



Most Frequently Asked Questions

- **Is GSIS a Christian School? Why is this important?**

Yes. Gyeonggi Suwon International School (GSIS) is a school with a Christian philosophy. The school is not affiliated with a particular Christian group. The school highly desires students and families from other faiths and from homes where religion is not practiced. GSIS bases its philosophy on basic Christian beliefs and a Christian philosophy of education that involves presenting the “truth” that can sustain and bring meaning to students’ lives. Secondly, it engages the student to consider his/her spirituality. The board of trustees expect that graduating students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the major spiritual world views; understand and be able to articulate an historical, biblically-based Christian world view; and be able to explain if God has any impact in their lives. Students will be taught to recognize that he/she is made in the image of God and that he/she should foster self-respect and self-worth as well as respect and esteem for others. GSIS strives to provide the kind of environment in which each student’s unique gifts of intellect, personality, stature, and spirit are given the best opportunities for development toward maturity. The school understands that not all students are Christians or will become Christians while attending, but an exploration of their faith and belief system will be encouraged.

- **Is GSIS accredited and certified? Why is this important?**

Yes. GSIS is a fully accredited institution with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) which accredits many of the East Asian international schools and the U.S. public and private schools in the states of California and Hawaii, Guam, and the American Territories in the Pacific. WASC accreditation is important because it ensures that a school is continually reviewing its curriculum, policies, programs, personnel, and finances so standards are maintained and improved upon to create a school of excellence and one that is driven by student learning. Second, WASC accreditation ensures that your child is able to enter U.S. schools including colleges and universities and that course credits earned at GSIS are accepted by those institutions. GSIS is also a member of Korea-American Interscholastic Activities Conference (KAIAC); EARCOS (East Asia Regional Council of Overseas Schools); KORCOS (Korea Regional Conference of Overseas Schools); and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI); and is pursuing membership with The College Board (PSAT, SAT, AP programs). We are also a candidate school with the International Baccalaureate Organization in the Primary Years Program (PYP), Middle Years Program (MYP), and IB Diploma Program (DP). The ACSI boarding accreditation is important because it holds our boarding program to standards that need to be maintained and improved upon. Furthermore GSIS is certified by the Republic of Korea’s Ministry of Education. This certification status is important because it provides a legal status in Korea thereby providing our Korean parents with income tax waivers and permits Korean male students to remain in school regardless of age and delays Korean military conscription.



- **Is GSIS an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School?
What does this mean? Why is this important?**

Yes. GSIS will be one of only three international schools in Korea that offer the IB Programme. GSIS plans to offer the Diploma Programme for the high school (11th-12th grade) the Primary Years Programme (PYP) for elementary school (pre-Kindergarten-5th grade) and will pursue the Middle Years Programme (MYP) in the next two years. The IB Programme is offered in only 1,300 schools worldwide. The IB Diploma Programme is a demanding pre-university course of study for highly motivated 11th and 12th graders. An IB diploma is received upon the successful completion of course work, examinations, and other requirements. The program has earned a reputation for rigorous assessment, giving IB diploma holders access to the world's leading universities. The IB Diploma students are well prepared for university work. The program is a comprehensive two-year international curriculum that permits students to fulfill the requirements of their national systems. The program incorporates the best elements of national systems, without being based on any one. Internationally mobile students are able to transfer from one IB school to another, while students who remain closer to home benefit from a highly respected international curriculum.

- **Is GSIS a Boarding School?**

Yes. GSIS is one of only two accredited boarding programs in Korea. There is an on-campus dormitory that provides a set of dorm parents and one residence supervisor per floor resulting in an 8:1 ratio. The boarding program has quality dining, laundry, and medical staff and facilities. The boarding program will fill quickly, so new students and their parents are highly encouraged to reserve rooms as soon as possible.

- **What is the ethnic mix at GSIS?**

Presently GSIS is 90% ethnically Asian and 10% non-Asian. In addition, GSIS is 83% ethnically Korean. The vast majority of the ethnically Korean students were born and reared in a bilingual environment outside of Korea with English being their primary language for academics. These students are also primarily Korean-American or Korean-Canadian. The 17% non-Korean students and the 10% non-Asian students come from over 15 other nations at GSIS.

- **What are the school's beginning and ending dates and school hours?**

The GSIS school year is 180 instructional days, begins mid August and ends in early June. The classes will begin at 8:10 A.M. and end at 3:05 P.M., Monday through Friday, for students Pre-Kindergarten - 10th grade. Pre-Kindergarten students finish the school day after their lunch.



- **What holidays does GSIS take?**

GSIS observes some traditional Korean and international holidays. The school takes three-to-five-day Chusok and Lunar New Year holidays. It also takes a three-week Christmas-Semester break. Several half-days are taken throughout the school year for teacher professional development or in-service days.

- **Where do GSIS students go after graduation?**

Over 95% of TCIS graduates pursue a college education and are accepted at some of the most prestigious institutions of higher education in the U.S., Canada, and Korea. At college fair field trips to Seoul and at university visits to our campus, TCIS students have the opportunity to meet and interview with college representatives. Please consult the pamphlet found in this packet for a list of colleges and universities where TCIS graduates have matriculated. It is expected that GSIS graduates will find similar success as at our sister school in Daejeon.

