SCHOOL PROFILE

Hong Kong Academy welcomes you to learn more about our programmes and offerings. Please browse our website, www.hkacademy.edu.hk, or contact Angela Reilly, Admissions Manager at angela.reilly@hkacademy.edu.hk to arrange a tour or obtain additional information.

A dynamic international school for students in Pre-School to Grade 12
MISSION STATEMENT

Hong Kong Academy is a dynamic learning community that provides a rigorous international education characterized by mutual benefit and support. As an educational leader, HKA empowers learners to pursue pathways to individual excellence by fostering creativity, communication and problem-solving skills. HKA learners develop an evolving understanding of our changing world, leading them to engage in responsible action motivated by their interests, strengths and ongoing reflection. HKA is committed to maintaining a diverse, collaborative and captivating learning environment in which students become adaptable, confident and tolerant, equipping them for the future.

Accreditations
Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC)
Council of International Schools (CIS)

Memberships
East Asia Regional Council of Overseas Schools (EARCOS)
Association of China & Mongolia International Schools (ACAMIS)
European Council of International Schools (ECIS)

The International Baccalaureate (IBO) has granted HKA authorization to offer the Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP) and Diploma Programme (DP).
History
Hong Kong Academy is an independent, nonprofit, co-educational day school for students ages 3 – 18. Founded in 2000, HKA offers the International Baccalaureate PYP, MYP and Diploma programmes. The school’s globally-sourced curriculum is inquiry-based and concept-driven, providing a well-rounded, student-centred programme. Small class sizes and a low student:teacher ratio allow for individualised attention and the ability to meet the needs of accelerated learners as well as students requiring learner support.

Welcome
The Hong Kong Academy (HKA) mission statement serves as a guidepost and foundation for all our efforts to provide exceptional opportunities to all learners. HKA operates as a progressive, inclusive educational school that believes that all members of the community – students, faculty, staff, and families – bring a unique set of talents and strengths to the school. Regardless of what those talents may be, they are all valued and celebrated.

Stephen Dare
Head of School
FIVE CORE VALUES provide a foundation for HKA

Rigorous International Education
HKA provides a rigorous international education for early childhood, primary school and secondary school students. Working within its framework of “Learning, Growing, and Understanding”, HKA engages students with a curriculum that challenges them to reach their full potential. Teachers at HKA focus on supporting a child’s individual learning style and natural strengths while providing an inquiry-based, student-centred programme. Individual attention is the norm as the school features small class sizes and a high teacher to student ratio. Employing the best teaching practices from around the globe, HKA offers the International Baccalaureate Primary Years, Middle Years and Diploma Programmes.

Captivating Learning Environment
Hong Kong Academy fosters a captivating learning environment where teachers and students work together not only to master elements of a curriculum, but also to think about and reflect on the learning process itself. In a “culture of thinking”, teachers and students go beyond the “usual” definition of thinking to embrace a process of thinking about how we think. This sort of mental manipulation goes beyond merely absorbing information to include systematic reflection about how, why, and how well students are thinking.
Pathways to Individual Excellence
HKA believes that a diverse community, grounded in mutual respect, enhances learning for all members of the community and develops open-mindedness. At HKA, diversity includes learning styles and abilities in a model that promotes mutual benefit. HKA’s student body is rich in individuals who reflect the world at large and who possess an array of talents across multiple pathways to individual excellence.

Dynamic Community of Learners
Everyone at Hong Kong Academy — past, present, and future — is a part of the school’s dynamic community of learners. Whether on campus every day, occasionally, or even only once, all students, teachers, staff, parents, former parents, alumni, visitors, specialists, and consultants impact the school’s learning environment. Not everyone has the same type of impact, and some contributions may be more visible or tangible than others. But over time, the school is shaped by all of the gifts, talents, and contributions of the many people who take part or have taken part in the life of the school.

