

Modern School, Barakhamba Road

New Delhi, India



Delhi's first private co-educational school, holding its 27-acre Lutyens campus since 1920

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	72/100
Academic outcomes	75/100
University placement	73/100
Prestige & heritage	73/100
Alumni network	72/100
Facilities	72/100
Transparency	67/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Modern School, Barakhamba Road occupies rare ground in Delhi: a school with genuine historic weight and a central **27-acre** Lutyens campus that few rivals can match. Founded in **1920**, it was Delhi’s first private co-educational school, and that matters because the institution still trades on that founding idea of combining Indian tradition with a modern education. The school teaches in English and Hindi, follows the Indian National curriculum, and holds CBSE accreditation. Its public identity is unapologetically broad rather than narrowly exam-driven: academics, sport, co-curricular life and character formation all get equal billing. For parents, the attraction is clear — *institutional gravitas*, *urban prestige*, and a campus footprint that gives students room to do more than move from classroom

to classroom.

What sets Modern apart is not novelty but continuity. This is an old Delhi school with a century of brand recognition, a strong sense of self and the confidence that comes with both. The website foregrounds experiential learning, flipped classes and reflection sheets, but the more important point is the school's settled philosophy: education here is framed as formation, not just attainment. That gives it a different market position from schools that sell themselves through glossy globalism or imported branding. Modern sits in the upper tier of established Indian schools for families who want *serious schooling* with social cachet, a substantial co-curricular offer and a non-religious setting. It now also advertises boarding for boys and girls, with vacancies flagged only in Class **11**, though the school context remains day school and day provision is still the core identity.

This school belongs on a shortlist for parents who value *old-school stature* over educational fashion, and who want a child educated in a place with visible civic and cultural confidence. It suits students who will use a large campus properly: children who want sport, activities and public-facing opportunities alongside classroom work, and who respond well to a school culture with expectations already baked in. It will appeal less to families seeking a small, intimate environment or a highly personalised boutique experience. Modern's pull lies elsewhere — *a strong centre of gravity*, *deep-rooted reputation*, and the kind of institutional permanence that many newer schools spend decades trying to manufacture.

STRENGTHS

- Founded in 1920 by Lala Raghubir Singh, making it one of Delhi's oldest private schools and a founding member of the Indian Public Schools' Conference (IPSC).
- Sits on a large, leafy 27-acre campus in the heart of Lutyens' Delhi near Connaught Place, unusual for an urban day school of its size.
- Counts former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi among its alumni, alongside figures such as cardiac surgeon Naresh Trehan and Air Chief Marshal P C Lal.
- CBSE-affiliated with a long, consistent academic record; Wikipedia notes the school is consistently ranked well among Indian schools.
- Offers a day-cum-boarding option, with the boarding house facility currently open to both boys and girls.

TRADE - OFFS

- Follows only the Indian national (CBSE) curriculum, with no IB or Cambridge pathway, which may not suit families expecting international transferability.
- Entry is effectively restricted to Class VI (mainly via its own junior wing, Raghubir Singh Junior Modern School) and Class XI, making lateral entry in other years difficult and dependent on vacancies.
- Annual fees for Class 6 run to roughly Rs 1.47 lakh a year, notably above the average for other schools in the immediate Mandi House/Barakhamba area.
- A large single co-educational campus enrolling over 2,500 students in central Delhi means families should expect big class cohorts and city-centre traffic congestion at drop-off and pick-up.

ADMISSIONS

Admission is concentrated at two points: Class VI, largely filled from the school's own junior wing (Raghubir Singh Junior Modern School, Humayun Road), and Class XI, opened after Class X board results. Forms for Classes VI-IX are released in February-March and submitted directly to the school; XI forms follow board results. Because the school has a century-long reputation and limited annual vacancies, competition for the few open seats outside the junior-wing pipeline is high, and documentation/age criteria are checked closely.

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_a045e8b126.