- **What is the school's enrollment? What are the class sizes?**

For 2007-2008 we have total enrollment of 480 students. There is one class each for Kindergarten to 5th Grade. The class size is expected to be around 20 students per class. There is a cap of twenty-two students in Kindergarten-5th grade. A full-time teacher assistant is provided in grades Kindergarten-1st grade. Middle school class size cap for mainstream classes will be at 24 students except for Physical Education classes. ESL classes will be capped at eighteen students. It is expected that most classes will be well below cap level throughout the school.

- **Does GSIS have an ESL/ELL Program?**

Yes. The school has an extensive ESL/ELL program for elementary, middle school students. GSIS has a trained ESL/ELL staff that provides content-based ESL and sheltered instruction courses. The program's goal is to transition students to mainstream classes as soon as they meet the required proficiency criteria. As a general rule, the school will not accept more than 30% of its current enrollment as ESL students. Beginning level ESL/ELL students are normally not accepted beyond 7th grade, but intermediate and students are accepted after 7th grade.

- **Are there services available for Special Needs students?**

Yes. special needs services are available at GSIS; however, the severe or profound cannot most likely be served at GSIS. The program tries to implement an inclusion model if at all possible. Staff certifications are in Special Education and ESL K-12 and include expertise in reading disabilities and dyslexia. GSIS is handicapped accessible with ramps, elevator access to all floors, and handicapped accessible restrooms.



- **Where do most of the GSIS teachers come from?**

Over 85% of GSIS full-time teachers and residence staff are overseas hire and hold a foreign passport. They are all professing Christians of various denominations who were primarily hired at overseas job fairs. They are certified or credentialed and are experienced teachers from the United States, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, and Australia. Many GSIS teachers have graduate level degrees of Master's or higher.

- **Does GSIS have a cafeteria and lunch program?**

Yes. The school has an experienced and skilled food preparation staff that offers both Korean and Western lunches for all students and breakfast and dinner for the boarding students. The dining hall is professionally managed. Day students are highly encouraged to purchase the school lunches.

- **Does GSIS require uniforms?**

No. Uniforms are not required for regular academic classes. Middle school students; however, are expected to bring suitable clothing for physical education classes. Some science classes will also require students to wear laboratory coats provided for their protection. Student athletes who join middle school intramural teams must wear school-provided or team-purchased uniforms.

- **What kind of co-curricular activities are offered to GSIS students?**

Yes. Co-curricular activities are in the planning stages as the high school develops.

- **What opportunities are there for parent involvement?**

Thank you for asking! There are a number of ways GSIS parents can become involved in the school. First, on numerous occasions throughout the school year parents are invited or highly encouraged to visit the school. These include Open House, PTA meetings, concerts, drama performances, sports events, Parent-Teacher Conferences, Headmaster's Coffees, and our International Festival. We want an active PTA that will also offer many additional opportunities including volunteer room mothers, library aides, lunch duty helpers, teacher aides, Christmas bazaar assistants, Teacher Appreciation Day food providers, International Festival coordinators and fund-raisers.



Tuition & Fees Information

2009-2010 School Year

FEE CATEGORY

TUITION FEES

	<u>U.S. Dollars</u>		<u>Korean Won</u>
Pre -School	\$ 2,230.00	plus	W4,897,000
Elementary School (Grades K-5)	\$ 5,590.00	plus	W12,243,000
Middle School (Grades 6-8)	\$ 6,700.00	plus	W14,334,000
High School (Grades 9-11)	\$ 7,250.00	plus	W 17,655,000

OTHER FEES

High School Senior Fee			W 262,000
Lunch Fee for Elementary School			W 945,000
Lunch Fee for Middle & High School			W 1,050,000
Transportation Fee			W 2,183,000
Residence Fee (Grade 6-12)	\$ 2,780.00	plus	W 10,328,000

NEW STUDENTS FEES

Application Fee (Non-refundable)			W 300,000
* This fee must be paid to GSIS 'direct deposit account when submitting the application.			
Registration Fee (Non-refundable)			W 450,000
Capital Fee (Non-refundable)			W 4,000,000

(Pre-K Enrollees: Pre-K: 1,000,000 / Gr.K : 1,000,000 / Gr.1 : 2,000,000)

(Gr.K Enrollees : Gr.K : 2,000,000 / Gr. 1 : 2,000,000)



GENERAL FEE INFORMATION

The Korean Won amount of payment must be directly deposited into

Account Name : 경기수원외국인학교 (GSIS)

Account No.: 630-005099-167

Bank Name : Korea Exchange Bank (Youngtong, Suwon)

Bank Address : 995-2, Youngtong-dong, Youngtong-gu, Suwon

Tel. (82-31) 203-0561(Ext. #106)

The U.S. dollar amount of payment must be directly deposited into

Account Name : 경기수원외국인학교 (GSIS)

Account No. : 650-005267-589

Bank Name : Korea Exchange Bank (Youngtong, Suwon)

Bank Address : 995-2, Youngtong-dong, Youngtong-gu, Suwon

SWIFT CODE : KOEXKRSE

Tel. (82-31) 203-0561 (Ext. #106)



PAYMENT DUE DATES

For Returning Students :

1. If parents choose to pay the full annual fees by **April 15, 2009**, they will receive 2% discount on the year rate.
2. All first semester fees must be paid by **May 13, 2009** in order to secure a place and confirm registration and class scheduling.
3. All second semester fees must be paid by **November 18, 2009** in order to secure a place and confirm registration and class scheduling.

For New Students :

Payment of tuition and other fees must be made within a week of notification of admission.