Educational Leadership
As HKA further develops its unique curriculum, programmes and learning culture, the school has a responsibility to share its best practices and success stories with the larger educational community. The school’s faculty and administration routinely collaborate and converse with leading educational institutions and organisations, engage leading thinkers in education, and mentor other teaching professionals.
Students and Faculty
HKA's student body consists of more than 600 students. No one single nationality represents a majority. HKA maintains two classes of 22 per grade level in the Primary School. In Secondary School, Grade 6 admits a maximum of 66. Class sizes in both schools are kept small in order to allow for individualised instruction and to enable every student to achieve success along his or her own pathway to excellence.

Faculty members are recruited principally from Australasia, North America, Europe and China. They are selected for their professionalism, high level of qualifications, skills and creativity as well as their teaching experience and perspectives on international education. We think of faculty as learners as well as teachers and encourage and support individual professional learning pursuits. Once a week, the school dedicates time for school-wide professional development programmes and activities.

Community
Hong Kong Academy intentionally cultivates diversity through its admissions and hiring practices to create a school that reflects the world at large. HKA is known for its warm and welcoming community with a high level of parent involvement. The school puts a strong emphasis on personal relationships among all members of the community: students, parents, teachers, staff, and administration.

Campus
All of HKA’s faculty and students teach and learn on one campus, located in picturesque Sai Kung, Hong Kong. The building has earned a provisional BEAM Platinum rating for its environmentally sustainable design and features. Classrooms are large and airy with floor to ceiling windows that provide abundant natural light.
The 6220 meter square building includes a 350 seat theatre and a separate black box Studio Theatre; music, dance and rehearsal rooms; an extensive indoor-outdoor visual arts space with kiln; and a full indoor gymnasium and exercise centre, outdoor soccer pitch and outdoor basketball court. In the future, the school will be building a “blue roof” native habitat garden.

**PRIMARY SCHOOL an inquiry-based education**

HKA offers the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) to support the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and beyond. The PYP curriculum embraces six transdisciplinary themes that bring together different subject areas — such as mathematics, science, art and language arts — through over-arching questions which encourage learning as exploration. The curriculum supports the whole child, encourages independence and personal responsibility for learning, prepares students for engagement with the wider world, and promotes international-mindedness.

**Mandarin**

All Primary School students learn Mandarin. In the Early Childhood classes, co-teachers are Mandarin speakers and Mandarin is incorporated into daily routines. In Kindergarten through Grade 5, students take Mandarin four times a week for a total 200 minutes per week minutes.

**Primary Afterschool Activities (ASAs)**

Afterschool activities are an important part of life at HKA. Primary School students can participate in a wide range of offerings including sports, fine and visual arts and cooking. Outdoor opportunities include sailing, parkour and roller-blading.
SECONDARY SCHOOL pathways to success

The Secondary School offers the Middle Years Programme from Grade 6 through Grade 10 and the Diploma Programme for Grades 11 and 12. Grade 10 students complete the MYP Personal Project. Grade 12 students either sit the full Diploma exam or individual certificate exams, unless pursuing a modified diploma.

Course Offerings for Grades 6 – 12

**Grades 6 – 10**  
*IB Middle Years Programme*
- English Language and Literature
- Language Acquisition
  - Mandarin
  - French
  - Spanish
- Individuals and Societies
- Sciences
- Mathematics
- Arts
  - Drama
  - Instrumental Music
  - Visual Arts
- Physical and Health Education
- Design

**Grades 11/12**  
*IB Diploma Programme*

**Group 1: Language and Literature**
- English A, Literature: HL, SL
- English A, Language & Literature: HL, SL

**Group 2: Language Acquisition**
- Mandarin B: HL, SL
- Mandarin ab initio
- French B: HL, SL
- Spanish B: HL, SL and ab initio

