

Al Hekma International School

Manama, Bahrain



Bahrain's first STEM-certified school pairs an American diploma track with an IB pathway for Manama's college-bound.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	57/100
Academic outcomes	58/100
University placement	56/100
Prestige & heritage	57/100
Alumni network	56/100
Facilities	61/100
Transparency	47/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Al Hekma International School has a clear point of difference in the Bahrain market: it runs an American school all the way from Preschool to Grade 12, then adds an IB Diploma option at the top. That gives families a broader academic runway than the many schools that commit to one track and stay there. The school also has a genuine credential to separate it from the usual STEM rhetoric. AHIS holds Cognia’s STEM Certification and states that it was Bahrain’s first STEM-certified school. For parents who want a college-preparatory education with more structure in science, technology and applied learning, that matters. So does the fact that the school sits under the Bahraini Ministry of Education and holds accreditation from the Middle States Association and the North Central Association. At an average annual

day fee of ****3066 BHD****, it sits in a part of the market that reads as **good-value** rather than premium-luxury.

The attraction here is breadth, not mystique. The school teaches in English and Arabic, is co-educational, non-religious and day-only, and covers the full ****ages 3-18**** span. That continuity appeals to families who want to avoid another school search at 11 or 16. The facilities pitch is also concrete: science, art and robotics labs, sports facilities, technologically advanced classrooms, and extensive playgrounds. Plenty of schools in the region claim innovation; fewer name the rooms and programmes that support it. AHIS also flags a Service-Learning Programme of Distinction from MSA, which gives the school a **usefully grounded** counterweight to the standard STEM-and-results narrative. The combination of American diploma, IB Diploma, service learning and STEM certification gives AHIS a **distinctly practical** identity.

This is a school for students who want options without constant reinvention. A child who thrives here will be comfortable in a structured, academically directed environment and ready to use the school’s labs, clubs and digital learning platforms rather than just coast through lessons. The best fit is the **purposeful**, college-bound student who wants an American curriculum base but does not want to close off the IB Diploma later on. Families looking for a small, rarefied, ultra-selective campus culture will need harder public evidence on outcomes, because the school does not publish aggregate exam results or university destination data here. Even so, AHIS deserves a shortlist place for one simple reason: in a crowded market, it offers a **credible**, multi-pathway academic proposition at ****3-18**** scale, with recognisable accreditation and a sharper STEM identity than most.

STRENGTHS	TRADE-OFFS
• American curriculum from pre-school to high school • Co-educational day school for ages 3-18 • English and Arabic instruction broadens language exposure • Accredited by MSA, NCA and Bahrain's Ministry	• Founded year is inconsistent across provided sources • No boarding option for families needing residential school • American curriculum may not suit British-system families

ADMISSIONS

Al Hekma International School is a co-educational day school in Manama offering an American curriculum from pre-school to high school, so the main entry points are likely to track the usual age bands from roughly 3 to 18. Teaching is in English and Arabic. Publicly available information confirms the age span and curriculum, but not a detailed admissions structure by year group, so families should expect availability to depend on places in the relevant section of the school.

The school does not publish, in the material provided here, the finer points parents usually want most: application deadlines, whether there are rolling admissions, the format of any entrance assessment, or whether interviews are required. Likewise, there is no published information here on bursaries, scholarships or means-tested financial aid, so it would be unwise to assume these are available. What is clear is that this is a mainstream non-religious international school rather than one with a notably selective or unusual admissions process publicly set out.

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_d6efee14c0.