Late Fees :

Late Fees may be charged for any payments received after the applicable due dates.



LATE ENTRY DISCOUNT & EARLY WITHDRAWAL FEE POLICIES 2009 - 2010 SCHOOL YEAR

(Refunds will be made in Korean Won currency.)

	<u>Late Entry Fee</u>	<u>Early Withdrawal Refund</u>
April 16 - July 31	N/A	90% of annual tuition & 100% of bus fee
August 1 - August 9	N/A	85% of annual tuition & 100% of bus fee
August 10 - October 16	N/A	70% of annual tuition & fees
October 17 - December 17	25%	40% of annual tuition & fees
December 18 - March 18	50%	20% of annual tuition & fees
March 19 - June 4	70%	N/A

PLEASE NOTE :

In case of an event, which causes a large mass of students to withdraw from the school, tuition and fees already paid for the school year, and normally partially refunded in accordance with the Early Withdrawal Refund Schedule, **will not be refunded** and any tuition and fees that are unpaid will be due and payable.

This is defined as an event or effect, such as war, civil strife, labor unrest, or extreme weather, that cannot be reasonably anticipated or controlled and would adversely affect the school's financial condition.

This policy is necessary to ensure the financial stability of the school and to provide resources for continued operations after the event has passed. Appeals of the application of this policy in an individual case may be made to the Finance Committee of the GSIS Board of Trustees.



Athletic Programs

WORD ABOUT THE GSIS ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Dear Parents & Students,

GSIS remains dedicated to educating the whole person, academically, spiritually, socially, emotionally and physically. An important part of this education is addressed in the participation of elementary to high school students in the athletic and intramural programs. The high school student may participate in the interscholastic athletic program while middle school and elementary students may participate in the intramural program.

It is the school's goal that through these opportunities our students will learn life skills such as team work, leadership, sportsmanship, physical fitness, and critical, ethical and collaborative thinking. In this packet, you will be briefly introduced to the programs that are available to all students. If you have any questions concerning these programs, please contact the athletic director or division principal.

GSIS "Knights" are working to establish a proud tradition of high school athletic competition. This tradition will be based on the dedication of athletes, the teaching and motivational abilities of coaches, the support and cooperation of teachers and parents, the financial support of the school board, and the knowledge that God has given us physical gifts and talents to excel. GSIS is currently a member of the Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference (KAIAC). The "Knights" currently compete in girls' and boys' volleyball, tennis, basketball, soccer, cross-country, and swimming. Several of these sports compete both on varsity and junior varsity levels.

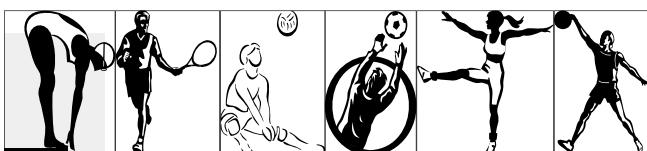
MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL FIRST STEPS

The first steps for participation in the H.S. Athletic and/or the M.S. Intramural Programs are to:

- 1) Obtain the GSIS Athletic Medical/Information and Permission Form
- 2) Have a physical examination completed by a physician and have the doctor complete page 4 of the Athletic Form
- 3) Complete pages 1, 2, and 3 of the Athletic Form with the parent's and the student's signatures.
- 4) Return the completed form with a copy of the first two pages of the student's passport on registration day or before the sport season begins.

AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITY BUS TRANSPORTATION

Activity buses run each afternoon at 4:30 P.M., 5:30 P.M. These buses accommodate students' athletic practices and other designated activities. Generally, buses are not provided after games both home or away. If the student elects to participate in these events, the student and parents will be responsible for providing his/her own transportation. This includes away games or activities that return to campus after the regularly scheduled activity bus runs.





CONDUCT & EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT ATHLETES

- 1) Students involved in athletics must maintain passing grades. Academic standing has priority and students must organize their time wisely. If they neglect their work, they may not be permitted to compete.
- 2) Students must communicate with their teachers and coaches when they are having academic problems.
- 3) Students must obtain assignments for classes they will miss because of away games and tournaments.
- 4) When participating in games both home and away, school rules are in effect and good behavior is expected.
- 5) Team members are expected to stay with the team during all away games and tournaments.
- 6) Students should never leave the area of an event without permission nor mislead a coach about plans after an event.
- 7) Students must respect the property of others including school property and the property of non -GSIS students.
- 8) A student ejected from a contest shall be ineligible for the next regularly scheduled game or match.

SPORTSMANSHIP AT GSIS

Sportsmanship is a central part of our sports program and all athletes are expected to play with honor and remember that it is not winning or losing that is important, but how they play the game and the witness they have to other athletes and schools.

- Play hard but fair. Never tackle or challenge with the intent of hurting another player.
- All officials are to be treated with the highest regard. If you disagree with a call you should work through your captain or coach to express your opinion; making comments to the officials directly or indirectly is not one of them.
- Respect your coaches. Listen to them and be willing to learn. They are giving sacrificially of their time and energy and without them our sports program would be unable to operate. They are people and they make mistakes, as do we all, just remember they are coaching because they care about young people.
- Show respect to other players (whether they have earned it or not) by helping players up after contact, only directing positive comments to them and shaking hands at the end of the game.
- While watching a game from the bench or elsewhere make only positive comments about your team, the opposing team and officials.
- If you know a wrong call has been made, politely and respectfully make the officials aware of it. Winning and losing that involves cheating or winning on wrong calls is not a victory at all.
- Attend all practices, be on time and give your best effort at all times. Have fun and give God the glory!

