

2019

A YEAR AT NANJING
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL



Nanjing
International
School
南京国际学校
An **Inclusive**
Learning
Community



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50 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

NIS was the first International Baccalaureate World School in China to offer the continuum of PYP (Primary Years Programme), MYP (Middle Years Programme) and DP (Diploma Programme). The IB is focused on developing inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who are motivated to succeed.

The IB Diploma is recognised as the gold standard in pre-university education. Recently published research shows that students entering university with the IB Diploma are more likely to complete their degrees with higher achievement levels, to engage in various aspects of university life, and to pursue graduate studies.

The programme is currently followed by almost 5000 schools in 153 countries.



Message from the Director



Welcome to the 2019 edition of “A Year at Nanjing International School”

which is an at a glance summary of life at school during the year 2019. The information spans the second semester of 2018-19 and the first semester of 2019-20. The main goal of the publication is to share information about school with our community. Every school wants to live their mission and my hope is that the NIS community will be able to see that we are achieving what we have set out for ourselves in our mission.

2019 was an exciting year which saw the opening of our new Early Years Learning Centre for our 3-5 year olds, the launch of the GCD (Global Citizen Diploma) for Grade 9 and much needed continuity with no changes to our leadership team and the number of new teachers being less than 10% of the total.

As a learning community we accept that nothing stands still and we need to be active through our strategy to continue our path of school improvement. With the new iteration of our Strategy V2.2020 we will see changes to our learning spaces throughout NIS over the next three years beginning with the construction of The HUB during 2020.

The professional development of teachers remains a focus with most emphasis being on the changes to the IB programme in Primary and Diploma years. Additionally NIS hosted the Learning2 Asia conference and the ACAMIS Early Years conference in successive weeks welcoming over 200 visitors to our campus from around Asia.

We are an inclusive school which means that we work with every student to help them follow their passions and achieve their best. In reflecting on how we know we are doing well as a school there has been a growing recognition that good IB results, excellent university and college placement, proof of growth through MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) and exceptional SAT results only reveal part of the picture, albeit an important part. At the GCD launch the Grade 9 students proclaimed that they are ‘more than numbers’. We believe that also goes for our graduates who are living examples of what impact a school can have on students. For this reason we are now putting more time and resources in to reconnecting with our alumni.

LAURIE McLELLAN
Director

NIS Board Members since May 2019

The NIS Board is a 9-member group of volunteers.
Two of the Board members are non-voting – Staff member and Director.



Julia Güsten
Chair (since 2009)



Patrick Heckelmann
Vice Chair (since 2009)



Rachel Shin
(since 2019)



Angela Romero
Staff Member (since 2018)



Yi Zhang
(since 2018)

The Board had a two day retreat over a weekend in August facilitated by David Chojnacki who leads his own consultancy called 'Center for Good Governance'. He is the co-author of the International Trustee Handbook published by the National Association of Independent Schools, USA. The Board training focuses on helping with new member transitions, current expectations of Board roles and responsibilities and goal setting that matches Board big picture goals with the School Director's more operational goals. Everything is geared towards living our mission and measuring our success.

Board Goals

Approve a completed new campus development plan.

Strategic Policy D: The School's learning environment shall be safe, secure, healthy, environmentally sustainable and supportive of the School mission.

Define a communication and marketing plan to drive future enrolments.

Strategic Policy F: Institutional development and community engagement shall support the School's mission.

*There are two Board sub-committees: Finance and Governance.
These working committees make recommendations for Board approval.*



Dylan Barnes-Lotfi
Governance Chair (since 2017)



Sonia Jaeger
(since 2017)



Andrea Raviolo
Finance Chair (since 2017)



Laurie McLellan
Director (since 2009)

Director's Goals

Publish a new campus development plan.

Strategic Policy D: The School's learning environment shall be safe, secure, healthy, environmentally sustainable and supportive of the School mission.

Create a staffing plan to match enrollment.

Strategic Policy C: Quality international and local staff members shall be recruited and retained who consistently support, promote and apply the School mission.

Strategic Policy E: Financial planning and resource allocation procedures shall be adequate to ensure the short and long-term financial security of the school.

