



Junior School Profile

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Tanglin Trust Junior School

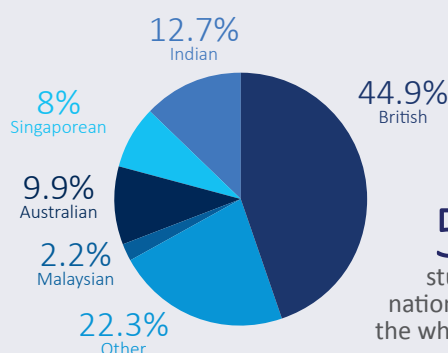
Tanglin Trust Junior School (Years 3 to 6) provides an engaging learning environment which facilitates a holistic approach to learning. We aim to provide memorable experiences that foster a real love of learning and personal development.

The Junior School's curriculum is vibrant, rich and exciting. Underpinned by the English National Curriculum, it has been developed to reflect our international setting and to celebrate diversity.

We are particularly proud of the breadth of our provision which helps to promote our children's personal, academic, creative and physical development. Outstanding specialist teaching complements impressive facilities with sport, art, music and drama featuring prominently.



768 Junior students



7-11
Junior School age range

51
student
nationalities in
the whole school

Interview with Clair Harrington-Wilcox

Clair Harrington-Wilcox, Head of Junior School, shares her experience at Tanglin and her hopes for the future of the Junior School.

Tell us a bit about yourself. What is your background? Why did you want to become Head of Junior School?

Like many teachers at Tanglin, I taught in the UK before moving to Singapore, where I started my career at Tanglin as a Year 4 class teacher. I went on to lead English, spent six years as Head of Year 6 and another six years as Deputy Head of Junior School.

I became Head of Junior School in 2015 and I just love it! I was ready to embrace a new challenge and to take on headship, but there was only one school in the world that I wanted to be at – Tanglin.

I am also trained as an Ofsted Lead Inspector, so I am fortunate to see and learn from the very best schools in the UK and to keep up to date with the British education system and educational best practice in general.

What is your role as Head of Junior School? What do you most enjoy?

My role is to lead a vibrant and innovative school forward, to ensure that we keep learning and that pupil wellbeing and happiness is at the heart of all we do.

I like the constant variety in my role. The best parts are greeting the lovely smiling faces of our students when they arrive at school and observing the quality teaching and learning in action. I also have the great privilege of working with creative and inspiring colleagues.

What are the unique qualities of the Junior School?

We have dedicated staff who are passionate about making a difference, who embody our mission to be lifelong learners and who seek every opportunity to improve the life chances of our students.

Our outstandingly bespoke curriculum and extensive enrichment activities ensure that our pupils not only achieve high levels of attainment, but also develop into well-rounded, community minded and responsible, international young people.

We are fortunate at Tanglin to have the TTS Foundation which supports exceptional opportunities for our community in extending an already impressive range of activities beyond the curriculum.

How do you see the school's values of Respect, Responsibility and Purpose reflected in the Junior School?

- **Respect** – wellbeing underpins all that we do. It is the driver behind decisions from what we teach to how we develop our learning environment, and how we interact with other cultures during our overseas residential trips. We have incredibly high pastoral expectations, and want all children to flourish and encourage them to stand out from the crowd as a 'Tall Poppy'.
- **Purpose** – the key purpose of any school is learning and we are justifiably proud of our rich and vibrant curriculum which encourages collaborative learning to create a dynamic community. This nurtures and inspires every individual to be the best they can be.
- **Responsibility** – our social philanthropy programme encourages students to make informed decisions in order to benefit others in our local community and the impact they have globally.

What makes you most proud within the Junior School?

We have designed some fantastic spaces, allowing us to accommodate the latest teaching and learning styles. These include a Science Lab, Media Suite, Drama Studio, Art Studio, Future Learning classrooms and Year 3 Role Play Area.

I am always delighted to see our students grow into mature young people ready to continue their journey into our Senior School.

What is your vision for the future of the Junior School?

To continue to build on our exceptional ability to equip our students with the necessary skills to thrive in the world around them and to succeed in jobs not yet created. For example, the ability to collaborate and contribute as a dynamic team member rather than just working independently is going to be essential.

What does Tanglin Trust School mean to you?