H.S. ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

High school students who are engaged in the GSIS interscholastic athletic programs must abide by the eligibility rules given in the *Co-curricular Activities* pamphlet. These rules pertain to quarter and semester grade requirements and the re-eligibility process.



HIGH SCHOOL INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The following athletic programs are open to all officially enrolled GSIS 9th-12th grade students who have met the academic and medical requirements.

Fall Season (Early September to early November)

Boys' Varsity Cross-Country

Girls' Varsity Cross-Country

Boys' Varsity Tennis

Girls' Varsity Tennis

Boys' Varsity Volleyball

Boys' Junior Varsity Volleyball (If there is interest)

Girls' Varsity Volleyball

Girls' Junior Varsity Volleyball

Winter Season (Early December to early February)

Boys' Varsity Basketball

Boys' Junior Varsity Basketball

Girls' Varsity Basketball

Girls' Junior Varsity Basketball

Spring Season (Early March to late April)

Boys' Varsity Swimming

Girls' Varsity Swimming

Boys' Varsity Soccer

Girls' Varsity Soccer

GUIDELINES: HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC TEAMS

- 1) Teams are made up of the best and most competitive athletes from the 9th-12th grade.
- 2) Players are selected on the basis of ability and desire.
- 3) Playing time for individual participants is determined by the head coach on the basis of the player's ability and the needs of the team.
- 4) To earn a varsity letter a player must participate in at least half of the games or matches during that particular season.
- 5) Only high school students (9th-12th grade) may earn varsity letters.
- 6) Coaching time will vary by ability level.
- 7) Junior varsity programs are offered in some sports.



MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS & INTRAMURALS

The following intramural programs are open to all officially enrolled GSIS 6th-8th grade students who have met the academic and medical requirements.

Fall Season (Early September to early November)
Co-educational Intramural Soccer

Winter Season (Early December to early February)
Co-educational Intramural Swimming (If there is interest)

Spring Season (Early March to late April)
Co-educational Intramural Volleyball
Co-educational Intramural Basketball

GUIDELINES: MIDDLE SCHOOL INTRAMURALS

- 1) Teams are made up of athletes who wish to play from 6th-8th grades.
- 2) The program provides opportunities to learn skills and have fun in soccer, basketball, volleyball, And swimming.
- 3) Playing time for individual participants will be determined by the head coach/sponsor on the basis of the faithfulness of attendance, the needs of the team, and, to some degree, the player's ability.
- 4) These teams will play each other on-campus and attend at least one jamboree at another school per season.

ELEMENTARY ATHLETICS & INTRAMURALS

The following intramural programs are open to all officially enrolled GSIS elementary students who have met the academic and medical requirements.

Fall Season (Early September to early October)
Co-educational Intramural Soccer

Winter Season (Early January to early February)
Co-educational Intramural Basketball

Spring Season (Early March to late April)
Co-educational Baseball (If there is interest.)

GUIDELINES: ELEMENTARY INTRAMURALS

- 1) Teams are made up of athletes who wish to play from 1st - 5th grade.
- 2) The 1st - 2nd program provides fun and learning skills in soccer. The 3rd - 5th program provides opportunities to learn skills and have fun in soccer, basketball and baseball.
- 3) The team sports will play each other on-campus and the 3rd-5th graders will attend at least one festival for soccer and basketball.

M.S. ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

The middle school principal in conjunction with the middle school activities/intramural coordinator will determine questions of eligibility of individual students to participate in co-curriculars.

ELEMENTARY ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

The elementary school principal in conjunction with the elementary activities coordinator and teachers will determine questions of eligibility of individual students to participate in co-curriculars.



Co-Curricular Activities & IBO CAS

WORD ABOUT CO-CURRICULARS & IBO CAS

Dear Parents & Students,

GSIS is dedicated to educating the whole person, academically, spiritually, socially, emotionally and physically. An important part of this education is addressed in the participation of elementary to high school students in the many and varied co-curricular activities offered by the school. At times there is some confusion about what is a co-curricular. The co-curricular is an activity that works together or in conjunction with a student's academics and is in a real sense an application of what is learned in the classroom. The co-curricular is an activity of equal value to the academics. Therefore, co-curricular activities compliment the students' academic studies or curriculum and makes them more comprehensive and richer. It is the school's goal that through these opportunities, our students will learn life skills such as team work, leadership, and ethical, collaborative and critical thinking. At times, these activities may parallel the academic program very closely such an orchestra concert, a field trip, the weekly chapel, Spiritual Emphasis Week, or the Korea Culture Week.

In the GSIS high school division, all International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) Diploma candidates are required to complete 150 co-curricular hours called "CAS" within the two-year program. All graduating seniors regardless of whether they are IBO Diploma candidates, beginning with the Class of 2007, must also have completed 150 CAS hours within their 11th and 12th grade years. "CAS" refers to activities that address Creativity, Action, and Service. GSIS' and the IBO's goal is to educate the whole person and foster more caring and socially responsible attitudes as students reach beyond themselves and their textbooks. The elementary and middle schools will have some form of CAS student requirement.

CAS should extend students. It should challenge

them to develop a value system by which they enhance their personal growth. It should develop a spirit of open-mindedness, lifelong learning, discovery and self-reliance. It should encourage the development of new skills on many levels including creative skills, physical skills and social skills.