Implement a communication and marketing plan to drive future enrollment.

Strategic Policy F: Institutional development and community engagement shall support the School's mission.

Engage community in V2-2020 strategy roll out.

Strategic Policy G: The Board, in collaboration with the administration, shall establish specific processes for planning and criteria for measuring achievement of the School's mission.

Finance

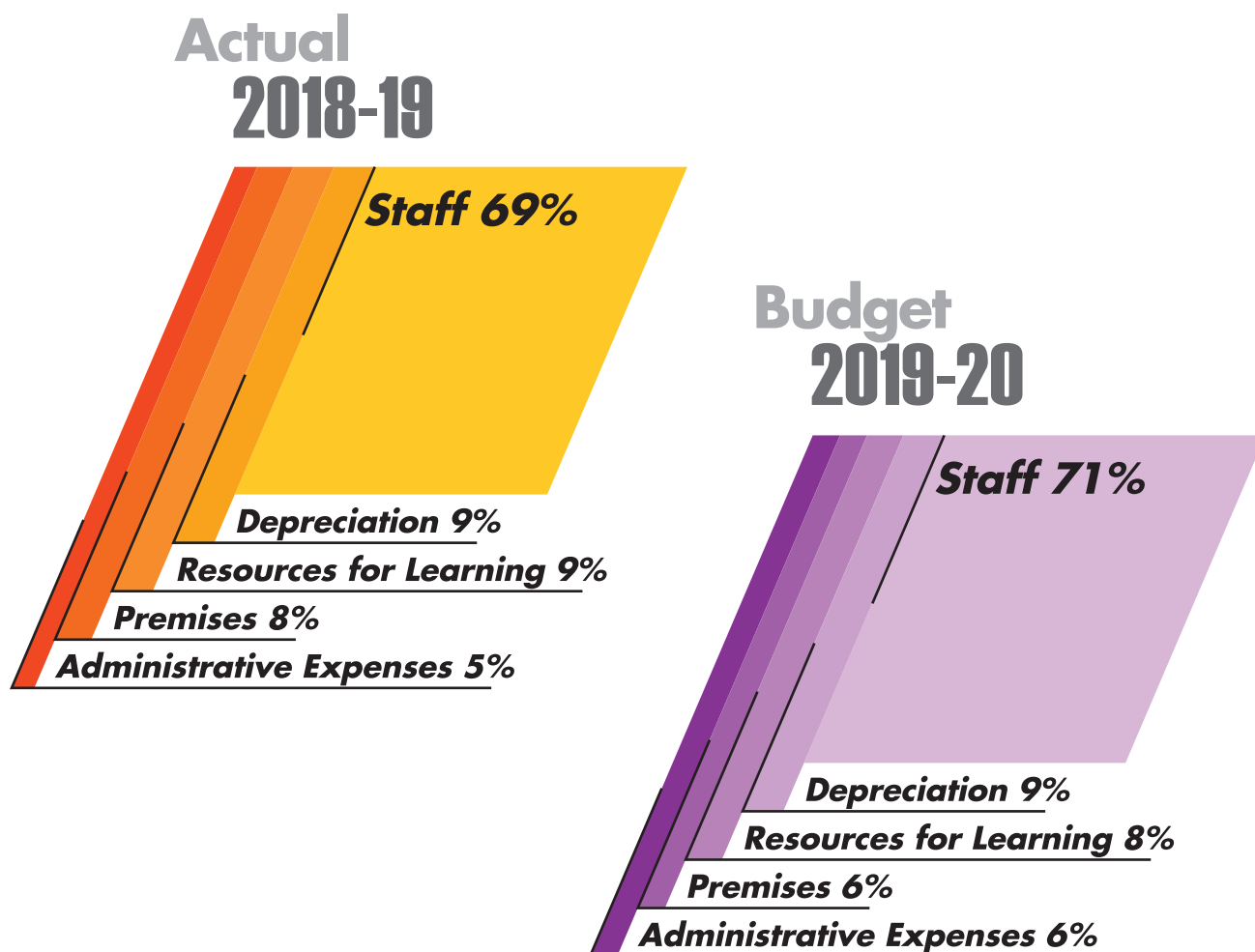
NIS is a not-for-profit school that is owned by the parents.

