



Stockholm  
International  
School



Educating the World  
in Stockholm



## FOUNDED IN 1951

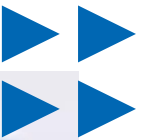
A small group of internationally mixed parents needed a school for their children. So they founded one.

From that simple proposition, and modest beginning, SIS has grown to be the longest-established international school in Stockholm, and the most prestigious.

Stockholm International School's reputation stems from the way it inspires and challenges its students, and how it welcomes families from nearly 60 countries around the world. Located in the heart of the city, we draw students from around the region, responding to the needs of the international business, diplomatic, and research communities.

We are the only school in Stockholm to offer a truly global, internationally recognised, and easily transportable education from Early Years to Grade 12.







# SIS | A supportive educational journey



## Meeting your needs

When you move to a new city and country you want to be sure that your children get an excellent education.

When you want your children to have an international outlook, you want a school that will prepare them for life as global citizens.

When you need to be sure that the education your children receive is transportable, you want a school that offers a curriculum taught worldwide and recognised by the most prestigious and demanding universities and institutions.

You'll find that Stockholm International School is all of this and more.

## Committed to student success

As Director of SIS I draw on my own international experience. I was born in Colombia and am now a US citizen. I am a product of the IB Diploma programme, and advocate education that contains academic rigour, stresses the link between the sciences and the arts, that is inclusive of different cultures and identities, values diversity, and exposes children to adventure and service. I am the third generation of my family to found and lead a school.

Leading SIS inspires me every day. Seeing our students develop, learn, and transition from children to young adults is immensely satisfying. I know how my own children thrived in international education and I look forward to welcoming your family, and watching them flourish as talented, successful SIS students.

María "Marisa" Isabel León  
*Director*





## Accreditations and affiliations

Stockholm International School is recognised by some of the most discerning organisations in education:

- Association of Swedish IB Schools (ASIB)
- Council of International Schools (CIS)
- Education Collaborative for International Schools
- International Baccalaureate® (IB)
- IPC accreditation by Fieldwork Education
- Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools
- Nordic Network of International Schools
- Positive Discipline Lab School

**ASIB**

**CIS** WE ARE AN ACCREDITED SCHOOL

**ecis**



**ipc** Accredited School 2017-2022

**MSA** CESS

**Nordic Network** OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS





#### At a glance

Our dedicated SIS faculty provides a world-class education to a talented, motivated, and diverse student body. We are one of the largest international schools in Scandinavia serving Early Years through Grade 12

**3 to 19**

Age range of students

**2**

Sites in central Stockholm

**7:1**

Students to faculty ratio

**4:1**

Students to all staff ratio

*Includes teachers, learning support, counsellors, nurses, catering, administrative, security, maintenance and other support staff*

**800**

Students on average

**60**

Nationalities of students

**195**

Staff

**35**

Nationalities of staff

**93%**

of families would recommend SIS





# An urban campus



Our campus sites are located in the heart of the city, easily accessible by car, bike, or public transportation.

Our students have easy access to the myriad cultural, sporting, and other educational facilities that Stockholm has to offer. The School takes advantage of this 'urban campus' to invigorate the student experience, making it part of a vibrant and beautiful capital city that is a cultural and commercial hub of the Nordic countries.

## Johannesgatan

Our Johannesgatan building has a rich nineteenth-century glow, and is located opposite the leafy and tranquil gardens of St Johannes church. Within these gardens are dedicated areas for the School to run play activities for the Primary school students. This building is complemented by modern facilities in annexes just a few minutes walk away, where the Middle school and Upper school students have their classes.

## Norra Latin

January 2023 will see the beginning of one of the most exciting phases of physical development in the history of SIS. The magnificent Norra Latin, a landmark property in the heart of the city and just a few minutes walk from Johannesgatan, will become part of the School. This impressive building, originally constructed as a school in the late 19th century, will house the Middle and Upper Schools, and provide enhanced facilities for all of SIS. An extensive refurbishment programme will create a modern learning space within this historical premises, and the School will move in during autumn 2023.



# SIS and the International Baccalaureate

SIS provides a high-quality, international education across all grade levels. Our students are challenged and encouraged by our expert and committed teaching staff.