High school 11th and 12th graders must attain 50 hours each in three elements of CAS, Creativity, Action, and Service, in order to reach the graduation and IB Diploma requirement of 150 hours. Examples of *Creativity* involve doing dance, theatre, music, and visual art. Examples of *Action* could involve participation in individual and team sports, student government, and physical activities outside the normal curriculum. The *Service* element could be the most meaningful and transforming to the student. The emphasis is on molding the "global citizen" and on interaction between individuals and groups in the local and global community. Examples include mission work camps, orphanage and hospital visits, and tutoring.

In this brochure, you will be briefly introduced to the activities that are available to elementary and secondary students. Participation in some of these activities is required of all students and others through an election or selection process, but most are open to all students. If you have any questions concerning these activities, please don't hesitate to contact the Activities Director.

AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITY BUS TRANSPORTATION

Activity buses run each afternoon at 4:30 P.M., 5:30 P.M., and one possible later bus designated for late high school athletic and drama practices. These buses accommodate students' athletic practices, drama rehearsals, Praise Team practices, student council and other activities. Generally, buses are not provided after games, dramas, socials, or concerts. If the student elects to participate in these events, the student and parents will be responsible for providing his/her own transportation. This includes away games or activities that return to campus after the regularly scheduled activity bus runs.

— Continued in next column



CONDUCT & EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS INVOLVED IN CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 1) Only high school students may participate in high school co-curriculars and the same is true of elementary and middle school activities where only students from that respective division may participate. The only exceptions are where older students are assisting adults in coaching or sponsoring an activity or some dramatic productions. Exceptions to this rule is rare and only with very specific permission from the principals.
- 2) All students involved in co-curricular activities should place priority on their academic work and must organize their time wisely. If they neglect their academic work, it is possible that they may not be permitted to be involved in some activities including those where their election or selection was partially based on their academic standing.
- 3) Student leaders should keep sponsors informed of planned activities and use the sponsor as a resource person.
- 4) Students must communicate with sponsors and teachers when they are having academic problems.
- 5) Students must obtain assignments for classes they will miss for activities that may take place during the school day.
- 6) When participating in activities at the school or away from it, school rules are in effect and good behavior is expected.
- 7) Members of an activity are expected to stay with the sponsor and together as a group when off-campus.
- 8) Students must never leave the area of an event without permission nor mislead a sponsor about plans after an event.
- 9) Students must respect the property of others including school property and the property of non-GSIS students.
- 10) Student leaders should look for opportunities to be inclusive of all members of an organization.

ELEMENTARY CO-CURRICULAR

The elementary principal, in conjunction with the activities coordinator, will determine questions of eligibility of individual students to participate in co-curriculars.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CO-CURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY

The middle school principal, in conjunction with the activities coordinator, will determine questions of eligibility of individual students to participate in co-curriculars. Please check the *GSIS Middle School Handbook* for specific guidelines.

HIGH SCHOOL CO-CURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY

The high school principal will determine questions of eligibility of individual students to participate in co-curriculars. Please check the *GSIS High School Handbook* for specific guidelines. Academic standing and possible disciplinary issues will have an impact on high school students' eligibility. Conference eligibility guidelines and rules will also have to be adhered to by GSIS students.



HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The following co-curricular activities are open to all officially enrolled GSIS 9th-12th grade students who have met the academic requirements. There are several activities that require a selection process by faculty and/or students. Some activities require participation by all students while others are required for only those who are enrolled in specific academic classes. The following is an extensive list of high school activities (Subject to change with additions and drops based upon interest and support):

Required:

Chapel - Students attend Christian worship once per week
 Spiritual Emphasis Week (S.E.W.) - On-campus Christian student retreat
 Korea Culture Week - Presentations of Korea culture and history
 Class Field Trips - Individual class trips to compliment the curriculum
 Instrumental Concerts - Music students' showcase instrumental efforts
 Vocal Concerts - Music students' showcase of vocal class efforts

Selected or Elected:

Interscholastic Athletic Teams - See *TCIS Athletic Brochure*
 Student Council - Elected leaders in student government
 National Honor Society - Faculty selected student honors organization
 Instrumental & Vocal Festivals - Music students' conference/festival
 Forensics Team - Selected students compete in forensics
 Mathematics Team - Selected students compete in mathematics
 Pep Band - Volunteer music group for home athletic games
 Jazz Band - Volunteer music group for concerts and special occasions
 Music Recitals - Performance opportunities for select musicians

Open to All:

Praise Team - Student musical group that assists in chapel & S.E.W.
 Habitat For Humanity Team - Annual overseas work camps
 Overseas Mission Trips - Annual student & teacher mission trips
 International Festival - Annual international carnival and festival
 Student Council Committees - Special events committees
 Spring Prom - The major social event in spring (formal dance & banquet)
 Sadie Hawkins Dance - The major social event in the fall
 Monthly Class Sponsored Socials - Parties, dances, & movies
 Drama - Major drama with positions for actors & back-stage crew
 Fellowship of Christian Athletes-Christian activities:athletes & non-athletes
 Spanish Club - Activities for students interested in the Spanish language
 Korean Club - Activities for students interested in the Korean language
 Computer Club - Activities for students interested in computers
 Book Club - Students read for pleasure and gain appreciation of literature
 Multimedia Club - Student serve while learning to operate of A-V equipment
 Ecology Club - Students gain awareness of human rights
 Art Club - Student serve while learning new visual art forms