All fee payments are for the entire use of the school to benefit the students and their learning. This makes us unique amongst international schools in Nanjing. Since NIS is self-funding, all building, including debt service for such projects, must be paid for from fees.

The two graphs show the expenditure for 2018-19 and the present budget for 2019-20. The largest investment for the school is staffing. We acknowledge how much parents and teachers appreciate the school's transparency in the use of finances and our authentic not-for-profit status. We are not part of an American or British school group business run for profit to the benefit of overseas and Chinese owners or investors.

We are totally independent so do not fund an overseas business development office which then dictates what we do.

That is why we are able to hire the finest teachers from anywhere in the world, build a world class campus and provide the best technology and resources for learning.





The Leadership Team

2019 was a year of continuity for the school's educational leadership team.

Laurie McLellan, our School Director is in his 11th year at NIS and has committed until 2027. Kasson Bratton is in his 6th year at NIS and 2nd as Deputy Director for Learning. Likewise, Katie Ham is in her 6th year at NIS and 2nd year as Head of Upper School (10-12). Ruth Clarke is in her 10th year at NIS and 2nd year as Head of Middle School (6-9). Ruth is also the Child Protection Officer at NIS. Adam Dodge is in his 2nd year at NIS as Head of Primary.

All members of the team are highly qualified and have experience in working at international schools in other countries outside their home countries. NIS is committed to diversity in teacher and leadership recruitment. We are five educators from four different countries that bring together a rich variety of perspectives.

The whole leadership team will remain at NIS throughout 2020. This amount of continuity in a leadership team of an international school in China is somewhat uncommon.

Strategy V2.2020

What is Strategy?

Strategy is the lens through which we filter all that we do. Strategy is the best of research-informed and innovative practice in education applied to the needs of the NIS community.

Some examples are that we use Strategy to guide our thinking and decision making when we:

1. Design learning spaces
2. Discuss student achievement
3. Plan for learning

NIS is an inclusive learning community inspiring international mindedness, creative thinking and personal excellence. The Strategy is how we make this happen.

1. Burst the Bubble.

At first, this goal seemed to be about getting involved in China beyond the confines of the school and to break down barriers that limited our interactions with our host country.

We want to expand the definition to include bursting all kinds of bubbles. We want our whole community to connect across cultures and perspectives. We want our students to be equipped with the skills that allow them to burst the bubble when they find themselves outside of their comfort zone: when they start out at college, work, or any other new environment.

“To burst the bubble is to be equipped with the skills that connect learners with nature, people, culture and places.”



2. Student Voice & Student Choice.

When this goal was launched it rolled off the tongue in one mouthful: **studentvoiceandchoice**. We want to consider how both student voice and student choice are a part of what we do, and how both guide us in the journey to becoming a school where every student creates their own learning plan.

“To activate student voice and student choice is to involve students in the decisions about teaching and learning.”

It is an expectation that, to achieve these goals, the NIS Learning Community uses 8 **pathways** when making decisions about teaching and learning.

The 8 **Strategy Pathways** act like **filters** to change and amplify what helps us achieve our Strategy Goals, and ditch the things that don't.



PERSONALIZE LEARNING

We provide opportunities for students to make decisions around when, where and what they learn, and how learning is demonstrated. No student learns in the same way. When students are involved in planning their own learning it leads to higher levels of engagement and deeper understanding.



REFINE INCLUSION

We ensure opportunities exist for all learners to grow and achieve success. All students have the right to become the best they can be.



BLEND DIGITAL & FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING

We incorporate technologies with elements of digital and face-to-face learning to enhance possibilities over when, what, why, where and how students learn.



SUSTAIN A CULTURE OF TRIAL AND ERROR

We sustain safe environments that promote confidence and learning from failures. This invites students to be courageous, which builds resilience. Success can also come from failures.



CREATE SOLUTIONS

We develop and learn from innovative solutions to local and global issues. Seeing success stories inspires our own innovation.