## SIS is committed to the International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes

As of February 2022, there were over 7,500 IB programmes being offered worldwide, across over 5,400 schools in 159 countries. This makes them among the most transportable programmes in the world, with students able to move across international boundaries and change schools without breaking the continuity of their education or the methods of study and learning used at school.



The IB curriculum is currently taught in the Middle School and Upper School, and the Primary School is currently transitioning so that SIS will teach the full IB continuum and be fully accredited during the 2024/25 school year. By offering the IB throughout the school, SIS will provide continuity when students bridge the transition from Primary Years to Middle Years, or from Middle Years to the Diploma Programme.

Through our IB curriculum, teachers help develop resilient, self-motivated young people who have the knowledge, skills, and sense of purpose they will need to succeed. The IB gives students distinct advantages by building their critical thinking skills, nurturing their curiosity and developing their ability to solve complex problems.

Woven into this are the values and awareness that helps them become global citizens with an international outlook and a willingness and desire to make the world a better place.

## Technology and innovation

Technology and innovation are an integral part of school life. Students work on school-issued personal devices. The Educational Technology Team ensures that technology is integrated into the teaching and learning environment in meaningful and purposeful ways.

### Learning Commons

Our Learning Commons spaces stimulate a thirst for knowledge and critical thinking in our students. The centre's dynamic Makerspace inspires creative thinking and practical experimentation.

Using hands-on learning resources from basic Lego bricks, magnets and saws to robotic parts and Lego SPIKE programming tools, our Primary students take on digital and analogue challenges. Our Middle and Upper School students are encouraged to experiment with a wide range of concepts and skills taking on robotics, virtual reality and augmented reality.



*Students use their hands and minds to solve challenges, create their own knowledge, look at real-world problems and reflect on their experiences in a continuous circle of learning.*





## Primary School

Early Years to Grade 5

### EY3, EY4, and Kindergarten

Our Early Years programme nurtures learning through playing, exploring, and being active. It provides activities indoors and outdoors that support healthy development and encourage new learning skills and the understanding of concepts.

### Primary School (Grades 1–5)

The IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) is taught at SIS, and the School is currently an IBPYP candidate school. The curriculum encourages young students to become active participants in their own learning. It nurtures and develops them through a student-centred approach, and prepares them for a lifelong journey of learning.

### Core subjects

- Language
- Social Studies
- Mathematics
- Science and Technology
- Arts
- Personal, Social and Physical Education



## Middle School

Grades 6–9

The IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) is taught throughout the Middle School, and bridges the transition to Grade 10 in the Upper School. It builds a solid academic foundation and develops students' confidence in managing their own learning and making connections between the classroom and the real world. Students are empowered to inquire into a wide range of issues and ideas of significance locally, nationally, and globally. The result is young people who are creative, critical, and reflective thinkers.

### Core subjects

- Language and Literature
- Language Acquisition
- Individuals and Societies
- Sciences
- Mathematics
- Arts
- Design
- Physical and Health Education



## Upper School

Grades 10–12

After completing the IB Middle Years Programme in Grade 10, students enter the IB Diploma Programme (DP) in Grades 11 and 12. It aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. IB programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right. The programme builds an inquiring mindset, fosters the desire to learn, and prepares students to excel at their careers and lead meaningful lives.

### Core subjects

- Language and Literature
- Language Acquisition
- Individuals and Societies
- Experimental Sciences
- Mathematics
- The Arts and Electives

The School comprises Primary, Middle, and Upper School, each with its own Principal. The Middle Years Programme (IB MYP) is taught in Middle School and in Upper School, for Grades 6–10. The IB Diploma Programme (IB DP) is taught in Upper School, Grades 11 and 12.

GRADE	EY3	EY4	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
SCHOOL SECTION	PRIMARY SCHOOL								MIDDLE SCHOOL				UPPER SCHOOL		
CURRICULUM	IPC/IB PYP								IB MYP				IB DP		

### Tremendous achievements

SIS Diploma students are consistently above the world average, scoring impressive results. These accomplishments have secured SIS student places at leading international universities.