I was once told that my arm was like a stick of rock with 'Tanglin' written all the way through! Practically my whole teaching career has been here and to me it means: laughter and excitement, a diverse community, a vibrant learning environment, passionate and caring pupils and staff and above all a relentless pursuit for excellence.



Curriculum Overview

Key Stage	Year	Age	Maximum Class Size	Number of Teachers and Teaching Learning Assistants (TLA's) per Class	Specialist Teachers
Key Stage 2	Year 3	7-8 years	24	1 teacher per class, 4 TLAs across the Year	Drama PE ICT
	Year 4	8-9 years	24	1 teacher per class, 4 TLA's across the Year	Art Music Chinese
	Year 5	9-10 years	24	1 teacher per class, 4 TLA's across the Year	Library Learning Support
	Year 6	10-11 years	24	1 teacher per class, 2 TLAs across the Year	Enrichment Precision Teaching



Years 3 to 6

“I'm very happy to see my daughter coming home smiling everyday. Both my kids love this school.”
Junior School Parent

Our bespoke skills-based curriculum equips our children with the core subject skills and provides exciting opportunities for them to apply their learning in a range of ways. This not only enthralls, engages and challenges the thinking of young and inquiring minds, but also promotes high levels of attainment and outstanding progress.

We believe that by equipping our children with the core subject skills first and then providing exciting opportunities for them to apply their learning in a range of ways, we are able to cater for their distinct and unique learning styles in an integrated context.

Our curriculum is taught through cross-curricular units of work, allowing children to explore a topic such as The Vikings through a variety of subject lenses including English, History, Geography and Art. This enables them to make connections between their learning in different subjects and provides a meaningful way in which children can apply knowledge learned in one context to others, both in and out of school.

Stand alone and integrated subjects are:

- **English:** reading easily, fluently and with good understanding; writing clearly and accurately adapting language and style for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences; developing competence in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate
- **Mathematics:** communication using numbers, symbols, shapes. Explaining, predicting and tackling problems



Achieving academic potential for all learners

Learning is a dynamic process and we recognise the changing needs of our students. For example, our most able learners relish the challenges presented through our bespoke enrichment provision. For children whose progress has ebbed, our Precision Teaching supports them to maximise their improvement and achieve their personal goals.

- **Science:** predicting, planning, observing, measuring, recording, communicating, evaluating. Developing creativity in thought and analysis in practice
- **Humanities:** knowledge of places and environments, thinking about own place in the world and the diversity of human experience
- **Chinese:** consolidation of knowledge, understanding of the language, spontaneous and creative use in different contexts
- **Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE):** becoming more informed, confident and skilled in order to take an active and responsible part in society
- **Art and Design:** expressing ideas, describing, analysing, and interpreting visual images
- **Information and Communication Technology (ICT):** understanding the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work and programming. Digital literacy- using technology critically, safely, responsibly and respectfully
- **Music:** performing, composing, listening and evaluating
- **Physical Education:** developing core strength, appreciating the importance of health and fitness.

As an extension to our bespoke curriculum, children benefit from many activities funded by the TTS Foundation. These include:

- A learn to cycle programme, 'Pedal Power'
- A service trip to Cambodia in Year 6
- The development of Music Awards encouraging further take up of Wind, Brass and Stringed instruments
- Visits from inspirational speakers including GB Olympic Swimmers, performance poet Harry Baker, storyteller Roger Jenkins, mathematician James Grime, senior model maker at Aardman Animations Jim Parkyn, and former professional footballer Aleks Duric.



English Speaking Board (ESB)

ESB supports the development of children's skills in public speaking and the art of listening. In the Junior School, there are many opportunities for speaking and listening, including leading assemblies, reading poetry at open mic sessions, contributing to Circle Time and engaging with our inspirational visitors. To enhance these skills further, children take ESB assessments and participate in our public speaking competition.

Readers' Cup

The Readers' Cup is a reading competition open to any children in the Junior School who wish to take part and its aim is to promote a love of reading. Students form teams and then read the books for the competition over several months. The teams take part in a preliminary competition and answer questions about the books. The two winning teams from each year group go through to the finals. The team with the highest point score from the finals, regardless of their year group, then becomes the Tanglin Trust School Readers' Cup Champions.

