

Ladies' College

Colombo, Sri Lanka



Founded in 1900 by an Irish missionary teacher, this Colombo school's hall has hosted the Symphony Orchestra of Sri Lanka since 1958.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	56/100
Academic outcomes	64/100
University placement	62/100
Prestige & heritage	66/100
Alumni network	11/100
Facilities	61/100
Transparency	49/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

The school’s own hall has hosted the Symphony Orchestra of Sri Lanka since 1958, which tells you something useful about Ladies’ College before you reach the prospectus language: this is an old Colombo institution with cultural weight beyond its gates. Founded in 1900 by Lilian Nixon from Ireland and Elizabeth Whitney from Canada, it has had time to build a clear identity. That identity is not secular, despite the context note: the school itself calls Ladies’ College a Christian private national girls’ school, founded at the behest of the Church Missionary Society. Parents who want a girls’ day school with a British curriculum, Cambridge accreditation and a long-established place in Colombo’s civic life will take it seriously.

Its market position is distinctive because the price is startlingly low by international-school standards: an average annual day fee of **246 USD** across ages 3 to 18. That does not buy an expatriate-style campus fantasy; it buys access to a *deep-rooted*, academically serious local institution teaching in English. The recent university destinations published here are domestic rather than global-brand showcases — University of Colombo, University of Kelaniya and University of Moratuwa, with **1** student listed for each — and that matters. Ladies' College is not trading on a stream of headline-grabbing overseas placements. It is selling something more specific: continuity, discipline, girls' education and status in Sri Lanka's own educational ecosystem. The school does not publish fuller destination data in the information here, so parents wanting a hard read on outcomes beyond those named universities will need to ask direct questions.

The pupil who will want to go here is not hunting for a glossy international compound or a school engineered around transient expatriate families. She will value tradition, a single-sex setting and a school culture with *institutional gravitas*. Families who care about music, public life and the social capital that attaches to a Colombo name with **125** years behind it will put Ladies' College on the shortlist. So will parents who want English-medium education at a *remarkably cheap* fee level. The trade-off is straightforward: this is a school with history and standing, not a school selling *globalised theatre*.

STRENGTHS

- Established in 1900
- British curriculum in English
- Cambridge accreditation
- 10:1 student-teacher ratio

TRADE-OFFS

- Girls-only school
- Day school only
- Annual fees: 3,500 USD

ADMISSIONS

Ladies' College in Colombo is a day school for girls aged 3-18, so the obvious entry points are likely to be the early years, junior school and later secondary phases. Beyond that, the school context provided here is notably thin on admissions mechanics. It does not publish, in the material supplied, a formal list of intake years, application windows or whether places occasionally open in non-standard year groups. Nor is there any verified detail here on whether admission is selective by year level or primarily dependent on space.

The school also does not publish, in the sources provided, the format of any admissions assessment, interview process or deadline structure. Likewise, there is no verified information here on bursaries, scholarships or means-tested financial aid, so it would be unsafe to imply that such support exists. What can be said with confidence is that this is an English-medium, British-curriculum, Cambridge-accredited day school with relatively small classes and a 10:1 student-teacher ratio; families will need to approach the school directly for the practical admissions detail.

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_3dc080cb83.