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The following co-curricular activities are open to all officially enrolled GSIS 6th-8th grade students who have met the academic requirements. There are several activities that require a selection process by faculty and/or students. Some activities require participation by all students while others are required for only those who are enrolled in specific academic classes. The following is an extensive list of middle school activities (Subject to change with additions and drops based upon interest and support):

Required:

Chapel - Students attend Christian worship once per week
 Spiritual Emphasis Week (S.E.W.) -On-campus student Christian retreat
 Korea Culture Week - Presentations of Korea culture and history
 Class Field Trips - Individual class trips to compliment the curriculum
 Instrumental Concerts - Music students' showcase instrumental efforts
 Vocal Concerts - Music students' showcase of vocal class efforts

Selected or Elected:

Student Council - Elected leaders in student government
 Student Leadership Retreat - Student leaders planning conference
 National Jr. Honor Society - Faculty selected student honors organizat'n.
 Spelling Bee Team - Selected students compete in school contest
 24-Hour Famine - NJHS & Praise Team hunger fund-raising project
 Instrumental & Vocal Festivals - Music students' conference/festival
 Jazz Band - Volunteer music group for concerts and special occasions
 Music Recitals - Performance opportunities for select musicians

Open to All:

Praise Team - Student musical group that assists in chapel & S.E.W.
 Student Life Retreat - Overnight spiritual outing with recreation
 International Festival - Annual international carnival and festival
 Student Council Committees - Special events committees
 Boy Scouts - U.S. Boy Scouts with outdoor and service components
 Drama - Major drama with positions for actors & back-stage crew
 French Club - Activities for students interested in the French language
 Korean Club - Activities for students interested in the Korean language
 Computer Club - Activities for students interested in computers
 Sponsored Socials - Parties, dances, & movies
 Class trips - Day trips to amusement or cultural parks



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The following co-curricular activities are open to all officially enrolled GSIS Pre-Kindergarten-5th grade students. Some activities require participation by all students while others are required for only those who are enrolled in specific academic classes. The following is an extensive list of elementary activities (Subject to change with additions and drops based upon interest and support):

Required:

Chapel - Students attend Christian worship once per week
Spiritual Emphasis Week (S.E.W.) - On-campus student Christian retreat
Korea Culture Week - Presentations of Korea culture and history
Class Field Trips - Individual class trips to compliment the curriculum
Instrumental Concerts - Music students' showcase instrumental efforts
Vocal Concerts - Music students' showcase of vocal class efforts
Field Day - Once-a-year fun day of healthy competition and fun activities

Opportunities (With some grade-level Limitations):

All Grades

International Festival - Annual international carnival and festival
Sponsored Socials - Parties & movies
Class trips - Day trips to amusement or cultural parks

Kindergarten

Soccer - After-school basic skills of soccer are learned and practiced
Gymnastics - After-school lessons in gymnastics with a trained instructor

1st Grade

Soccer - After-school basic skills of soccer are learned and practiced
Gymnastics - After-school lessons in gymnastics with a trained instructor
Taekwon-do - After-school Taekwon-do lessons with a trained instructor
Ballet - After-school ballet lessons with trained instructor

2nd Grade

Same as 1st Grade

3rd Grade

Same as 1st Grade
Soccer Festival - Competitive day of soccer with other schools
traveling to a TCIS held tournament

Praise Team - Student musical group that assists in chapel & S.E.W.

4th - 5th Grades

Same as 3rd Grade
Basketball Festival - One-day competitive intramural basketball
hosted by an international school

Drama - Special projects with IB Program and minor roles in high school dramas



Mission , Philosophy, & Learning Outcomes

STATEMENT OF

MISSION

Gyeonggi Suwon International School provides international students a high quality internationally based education within a Christian environment utilizing positive educational experiences and biblical foundations for spiritual growth.

Adopted 2006

STATEMENT OF

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Because each student is recognized as a person made in the image of God, Christian education should foster self-respect and self-worth as well as respect and esteem for others.

For this reason, the goal of Gyeonggi Suwon International School (GSIS) is to provide a quality educational environment in which each student's unique gifts of intellect, personality, stature, and spirit are given the best opportunities for development toward maturity.

GSIS bases its philosophy on basic Christian beliefs.

Adopted 2006



IB LEARNER PROFILE

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

IB learners strive to be:

Inquirers

They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

Knowledgeable

They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Thinkers

They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Communicators

They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

Principled

They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

Open-minded

They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

Caring

They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Risk-takers

They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.

Balanced

They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

Reflective

They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.

Sister School TCIS College Matriculation History

As sister schools, GSIS follows TCIS curriculum. Therefore our students will be equally prepared to matriculate into the world's most competitive colleges and universities.