“Children are well supported by teachers and know that they will be gently guided to meet high standards around work and behaviour. It is a fun, safe environment to learn and grow.”
Junior School Parent



Beyond the Classroom

We do not believe learning should simply be confined to the classroom, but enhanced through a multitude of opportunities to inspire, such as day trips, residential visits and acts of social service. These experiences enable our children to excel personally and academically and include:

- Outdoor education trips which nurture independence, support children to build new friendships and develop resilience and risk taking to enjoy a new experience away from home: Year 3 Zoo Sleepover (1 night), Year 4 Pulau Ubin and Sentosa Trip (2 nights), Year 5 Malacca Trip (3 nights) and Year 6 Sarawak Trip (4 nights)
- Inspiring visitors, many funded by the TTS Foundation
- Junior Philanthropic Award Scheme (JPAS).

Co-curricular Activities (CCAs)

Tanglin's CCA programme provides students with opportunities to pursue a range of interests by developing existing talents or learning something new, ranging from learning to cook in our Masterchef kitchen to rock climbing and computer game design. In addition to recreational choices, the programme enables students to trial for and engage in competitive activities.

Sports

Sport is an integral part of the Tanglin curriculum. Our excellent sporting facilities enable us to provide a wide range of competitive and non-competitive events throughout the year. We believe in a 'Sport for All' approach in which every child has the opportunity to move, play and compete together, to try out new sports, as well as to pursue excellence in their chosen field.

We participate in FOBISIA (Federation of British Schools in Asia), ACIS (Athletic Conference of Singapore International Schools), and SEASAC (South East Asia Student Activities Conference).

The Arts

Tanglin has a thriving, vibrant and energetic Arts programme which plays an important part in school life. Throughout the year, there are very high-quality ensembles, recitals, performances and exhibitions.

"The school is a joy to attend and we are delighted that we have had the opportunity to be part of the Tanglin community. The level of learning is astonishing and our children have progressed way beyond our expectations." Junior School Parent



Our Children's Achievements

We are very proud of our children's achievements, with many exceeding age-related expectations as they journey on into the Senior School.

Our outstanding teaching and learning, coupled with our rigorous approach towards assessment ensures that we remain closely aligned with standards expected by outstanding British schools around the world.

All children in the Junior School will be measured against age-related expectations at the end of each school year.

Reporting to Parents

Progress reports at the end of Term 1 will give an update on your child's progress to date, including specific examples of strengths as well as areas for development. We also report on your child's attitude towards learning.

Attainment against end-of-year expectations will be reported in the end of year report in terms of 'working towards', 'working within' and 'working beyond' age-related expectations.

Home-School Link

Our Junior School teachers encourage a close home-school link with open communication lines between parents and teachers. We host regular workshops for parents to support their child's learning journey; additionally, throughout the year we have a series of open sessions where children are encouraged to share their learning informally with their parents.

We also hold more formal Parent Teacher Conferences twice a year. This is an opportunity for parents to meet with their child's class teacher on an individual basis and review their child's learning and their next steps.

TTS Foundation and Friends of Tanglin

TTS Foundation funds exceptional opportunities in four key areas: Engaging with Global Issues; Sport; The Arts; and Innovation, Imagination and Inquiry. Students, staff and parents all benefit from these opportunities.

We also have the Friends of Tanglin Groups which harness the talents and expertise of the members of the school community to connect, support and provide an active social and professional network for members in Singapore and abroad. These include Friends of Tanglin Parent Voice and Class Representatives, Friends of Tanglin Key Events, Friends of the Arts and Friends of Sport.

Tanglin is 'Outstanding'

Our most recent British Schools Overseas (BSO) inspection confirmed the overall quality of education at the Junior School to be outstanding.

"Tanglin pupils talk with passion about their school because it is special. They say it makes them feel happy and valued, not just for what they can do, but for who they are." BSO Inspector 2019

In recognition of the excellent provision and exceptional standards we offer our students, we have also been awarded the:

- Historical Association Silver Quality Mark
- Geographical Association Gold Quality Mark
- Primary Science Gold Quality Mark
- British Council International School Award, with maximum points
- Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA): Silver



Membership of IAPS

The Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS) is the membership association for Headteachers of leading prep schools throughout the world.

As Clair Harrington-Wilcox, Head of Junior School is a member of IAPS, our school has been awarded the prestigious kite mark of quality. Tanglin Junior School is among the most prestigious prep schools in the world, with links to an international association that allows its members to share best practice and take advantage of continuing professional development opportunities to the benefit of both students and teachers alike.