MAKE CONNECTIONS

We develop and learn from innovative solutions to local and global issues. Seeing success stories inspires our own innovation.



SERVE OTHERS

We prepare learners for a life of civic and social responsibility. We empathize with others to create a better reality for everyone. Learning with and about others also helps us learn more about ourselves.



TAKE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

We develop behaviors that reduce negative human impact and result in clean air and natural resources, and a non-toxic environment.



With “Student Voice and Choice” as an integral part of our strategy, Nanjing International School worked with NoTosh to develop and publish “Dear Architect, A Vision For Our Future School.” A publication which began with a simple question, “How does space help or hinder learning?” Within it are the voices, opinions, and wishes of the school community about what type of learning spaces would inspire and support us. You might say, it was our message in a bottle, an invitation for learning. In elevating the values our learning community had around space, NIS went further into the realm of “How might we in the Early Years...”

Through our core discussions, three key elements began to emerge;

**CHOICE,
VISIBILITY,
and ENERGY!**

We wanted a learning environment that was flexible, open, and inviting for us to explore via our physical, mental, social and emotional selves.





With guidance from EIW Architects our community watched our vision come into fruition. It transformed from completely gutted classrooms with only the foundation, load-bearing walls and columns standing to an open concept and fluid space that invites a flow of inspiration for our entire learning community.



When walking in and around the Early Years Centre, one notices “campfires,” instead of classrooms. Rounded spaces encircled by soft bamboo shelving brings us together as a community to share stories and ideas. Throughout the entire centre, one can freely walk to visible spaces co-created between students and teachers.



Choices abound for our learners in our spaces for individuals or groups. There are caves to climb in with a friend inviting imaginary play, amphitheatre steps which invites an audience and new vantage points. Instead of “fixed furniture,” we have open shelving and tables that are dynamic choices with mirrors, blackboard, magnetic tops, and light. Flexible indoor-outdoor spaces which provide our early learners opportunities to channel their energy within a challenging, natural environment that tests their physical abilities, offers musical exploration and discover wonders yet still to find.

In August 2019 we entered our new space that offers visibility, choice and energy. As the story of that space begins to unfold, we will watch and listen for the possibilities that embodies our vision for learning.

Global Citizen Diploma Launch



"Our story is more than numbers..."

After two years of preparation, NIS officially launched the Global Citizen Diploma (GCD) in November. Together with five other schools around the world, NIS has begun to offer Grade 9 students the chance to reveal who they are and how experiences have shaped them. These stories weave together a memory and the language of GCD sends a clear message that our students are more than numbers.

The Global Citizen Diploma (GCD) is a validation of activities and experiences that students do in addition to their academics.

“I could tell you my grades. Or I can tell you how spending time in a school for children with auditory disabilities has inspired me to learn about different issues so I can help them.
MY STORY IS MORE THAN NUMBERS.”



“I could tell you my grades. Or I can tell you how doing my studies abroad, combined with travel experiences in different countries, has built up my aspiration to become a businesswoman who can socialise with people from all over the world.
MY STORY IS MORE THAN NUMBERS.”



Students showcase their stories with authentic audiences as GCD highlights the story of learning and growing through a range of lenses. Students are encouraged to burst the bubble while they express their voice and choice in the experiences that allow them to achieve their personal excellence.

“I could tell you my grades. Or I can tell you that my goal is to become a professional dancer because dancing allows me to express myself in a way I can't with words. **MY STORY IS MORE THAN NUMBERS.**”



“I could tell you my grades. Or I can tell you how studying different languages from a young age to become a linguist is supporting my dream of becoming a global business woman who can easily interact with different communities. **MY STORY IS MORE THAN NUMBERS.**”



“I could tell you my grades. Or I can tell you that living around the world has allowed me to learn about different cultures and languages, building roots for my curiosity and allowing me to engage with people from all over the world. **MY STORY IS MORE THAN NUMBERS.**”



“I could tell you my grades. Or I can show how learning in international learning environments has developed my interests in various areas of design and art, leading me to learn from different experiences and make connections with people outside of school. **MY STORY IS MORE THAN NUMBERS.**”



By documenting their stories, students will be able to share them with future universities and employers. The GCD encourages reflection, learning and connection.