**Group 3: Individuals & Societies**
- Economics: HL, SL
- History: HL, SL
- Business Management: HL, SL

**Group 4: Experimental Sciences**
- Biology: HL, SL
- Chemistry: HL, SL
- Physics: HL, SL

**Group 5: Mathematics**
- Mathematics: HL, SL
- Mathematical Studies SL

**Group 6: Arts**
- Theatre: HL, SL
- Visual Arts: HL, SL
- Music: HL, SL

HL = Higher Level  
SL = Standard Level
Co-Curricular Activities

Secondary School Students at HKA participate in a wide variety of co-curricular activities. HKA athletes in Grades 6 - 8 participate in SCISAC league sports and Grades 9 - 12 participate in ACAMIS league sports. Students also participate in local Hong Kong competitions. HKA fields teams in soccer, basketball, volleyball, swimming, cross-country and athletics. HKA also offers a variety of after school activities supporting arts and special interests.

Secondary School Clubs and Activities

Band                Chess                Film Club
Battle of the Books Debate                Yearbook
Book Club            Drama                Young Writers

Student Action Groups

Dragonfly Council        Sustainability Council
Global Issues Network Team PR and Media Team
Student Council

Grading System

HKA does not compare the IB grades with grading systems from other countries or schools, and does not weight IB grades.

The IB grading system of 1 – 7 is used as follows:

7 – Exemplary
6 – Well above the standard expected
5 – Above the standard expected
4 – At the standard expected
3 – Approaching the standard expected
2/1 – Below the standard expected*

* Students in 9 – 12 only earn credit for grades of 3 or above.

HKA does not compile class rankings, as class sizes are too small to be statistically relevant.
Diploma Options at HKA

HKA’s Secondary School prides itself on mentoring students to reach their full potential through individualised attention tailored to their skills, interests and aspirations. Faculty members are dedicated to students’ well-being and academic success and take the time to guide and support them as they make key decisions that impact their futures. Wherever their individual pathways to success may take them, HKA endeavors to help them identify, develop and realise their goals.

Students in the HKA Secondary School may select one of 3 paths to graduation:

- HKA Diploma with the IB Diploma
- HKA Diploma with or without IB Certificates
- Modified HKA Diploma

Class of 2014 IB Results

- 100% Overall pass rate
- Highest score achieved: 43
- HKA’s average score was 35, more than 5 points above the world average of 29.8.
- Nine HKA students sat the full Diploma exam.

- Three students scored 40 or above. 8 out of 9 scored above the world average of 29.8.
- All students achieved their overall predicted IB scores.
- Six HKA students completed IB certificates in a variety subjects.
University and College Admissions and Matriculations

The following is a list of universities and colleges to which HKA graduates have received offers of admission and/or matriculated. Matriculations are in bold. Class of 2014 matriculations are asterisked. As our graduating classes are small, this list reflects both the classes of 2013 and 2014 to provide a more accurate overview. Significantly, over 90% of HKA graduates are attending their first choice university.

AUSTRALIA
Curtin University
Griffith University*
Monash University
University of Melbourne
University of Newcastle
University of Sydney*

CANADA
McGill University
University of British Columbia*
University of Toronto
University of Waterloo*
Quest University

FRANCE
ESSEC Business School

HONG KONG
Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong University
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Open University of Hong Kong

SINGAPORE
La Salle College of the Arts*

SWEDEN
Lund University
Stockholm University

SWITZERLAND
École hôtelière de Lausanne*
Les Roches International School of Hotel Management*

UNITED KINGDOM continued
Queen Mary, University of London
University of Nottingham
Nottingham Trent University
University of Oxford*
University of St. Andrews
University of St. Mark and St. John
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of Stirling
University of Suffolk*
University of Warwick
University of Worcester
University of York

UNITED STATES
Beloit College
Bennington College
Columbia College
Drew University
Earlham College
Goucher College
Knox College
New York University
Notre Dame de Namur University
Northeastern University*
Orange Coast College
Philadelphia University
Portland State University*
Saint Edwards University
SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Potsdam
Stonehill College
Suffolk University
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Nebraska*
University of Northern Texas
University of Portland*
Whittier College

INTERNATIONAL

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