Members of the TCIS Classes 1998-2006
chose to matriculate to the following
Colleges & Universities:

American University
Amherst University
Appalachian State University
Auburn University
Baylor University
Bentley Business University
Berklee College of Music
Boston College
Boston University
Brigham Young University
California Art School
Calvin College
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Choong Nam University Medical School
Case Western Reserve University
Clemson University
Colgate University
College of William and Mary
Cornell University
Dalhousie University in Canada
DePaul University
Drexel University
Duke University
Emerson College
Emory University
Handong Global University
Farleigh-Dickenson University
Florida Institute of Technology
Geneva College
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
Houghton College
Indiana University at Bloomington
Illinois Institute of Technology
Johns Hopkins University
Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
Maryland Institute College of Art
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mount Holyoke College
New York University
Northwestern University
Otis College of Design

Pennsylvania State University
Parsons School of Design
Pratt Institute
Princeton University
Purdue University
Queens University at Kingston, Canada
Rhode Island School of Design
Rutgers/State University of New Jersey
Ryerson Polytechnic University
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
St. John's University
Seattle Pacific University
Stanford University
State University of New York—Albany
Syracuse University
Taccoa Falls College
Taylor University
Temple University in Japan
The George Washington University
The Ohio State University
The School of Art Institute of Chicago
Tufts University
University in Australia
University in UK
University of British Columbia
University of California at Berkeley
University of California at Davis
University of California at San Diego
University of California-(Various Branches)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Louisiana
University of Massachusetts - Amherst
University of Michigan
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
University of Texas, Austin
University of Toronto
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of Washington in St. Louis
United States Air Force Academy
Wheaton College
Vanderbilt University
Yale University
Yonsei University

Admissions Criteria & Procedures

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

To be eligible for admission, your child must hold a foreign passport, or have lived outside the country of Korea for three or more years. A student holding a Korean passport and wishing to apply for the three-year exemption to enter GSIS must first submit proof of three-year residency outside Korea to the District Immigration Office for issuance of a Certificate of Entry and Exit to Korea. When assessing your child's application, the admissions committee considers prior academic and behavioral records, English proficiency, and possible need for additional support services.

To be admitted to the Pre-Kindergarten program, a student must be four years of age before the start of school of that school year. Kindergarten applicants must be five years old by the first day of school of that school year. Grade one applicants must be six years old by the first day of school of that school year. Generally, the school will not enroll a student who will be over the age of twenty-two at the time of his or her graduation.

SPECIAL CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO THE ESL PROGRAM

General

The school is committed to appropriately placing students in programs where they will be able to comprehend the academic language and will experience success. All applicants should complete the GSIS application file and schedule a day of testing and/or residence interview. It is necessary to complete all sections of the Home Language Survey and the Educational and Personal Background section. This initial meeting with the parents/guardians present is the best time to obtain information. Initially, all applicants complete diagnostic reading, math, and writing assessments.

If a student scores two or more grade levels lower on the reading comprehension assessment than his/her targeted entry grade level, he/she is referred to the ESL department for additional English language diagnostic assessment to ensure accurate placement. Emphasis is placed on the academic reading evaluation; this is the primary indicator of the student's probability of success in the academic class. Prospective students requesting ESL services will need to plan to return to GSIS for a second day of diagnostic assessment.

ESL Diagnostic Assessment

The ESL coordinator reviews the Home Language Survey, the Educational and Personal Background information, the transcripts, and the initial reading, math, and writing assessment results. At this point, an ESL examiner conducts an informal interview with the applicant to put the student more at ease and to begin informally to assess the oral proficiency levels of speaking and listening. Next, a trained ESL specialist will administer an age-appropriate oral assessment. Based on the results of the individualized oral test, the student will be scheduled for additional ESL assessments to evaluate English grammar, reading, and writing skills.

GSIS Middle School ESL Program Placement

In the ESL program, GSIS identifies five levels of English language proficiency. Students who demonstrate English language skills at Level 1 or Level 2 will be enrolled in content-based ESL courses. Students who demonstrate English language skills at Level 3 or Level 4 will be enrolled in sheltered instruction courses. All students in the middle school ESL program will be enrolled in an Oral Communication course each semester. Students who demonstrate English language skills at Level 5 will be placed in mainstream courses and monitored for two semesters by the ESL department for consistent progress in English language proficiency. After two academically successful semesters in mainstream courses, students will be officially exited from the ESL program. In some cases, highly motivated ELLs at Level 4 may be placed in some mainstream classes with teacher recommendations. At the eighth grade level, GSIS offers ESL services only to Levels 3, 4, and 5; beginning level ESL students are only accepted in grades six and seven.

SPECIAL CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO THE ESL PROGRAM

Continued

SPECIAL CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION OF STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

General

The special needs program will be hopefully starting in 08-09 school year. Once GSIS starts the program, children with mild to moderate special needs will be considered for admissions to GSIS. Each student in need of support services will be considered on the basis of whether GSIS can meet his/her learning needs. Students are served in the mainstream educational program and receive support services which focus on remediation of academic disabilities, skill development, and/or academic support. Children's progress will be reviewed by the School Resource Team (SRT) meetings throughout the year.

Children's programming and placement at GSIS may need to be altered depending on their academic progress and/or progression of their learning needs.

Applicants must include testing results and most recent Individual Education Plan (IEP) if applicable.

PRIORITY SYSTEM

Based on the school's mission, qualified students are considered for admissions to GSIS according to the priority system outlined below.

1. GSIS staff children
2. Ethnically non-Korean children who do not speak the Korean language
3. Ethnically Korean children who do not speak the Korean language
4. Applicants who have a sibling already at GSIS
5. Ethnically non-Korean children who are academically proficient in the Korean language
6. Ethnically Korean children who are academically proficient in the Korean language

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION AND PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION

APPLICATION FORM

A current GSIS application form, completed, and signed.