As Global Citizens, our students live their lives with a promise to understand others, make decisions with the awareness of its effect on the local and global communities while advocating for responsibility for sustainability.

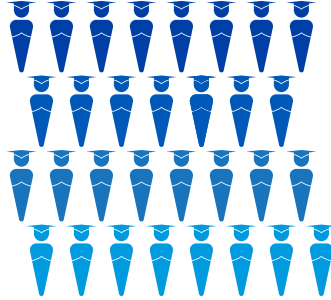
Teaching Faculty

Staff Demographics

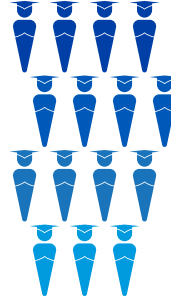
NIS

has a teaching faculty
of **98 teachers**
who come from
18 countries.

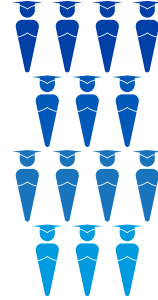
USA 32% 



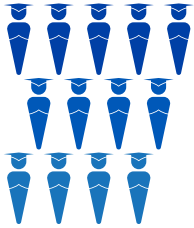
Australia 16% 



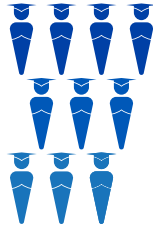
UK 14% 



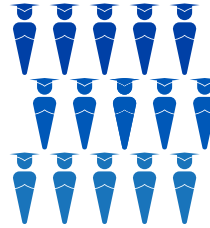
Canada 13% 



China 10% 

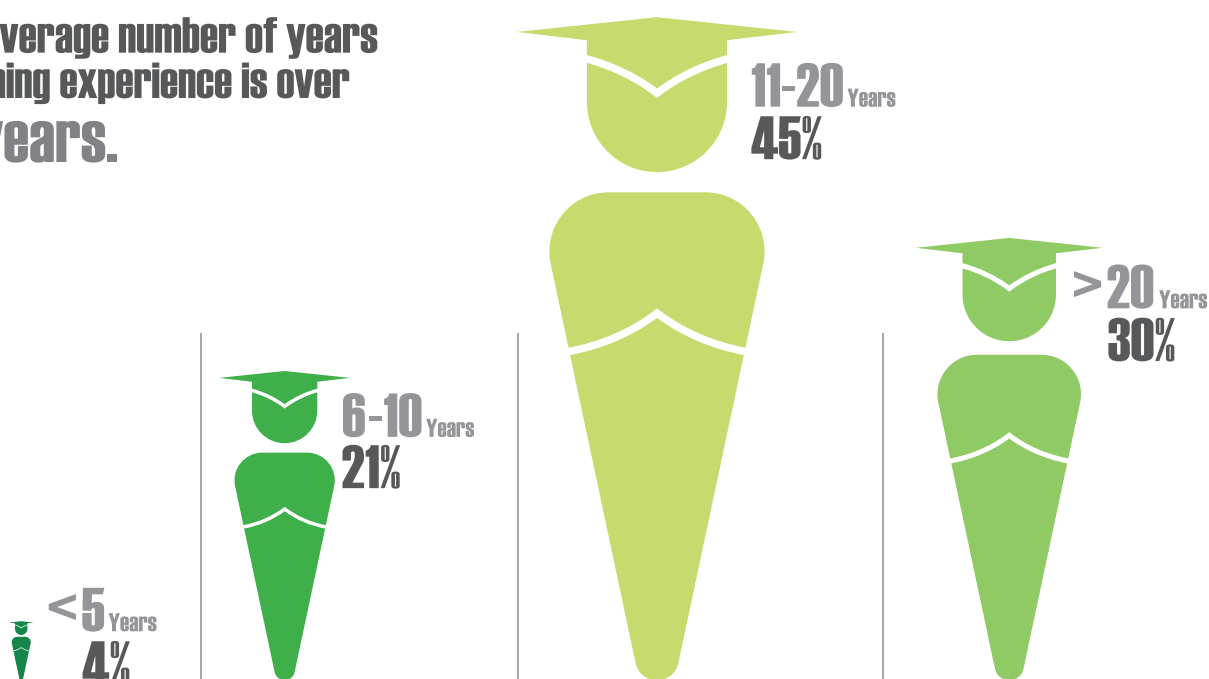


Other 15% 





The average number of years teaching experience is over 16 years.