**SIS**

**Global**

**89%**

**86%**

IB Diploma pass rate

**35**

**32**

IB Diploma average points

**5,5**

**4,96**

IB Diploma mean grade

*2022 data*

Almost all our students enter higher education – 20% after taking a gap year. Universities attended by students recently completing the Diploma Programme include:

- University of Amsterdam
- Brown University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of Cape Town
- University of Chicago
- Durham University
- Groningen University
- Karolinska Institute
- King's College, London
- KTH Royal Institute of Technology
- LSE
- St Andrews University
- Stanford University
- Stockholm School of Economics
- UCLA
- Yale University
- Yonsei University

## A transformational learning experience

SIS prides itself on creating a rich and positive learning environment, as well as preparing students to achieve examination results that will give them access to university and employment when they complete their diploma.

### Nurturing student talent

At SIS we prepare our students for a lifelong process of learning. We believe that learning is about making connections, and equipping students with the critical thinking and creative skills that will allow them to gain knowledge, develop their skills, and deepen their understanding over time.

This is the beginning of a process that prepares them not only for their immediate next steps, but for the jobs and careers that don't even exist yet, as technology brings about change in the world with ever-increasing speed.

### In the school

Our regular IB programmes encourage cross-curricular learning but at SIS we also engage with programmes that develop life skills and reflect real-life situations. This instils confidence in our students when making their choice of study and career options on graduating from SIS.

SIS Diploma Students exceeded both the national average for Sweden, and the global average for pass rates, average points, and mean grade. SIS students overwhelmingly go on to higher education at universities across the globe.

### University guidance and counselling

University guidance and counselling is an important part of an SIS education. We work with students and their families to maximise choices that best suit students' interests and aspirations. We offer comprehensive support for preparing for and applying to colleges. Career counselling begins in grade 10 with individual meetings and presentations by the counsellor.



# A commitment to support



Our gifted and dedicated teachers and support staff are fundamental to the success of SIS students.

## An international team of educators

Around 110 fully-qualified teachers complemented by teaching assistants, counsellors, and other specialists, work with our 800 students, providing a low ratio of students to staff. Many SIS teachers have been at the School for 10 years or more, providing experience and cultural consistency in the School's evolution. The teaching staff represent 35 different nationalities, embedding internationalism in the classroom.

## A respectful environment

SIS fosters an atmosphere of respect, alongside personal challenge and a balanced approach to physical, intellectual, and emotional well-being. We adhere to the principles of 'Positive Discipline', a system designed to support students, parents, and teachers to be more effective, instilling discipline with kindness to help children become responsible problem solvers in an atmosphere of cooperation and mutual respect. SIS is an accredited Positive Discipline Lab School.



*SIS teachers nurture and develop young students as caring, active participants in a lifelong journey of learning.*

### Student support and services

SIS works collaboratively with families and teachers to ensure all students are supported with their academic, emotional, and behavioural learning needs.

### English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Students who are new to the English language receive EAL support to ensure the best academic outcome.

### Learning Support Programme

We provide specialist support for students with mild to moderate special educational needs.

### Well-being

The Dean of Students works with a team of dedicated counsellors to advise students and support their educational and emotional well-being.

# A diverse array of exciting programmes

At SIS, learning is about making connections. It is a lifelong process where we can gain knowledge, develop our skills, and deepen our understanding over time.

SIS offers a wide variety of cross-curricular activities and projects within the school that enrich the learning experience – many of them initiated by the students themselves.

Guided by staff mentors, these projects promote problem-solving and critical thinking as well as nurturing personal growth and development.

These cross-curricular activities not only challenge our students academically, but help them develop the 'soft skills' that will prepare them for life after SIS, as respectful, resilient, and responsible global citizens.



## Model United Nations

An academic simulation of the United Nations that aims to educate participants about civics, effective communication, globalisation and multilateral diplomacy. Students research a subject, prepare briefing papers and presentations, and debate issues of real global significance.



## Erasmus+

SIS is an enthusiastic participant in this EU programme which enables young people from countries across Europe to work together on projects that build cooperation and understanding, helping them to become more active and connected citizens.



