IB Diploma, against a world average of 25%. That is not a cosmetic statistic. It points to a school that treats bilingualism as an academic outcome, not a brochure line. Founded in 1997, XIS was the first international school in Fujian authorised by the Ministry of Education to serve the expatriate community, and it remains the longest-established international school in Xiamen. It teaches in English, offers the full IB continuum from Primary Years through Diploma, and

holds WASC, CIS and IB World School accreditation. In a market where many schools are still building identity, XIS has a \*clear institutional spine\*.

The attraction is not glamour; it is depth and continuity. XIS states that over 80% of its faculty hold advanced degrees and that average teaching experience stands at 11 years. It also reports a student body drawn from over 40 nationalities, with students from 30 countries noted elsewhere on the school’s own profile. That gives the school a \*genuinely international\* constituency rather than a local school with imported branding. At an average annual fee of \*\*\$25,433\*\*, it sits in an interesting position: expensive by local standards, but not inflated for a fully accredited IB school with a long operating history in China. Parents paying for substance rather than marble lobbies will notice that.

This is a strong shortlist school for families who want an English-medium education with serious Chinese language ambition and who value a \*settled, adult institution\* over novelty. The school’s university destinations listed here are modest in number rather than headline-chasing — Amherst College, American University and Alliant International University each appear with one recent destination — and XIS does not publish a broader outcomes picture in this set of sources. That limits how far one can push claims about university placement. Even so, the school’s academic profile is sharper than its destination list. The student who will thrive here is internationally mobile, comfortable in a diverse community, and willing to work for the IB rather than shop for an easier route. Families hunting for prestige theatre or relentless name-dropping will find leaner pickings. Families who want \*proof over polish\* will find a school worth serious attention.

| STRENGTHS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | TRADE-OFFS                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Established 1997; long-standing option in Xiamen.</li><li>Offers all three IB programmes, PK-12 continuity.</li><li>WASC-accredited since 2001.</li><li>English instruction; students from 30 countries.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Day school only; no boarding mentioned.</li><li>IB-only pathway, despite American curriculum label.</li><li>Expatriate community focus may limit local access.</li></ul> |

## ADMISSIONS

Xiamen International School is an independent international day school in Xiamen, established in 1997 and teaching in English. It offers the full IB continuum: Primary Years for Grades PK-5, Middle Years for Grades 6-10 and the Diploma Programme for Grades 11-12. That makes the obvious entry points pre-kindergarten, primary, lower secondary and the start of the Diploma years, though the school does not publicly set out preferred intake years in the material provided. It is authorised to serve the expatriate community, so families should expect eligibility requirements consistent with that status.

The school does not publish, in the sources supplied here, the detail most parents usually want on admissions mechanics: no public account of assessment format, interview process, application deadlines or rolling-versus-fixed entry. Nor does it state any bursary or financial-aid provision. What is distinctive, and relevant to selection, is the school's long-established position in Xiamen, its WASC accreditation since 2001, and its status as the only school in Xiamen offering all three IB programmes.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at [WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch\\_33cc648428](https://WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_33cc648428).