SCHOOL RECORDS

The last three years of school records i.e. report cards, high school students must provide official transcripts, standardized test scores, academic recommendations or references, any psychological testing results, and any report of special services received. (Translation of grades and reports required if coming from a non-English school)

HEALTH HISTORY RECORD

A completed GSIS health form that includes: health information, a comprehensive physical examination, record of immunization, and evidence of a negative tuberculosis screening (refer to the nurse's letter). **No student may start classes without these documents on file at GSIS.**

PASSPORT AND FOREIGN REGISTRATION CARD

A copy of your child's passport, and/or foreign registration card. and/or proof of staying overseas three or more years.

ESL STUDENTS

See Special Criteria for Admissions to the ESL Program.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

See Special Criteria for Admissions for Students with Special Needs.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION AND PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION

INDIVIDUAL SCREENING

Some school candidates may be required to have an individual screening and interview with a counselor and/or resource teacher. School candidates applying from overseas can be conditionally accepted, but the final admissions decision and grade placement are made in only after screening for special needs, ESL and/or readiness for grade placement.

The school reserves the right to request additional diagnostic testing or a full evaluation before a decision is made for any student Pre-K through grade 12.

PHOTO

One small photo (Prefer photograph 3.5 cm x 4.5 cm). Boarding students must also supply a family photo.

APPLICATION FEE

Payment of W300,000 nonrefundable application fee, which covers the admissions process for one academic year. This fee must be paid and the receipt must be submitted with the application form.

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION PAYMENTS

If fees and/or tuition will be paid by a sponsoring organization, the school requires written documentation from the organization.

TIMETABLE FOR ADMISSIONS

FIRST SEMESTER ADMISSION

If you are interested in having your child admitted for the first semester of an academic year (beginning in August), you are encouraged to complete the application procedure between January and July, although applications that are submitted before May 1 of each year will be given priority for the fall semester. Occasionally, the school is unable to test and interview all elementary candidates before the beginning of the summer break; in that instance, they will be tested and interviewed just before the start of the next school year. Due to summer leave, no admission decisions are made in July.

SECOND SEMESTER ADMISSION

If you are interested in having your child admitted for the second semester (beginning in January), you are encouraged to complete the application procedure by December 1. At other times of the year, GSIS will accept applications if space is available. Generally, no new students will be admitted after the beginning of fourth quarter.

ADMISSION DECISIONS

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

Once all the required documentation has been received, your child's folder is sent to the admissions committee for a decision. The decision may call for acceptance, denial, or placement on a wait list.

LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

If your child is accepted, you will receive a formal letter of acceptance along with a tuition statement. Each year a few students are accepted on probation. The expectations of students on probation are clearly delineated in the acceptance letter. No student will be able to begin classes unless all tuition and fees are paid.

ADMISSION DECISIONS

WAITING LIST

A candidate is placed on a wait list when he or she is eligible for admission, but there is currently no space in the grade for which he or she is applying, or in the boarding program if boarding applies. Every effort will be made to indicate the candidate's current position on the wait list so that the family can plan appropriately. Given the school's admission priority system, a student's position on the wait list may change if there are subsequent applications from families with higher priority.

Once the second semester enrollment is finalized, students interested in applying for the following year must submit an updated application with current documentation. It is important that if your child is wait listed, you explore other educational alternatives while awaiting a decision from GSIS.

ADMISSIONS DENIED

Each year some students are denied admission on the basis of their academic and/or behavioral record; when their English language proficiency does not meet the requirements of the grade to which they are applying; or when GSIS lacks a program to meet their individual needs. Denied candidates may reapply once the reason for the denial has been addressed, but it is recommended that they wait at least one full academic year.

History of GSIS

In January 2005, an agreement was signed by the Honorable Governor of Gyeonggi Province, the Honorable Mayor of Suwon City, and the headmaster of Taejon Christian International School to partner together to develop a high quality international school in Suwon to attract foreign investment to the area and to better serve foreign families in the region. The City of Suwon provided an attractive tract of land in a green area on the east side of the city of Suwon. Gyeonggi Province helped provide funds for the capital development of the school. The headmaster of Taejon Christian International School provided the educational leadership for both the development of the facilities and the development of the educational programs at the school.

From the beginning, the business plan submitted by the headmaster called for the downloading of the basic school mission statement, educational philosophy statement, and curriculum from Taejon Christian International School to Gyeonggi Suwon International School. The business plan also called for the management of the school to be under the headmaster with appropriate advisement from the Board of Trustees made up of nine members from the TCIS Board of Trustees and two parents elected from the Gyeonggi Suwon parent community. As one can see from the inception, there has been a definite plan for a close relationship between Gyeonggi Suwon International School and Taejon Christian International School including similar mission statement, similar educational philosophy statement, similar curriculum, highly related Board of Trustees, and a common headmaster.

The facilities were designed by the U.S. architects, FWL of Portland, Oregon, in conjunction with HcH Associates, Hyun Jong Architects of Seoul, Korea. The construction bid was won by Hyundai Engineering and Construction Company through a fair bidding process. Construction began in November 2005 with the academic facilities and was completed in August 2006. The recreational and sports facilities construction began as the academic facilities were completed in August 2006 and was completed by the end of March 2007. Construction work for an on-campus dormitory building housing 64 students and 2 dorm parents was started in June and is completed in Nov 2007.

The school began with one hundred and five Kindergarten -8th grade students at the time of opening in September 2006. The business plan calls for a grade level to be added each subsequent year after the opening with the high school becoming operational and its first graduating class in five years, providing educational programs for maximum 654 students from Pre-Kindergarten to 12th grade .