## Nepal Project

Students raise funds for the Shila Devi primary school in Nepal, where over the years SIS activities have funded the salaries of teachers as well as provided solar panels, text books and other materials for our partner school. As well as developing organisational and collaborative skills, the project allows our students to visit Nepal and helps raise their awareness of different cultures and different economic circumstances.



## Roots and Shoots

Roots & Shoots is a student-led, staff-mentored, initiative. Students champion sustainability within and outside the School to develop practical programmes to improve the School's environmental impact. This is backed up by the creation of information campaigns and resources.



When the school day finishes, SIS remains a hive of activity. Students have opportunities for fun and friendships while developing their skills and interests.

### After School Activities

A rich programme of sports, arts, crafts, and other cultural activities, means that students can develop and pursue interests outside the formal curriculum. All activities are managed in a safe and inclusive environment where students feel confident and eager to try out new skills or master current ones.



#### After School Care (ASC)

**Students in EY3–Grade 4  
Monday–Friday 15.30–17.00**

ASC is available for our students who require care after school. Parents sign up at the beginning of term for the duration of that term. Fees are on the website.



#### Sports

Eleven different sports — including badminton, basketball, running, football, swimming, and tennis — are on offer for Grade 6 students and above. All levels of experience

are welcome. As well as these in-school activities, student teams represent SIS in a variety of competitions through two international school organisations: the Nordic Network Sports Tournament (NNST) and the Nordic League. SIS is also the founder of the local Stockholm International League (SIL).



#### Music

The School runs a variety of choirs and musical ensembles for students (and also a parent-teacher choir). String and percussion instruments, such as the ukulele, violin, and orff are

taught, not forgetting the essential wind instrument, the recorder.

Private tuition is also available for committed students who want to develop a deeper level of accomplishment with a particular instrument.



#### Theatre and performing arts

As well as teaching theatre within the Middle Years Programme, SIS works with the Scandinavian International Theatre School (SITS) – an English-speaking theatre

school – to offer training in the performing arts. Students between the ages of 6 and 16 can take part in Saturday morning classes during term-time.



#### Other opportunities

Chess, cooking, filmmaking, maths, coding, running, sewing, dance – the range of after-school activities is long and varied. Through these programmes, SIS students of

all ages get an opportunity to pursue their interests, develop confidence, and discover collaborative and social skills that help develop them personally as well as academically.





# A strong school spirit



## The house system

Earth, Fire, Air, and Water. These are the four elemental, strong, essential Houses of SIS. They reflect the rugged beauty of the Swedish landscape, and each captures a particular quality of the School.



Every student – and every member of staff – is allocated a House when they join the School. Each House includes students from every grade, fostering a sense of community throughout the School and allowing greater interaction of students of different ages.

As well as creating an atmosphere of belonging, inclusivity, and camaraderie, the Houses also serve as a source of fun and friendly competition, with students able to win points for their House through the year by undertaking academic or physical challenges, and participating in School activities.

The House system helps students quickly find new friends, bond with current students, and connect with their peers.



## Our mascot

Our mascot, Oggi the Owl, is a magnificent bird that symbolises wisdom and learning. Oggi is a friendly, curious, welcoming creature who embodies and amplifies our school spirit and community.



# A warm and supportive community

SIS is committed to supporting mobility and smoothing transitions for our families.

When students start at an international school it usually signals that a whole family has made a move for professional or personal reasons. The educational needs of the children will be just one of many aspects of life that will be new and challenging, perhaps even a little strange.

At SIS we recognise this and go out of our way to help the whole family to acclimatise to life in Stockholm and Sweden in general.

At the beginning of each term there are a variety of welcome events and new family orientation events to help new arrivals settle in.



The SIS Spirit Fund, the School's annual fund, is an important channel of community support and development. The fund raises money for educational innovation, campus improvement, and enhancing the student experience. The SIS Spirit Fund allows SIS to 'go the extra mile' – be it providing innovative additional learning resources, acting as a catalyst for extracurricular learning on international trips, or holding community-building events that showcase the talents and creativity of our community.



