

International School Delft

Delft, Netherlands



Set on the TU Delft campus, an IB continuum where design-thinking and engineering rigor shape every classroom

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	49/100
Academic outcomes	50/100
University placement	48/100
Prestige & heritage	48/100
Alumni network	47/100
Facilities	49/100
Transparency	37/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

International School Delft has a rare structural advantage: it sits on the TU Delft campus, and that matters. Schools talk loosely about innovation; this one operates in a university environment associated with engineering, design and technical problem-solving, and the fit with an IB continuum is unusually coherent. For families who want an English-medium education in the Netherlands without paying top-tier international-school prices, the number is striking: an average annual day fee of **€6,550** across ages 4–18. That places the school in a *sharply competitive* part of the market. It is a day school, non-religious, founded in 2012, and it carries two serious markers of external validation: IB World School status and CIS accreditation.

What distinguishes the school is not prestige theatre but intellectual shape. The combination of the IB and a university campus lends itself to a *deliberately practical* style of education: inquiry, interdisciplinary work, design-thinking, and a bias towards making and testing ideas rather than rehearsing them. That will suit students who are energised by science, engineering, systems, architecture, technology and problem-solving across subjects. It will also suit internationally mobile families who want continuity from the early years to graduation within one framework, in English, without a religious overlay. Parents looking for a *glossy status purchase* will find stronger brand names elsewhere; parents looking for substance, coherence and value will keep Delft on the list.

This is not the school for every child. Students who want a more traditional, ceremonial or overtly sporting school culture may find the atmosphere too *purpose-built* and too academic in its centre of gravity. International School Delft will appeal most to self-directed children who like ideas with application: pupils who enjoy asking how things work, building things, improving things and defending their reasoning. In market terms, it occupies a *distinctive niche*: a campus-based IB day school with credible accreditations, a clear academic identity, and fees of **€6,550** that undercut much of the international market. That combination makes it more than a convenient local option; it is a serious shortlist school for the right family.

STRENGTHS

- Follows the IB continuum (Primary Years and Middle Years Programmes) in an English-medium setting, giving curriculum continuity for internationally mobile families.
- Located in Delft, a compact university city anchored by TU Delft, making it a practical choice for academic and research-sector expat households.
- Operates as a government-recognised international school in the Netherlands, which typically means lower fees than fully private international schools in the Randstad.
- Small overall size allows for a close-knit school community and generally lower student-teacher ratios than large international schools in Amsterdam or The Hague.

TRADE-OFFS

- Smaller scale than major international schools in Amsterdam, The Hague or Rotterdam, likely translating into narrower subject and extracurricular choice at secondary level.
- Delft has a smaller, less developed expat and international-school ecosystem than the larger Randstad cities, which some relocating families may find limiting.
- As a candidate-tier entry in this ranking, publicly available outcome data, inspection reports and alumni information are sparser than for longer-established, higher-profile IB schools.
- Government-subsidised international schools in the Netherlands generally require proof of recent international mobility or non-Dutch schooling history, which can complicate admission for some families.

ADMISSIONS

Admission is offered at primary and lower-secondary entry points, with places allocated as they arise given the school's modest size. As a Dutch government-recognised international school, the subsidised fee stream generally requires families to demonstrate recent international relocation, per Ministry of Education criteria; families without this status may face higher, non-subsidised fees or limited eligibility. Applications go directly to the school, and because intake numbers are small, popular year groups can carry waiting lists, particularly for places sought outside the August/September start.

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_8baf57853f.