

QSI International School of Chengdu

Chengdu, China



A mastery-learning model and single-digit class sizes anchor this American Garden campus school inside Chengdu's Third Ring Road.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	47/100
Academic outcomes	48/100
University placement	46/100
Prestige & heritage	46/100
Alumni network	45/100
Facilities	54/100
Transparency	39/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

QSI International School of Chengdu sits inside Chengdu’s Third Ring Road on an American Garden campus, and that urban setting matters: this is not a sprawling resort school on the edge of town, but a compact, practical international school built around teaching rather than spectacle. The core proposition is clear. It offers an American curriculum, teaches in English, takes children from ages 3 to 18, and runs as a day school. The school opened in 2002 and operates from two buildings. Its accreditations from NEASC and Cognia give it external validation, but the real distinguishing feature is the mastery-learning model flagged in the school’s own editorial context, coupled with single-digit class sizes. That combination is **rarely cosmetic**. For families who want close teacher attention and a pace driven by

competence rather than age-cohort drift, it puts QSI in a distinct bracket.

In market terms, QSI is not chasing the grand, premium-campus end of Chengdu’s international sector. At an average annual fee of **\$21,200**, it sits in a more accessible part of the true international-school market while still carrying recognised US accreditation. That matters for mobile expatriate families who need continuity and a school that can absorb mid-year moves without drama. It is also a private for-profit school, and parents should register that plainly rather than dress it up. The question is whether the educational model earns its place. Here, the answer is yes: a mastery-based approach with *small-scale teaching* is a substantive offer, not a branding line, and for the right child it has more value than shinier facilities or a longer co-curricular list.

This school belongs on a shortlist for students who do their best work in *tight classroom settings*, need teachers to know them well, or benefit from progression based on secure understanding rather than simple calendar advancement. It will also suit internationally mobile families who want an English-medium American programme without paying top-of-market fees. It is less compelling for parents chasing social scale, heavy prestige signalling or the broadest possible campus infrastructure. QSI International School of Chengdu is a *focused, unsentimental* choice: **ages 3–18**, accredited by **NEASC and Cognia**, and built for families who value classroom mechanics over theatre.

STRENGTHS

- American curriculum suits US-bound families
- Private school option in Chengdu
- For-profit model may prioritise operational continuity
- Two-building campus may separate age groups

TRADE-OFFS

- For-profit ownership may deter some families
- Only American curriculum stated; limited curriculum choice
- Two buildings may mean split-site logistics

ADMISSIONS

QSI International School of Chengdu is a private, for-profit international school in Chengdu using a U.S.-based curriculum. On the evidence provided, it is reasonable to infer rolling entry rather than a single competitive annual intake, but the school does not publicly set out entry points, age bands or year-by-year admissions structure in the material supplied here. Families should therefore expect admissions to be handled by grade placement within the American system, with places dependent on availability rather than a fixed deadline cycle.

The school also does not publish, in the sources provided, any clear detail on assessment format, interview requirements, application deadlines or a distinctive selection process. Equally, there is no published information here on bursaries or means-tested financial aid, and its status as a for-profit school suggests parents should not assume either is available without direct confirmation. In short, this looks like a straightforward private-school application process, but the practical details need to be obtained from the Chengdu campus itself.

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_dd920a5d06.