We encourage and support a thriving SIS Parent Community (SPC). We work with them to promote events that help new families to get to grips with life in Sweden, make new friends and connections, and represent the interests of parents and guardians at the School.

The SPC also provides a common point of contact for the school, parents in general, and the SPC, through a system of class representatives who help foster relationships between parents for their child's age group. Social events, and class-specific initiatives are a great opportunity to get involved in your child's school life and to learn more about how the School works.

## You Are Not Alone (YANA) programme

Run entirely by volunteers, the SPC operates the YANA programme to ensure every parent feels connected to the school and to each other. Community members can often help each other face challenges that can affect mental well-being, such as the stress of moving countries and starting a new school, and managing many multicultural dimensions of life in Stockholm, not to mention the Swedish winter!

## SIS Buddy System

The SPC has created a Buddy System to ensure that every new family is offered a chance to speak to a current family who can share their perspective based on their own experience. Buddies can offer advice and support in navigating the transition to Sweden, Stockholm, and SIS in particular. They are matched as closely as possible, based on the new family's priorities and interests.

## Social events and activities

The SPC organises social events for students and the wider community, such as 'chillax' events, aspirational talks from parents, Halloween, and International Day.



# Our governance and structure

Stockholm International School is a not-for-profit Foundation dedicated to educational excellence.

Once all the overheads and running costs – such as salaries, materials, technology, buildings, and services – are paid for, from all the funds the School receives – tuition fees, government subsidies, or any other source – any remaining surplus is reinvested in the School. There are no shareholders to whom the School must distribute dividends, and our Board of Trustees goes entirely unremunerated for the immense time, effort, and expertise they make available to SIS.

The Board of Trustees is made up of individuals with vast experience of business, commerce, education, and international society. It guides the School and determines the long-term strategy, protects its reputation, and guarantees its financial stability. The board appoints the Director to lead the Senior Leadership Team in the daily running of the School.



*SIS strives to ensure a bright future for students that instils a passion for lifelong learning.*

The School receives tuition fees from two sources: fees paid directly by parents, and subsidies paid by the government for the education of all children in Sweden who are eligible. This makes the total cost to eligible parents significantly less than other international schools around the world. The School adheres to strict regulations within the Swedish educational system that establish priorities for enrolment. The combined income allows SIS to deliver the low student to teacher ratio, and the additional learning and language support that is demanded in an international community.



# Admission to SIS



*SIS aims to support students with the opportunities, experiences, and pathways to learn and grow while feeling a sense of belonging and connection.*



At Stockholm International School, we serve the needs of families moving to the city or the region for a short or medium term period, or families who are internationally mobile and expect to leave the country during the schooling period of their children.

SIS accepts applications all year round with acceptance to the school based on the student's willingness to share in an international culture and uphold the educational values and visions of the Stockholm International School Foundation. Students applying must be in good academic standing and respected by their peers and teachers as a member of the school community. We are proud to embrace all students who enrich and strengthen our community, including students with mild to moderate learning needs.

Full details are set out in our admissions policy accessible on the website at:  
**[stockholmis.se/admissions](https://stockholmis.se/admissions)**

Recognising that career mobility can often come at short notice, SIS accepts applications and admits students throughout the year, but parents should apply as soon as possible.

## Start your application

For full details, a list of requirements, and to start an application, please visit:

**[stockholmis.se/admissions/how-to-apply](https://stockholmis.se/admissions/how-to-apply)**



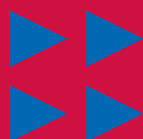






“Community feeling is very high, thanks largely to the parent community.”

— A Primary School parent



“Thank you for all of the hard work and effort the staff and faculty put into providing an excellent education in a good environment. This school has been one of the best that any of my children have attended.

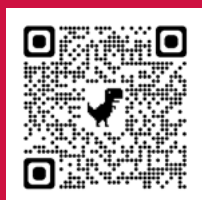
— An Upper School parent



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“Excellent school only possible thanks to its extraordinary staff. You all should be proud of your contribution!”

— A Middle School parent

“I love to hear the different languages in the corridors, and celebrating that diversity in the classroom. There is an enormous spirit of good will around the School... It's quite special.

— Grade 2 Teacher