

Bangkok Patana School

Bangkok, Thailand



Thailand's first British school, running since 1957, blends English curriculum grounding with IB breadth across a 17-hectare Bang Na campus.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	72/100
Academic outcomes	76/100
University placement	74/100
Prestige & heritage	75/100
Alumni network	74/100
Facilities	77/100
Transparency	70/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Bangkok Patana’s central advantage is structural: this is Thailand’s first British school, established in 1957, with the scale and maturity that newer international schools cannot fake. The school runs from age 3 to 18, teaches in English, stays non-religious, and combines British curriculum grounding with the IB in the senior years. That matters. Parents get a school with a clear academic spine rather than a grab-bag of programmes, and students get breadth at the top end without losing the discipline of a British framework lower down. The ****17-hectare**** Bang Na campus also sets it apart. Big campuses can be wasteful; this

one makes sense for a school that puts serious weight on sport, arts and extracurricular life, with dedicated football, gymnastics, swimming and tennis academies alongside dance and a substantial activities programme. This is a *full-service international school*, not a compact urban school trying to pass limited space off as intimacy.

The market position is clear: Bangkok Patana sits in the top tier of Bangkok’s international day-school sector, with an average annual fee of **760,083 THB** across the full age range. That price buys institutional depth, long-standing name recognition and a broad student experience, not boutique coddling. The school’s published values put unusual emphasis on well-being, safeguarding, learning and global citizenship; many schools print the same words, but Patana also shows the operational machinery behind them in plain sight, from pastoral support and inclusion to university and careers support and “classrooms without walls”. The academic case has substance too. For the Class of **2024**, the school reports **121 leavers**, with destinations including Imperial College London, University College London and the London School of Economics and Political Science. Those are credible outcomes from a large cohort, not cherry-picked anecdotes.

Who thrives here? Students who want range, pace and options. This is a strong fit for children who will use a big campus properly, join teams, take the arts seriously, and benefit from the social and academic mix of a large established international school. It suits internationally mobile families who want continuity in English and a school with *institutional heft*. It suits ambitious sixth formers who want the IB and serious university guidance without boarding. It is a weaker fit for families chasing a *small, hand-held* environment or a school with a distinct religious or ideological identity. Bangkok Patana’s appeal lies elsewhere: *scale, credibility and breadth*, delivered by a school old enough to know what it is.

STRENGTHS

- Founded in 1957 as Thailand's first British international school, giving it a 60-plus-year track record and deep institutional stability in Bangkok.
- Accredited by the Council of International Schools (reaffirmed May 2022) and recognised as an IB World School, with membership in ISAT.
- Its 2025 IB Diploma cohort of 128 students achieved a 99% pass rate and an average score of 35 points, well above the global average of 30.58, despite non-selective admissions.
- The same 2025 cohort received 441 university offers from 172 universities across 16 countries, including 239 offers from world top-100 institutions.
- Spans the full 2-to-18 age range on one 17-hectare (48-acre) Bang Na campus with three swimming pools, an arts centre, science centre and theatre, avoiding the need to switch schools.

TRADE-OFFS

- Fees sit in Bangkok's premium tier, with tuition running roughly THB 495,000 to 975,000 a year plus a THB 250,000 entrance fee for a first child.
- The Bang Na campus location means a daily commute of 30-90 minutes for families based in central Sukhumvit, a real quality-of-life factor given Bangkok traffic.
- Despite an officially non-selective admissions policy, Year 1-6 and Year 7 places fill quickly and waiting lists are common, so entry is not guaranteed on demand.
- Bangkok Patana does not offer in-house academic scholarships, unlike some competitor schools.

ADMISSIONS

Entry is officially non-selective, but availability varies sharply by year group: Nursery/Foundation Stage (age 2-3) and Year 7 have the most openings, while Years 1-6 fill quickly and waitlists are routine, so families are advised to apply well ahead, often 12-18 months. The process requires an online application, teacher recommendation and writing sample, with EAL or early-years readiness checks where relevant. A THB 250,000 entrance fee applies for a first child, alongside a refundable THB 50,000 deposit; no in-house academic scholarships are offered.

NOTABLE ALUMNI (12)

MUSIC: Tata Young, S. P. Somtow, Michele Waagaard

DRAMA: Urassaya Sperbund, Tata Young, Ananda Everingham, S. P. Somtow, Alexander Rendell, Joni Anwar, Louis Scott, Stephan Salamone

LETTERS: S. P. Somtow, Pieretta Dawn

SCIENCE: Nicholas A. Gherardin

BUSINESS: Stephan Salamone

WTS RATING 

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