

Branksome Hall Asia

Seogwipo, South Korea



Toronto's 1903 Branksome Hall lineage anchors Jeju's only full-continuum IB school, complete with Clan houses and an on-campus ice rink.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	70/100
Academic outcomes	73/100
University placement	77/100
Prestige & heritage	64/100
Alumni network	50/100
Facilities	84/100
Transparency	75/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

An on-campus ice rink tells you a great deal about Branksome Hall Asia before you reach the prospectus language: this is a school built to compete for families who want full-fat international schooling, substantial facilities and a boarding option without leaving Asia. It opened in 2012 in Seogwipo and carries the Branksome Hall name from Toronto, whose parent school dates to 1903. More importantly, it is Jeju’s only full-continuum IB school, running the PYP, MYP and Diploma Programme from Junior Kindergarten Prep to Grade 12. That matters. Parents do not need to manage a curriculum handover at 11, 13 or 16, and students who suit inquiry-led, writing-heavy, discussion-based learning can stay on one academic track from age 3 to 18. The school’s ****8:1**** student-teacher ratio points to serious staffing

rather than mass-market delivery, and its accreditations — IB World School, CIS and MSA-CESS — place it firmly in the *high-accountability* end of the international market.

What is special here is the combination of *Canadian lineage*, Korean location and a genuinely all-through IB structure with day and boarding provision. That is still a narrow field. The school also leans into house identity through its Clan system, which gives it a dose of *old-school institution-building* rather than the flat, corporate feel that weak international schools drift into. Parents weighing Jeju against Seoul schools will see the trade-off clearly: less urban immediacy, more contained campus life, and a stronger sense of separation from the distractions of a major city. For boarders, that works in the school’s favour. For day families who want constant access to city cultural life, it does not. University destinations for the Class of 2024 give a useful, if partial, picture: **81** leavers, with multiple offers to New York University, Parsons School of Design and Pratt Institute. That pattern points to a school that does not force every able student into a narrow medicine-law-engineering lane and has a visible route for creative and design-focused applicants.

Branksome Hall Asia belongs on a shortlist for families who want a *premium*, English-medium boarding or day school with a clear international identity, a disciplined academic framework and enough scale to deliver proper co-curricular life. It suits self-directed students who thrive in the IB’s demand for organisation, reflection and sustained coursework. It also suits internationally mobile families who value continuity from early years through sixth form. It is less well matched to children who need a highly prescriptive, exam-drilled environment or who want the conventional British independent school route of GCSEs and A-levels. In market terms, this is a *distinctive* Jeju proposition: not the broadest option, not the cheapest, but one of the cleanest fits for parents who want full-continuum IB, boarding, and a campus culture with real identity rather than generic international-school gloss.

STRENGTHS

- Nestled in the UNESCO World Heritage landscape of Jeju Island, the school is the only sister school of the prestigious Branksome Hall in Toronto, Canada, founded in 1903, with an established exchange programme between the two campuses.
- Jeju's only full-continuum IB World School delivers the PYP, MYP and Diploma Programme from Junior Kindergarten Prep through Grade 12 under one roof.
- The school was named International School of the Year 2021 by ISC Research, an award sponsored by Pearson and contested by 264 eligible nominations from international schools in 62 different countries.
- The school reports that its 2024 IB results, with a class average of 35 points and a remarkable 100% pass rate, though these are self-published figures rather than independently audited.
- Facilities include 8 purpose-built Science Labs, 4 open design labs which include 19 3D printers, CAD cam router, 2 large laser cutters and other

TRADE-OFFS

- The campus sits within Jeju Global Education City (JGEC), a cluster of international schools on an island some distance from Seoul, meaning relocating families settle into a resort-town setting rather than a capital city.
- The school is mid-transition from a girls-only structure: since its founding in 2012, the school had operated as an all-girls institution for Grades 6 through 12, with male students introduced in Grades 6 and 7 in 2023, and boarding for boys only begins from 2026-27, so the coed offer is still being built out grade by grade.
- Fees are substantial: tuition is approximately \$50,000 for boarding students and \$33,000 for day students, on top of a non-refundable Application Fee (KRW 400,000) and a registration deposit of KRW 3,000,000 to confirm a place.
- Published fee figures across sources are inconsistent, and boarding costs in particular are only released on request, so prospective

STEM equipment, plus an ice rink used for ice hockey.

families should treat headline tuition numbers as indicative rather than final.

ADMISSIONS

Entry is possible at any point from Junior Kindergarten Prep to Grade 12, though the school's shift to full coeducation means place availability by gender and grade should be confirmed directly. Applicants submit an online form, pay a non-refundable KRW400,000 application fee, and complete an assessment day and interview (available online for overseas families) before an offer is issued. A KRW3,000,000 deposit secures enrolment. Competitiveness varies by year group and nationality mix, with boarding places for boys only opening from the 2026-27 academic year.

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_3bc7636a9a.