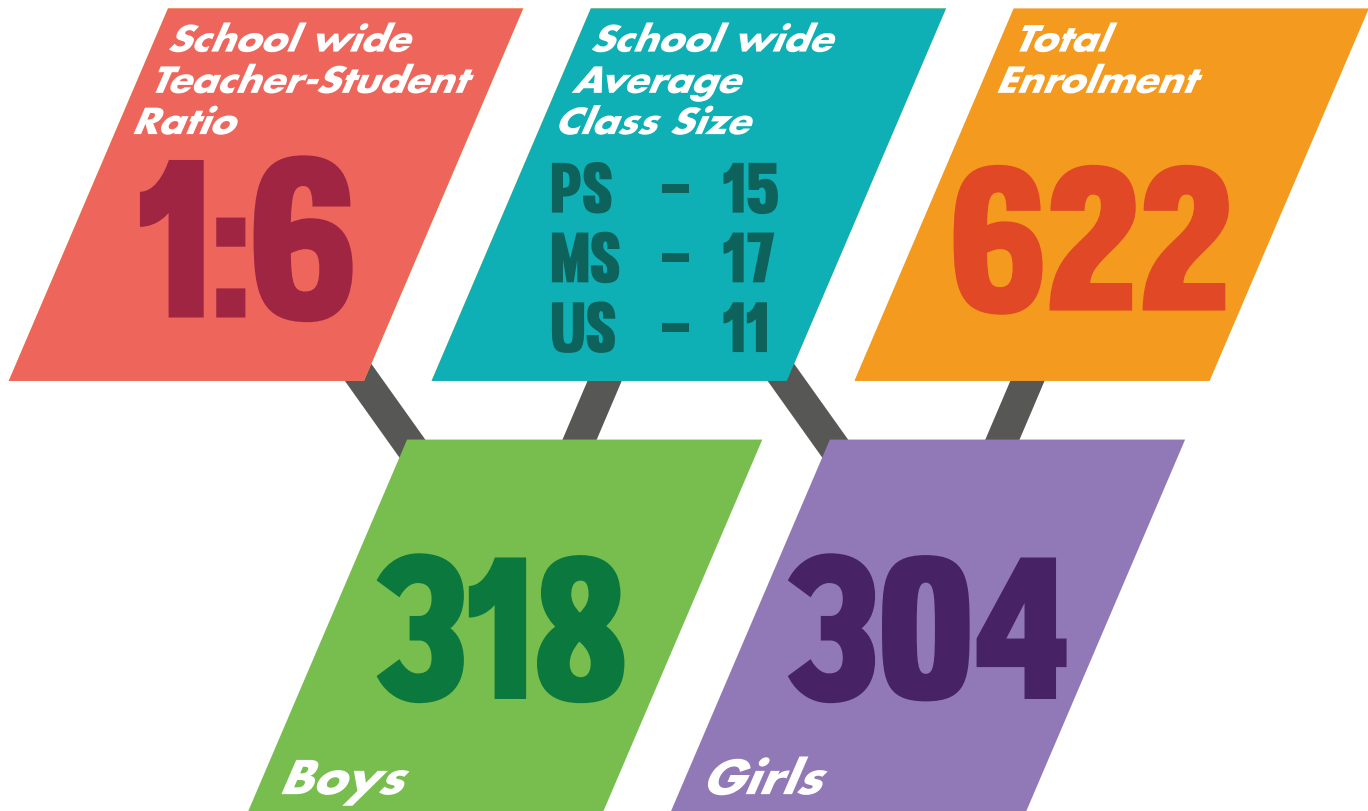


2019 was a year with less than 10% of teachers being new to NIS. The average length of stay for teachers who are planning to leave NIS at the end of this year is 4.5 years.

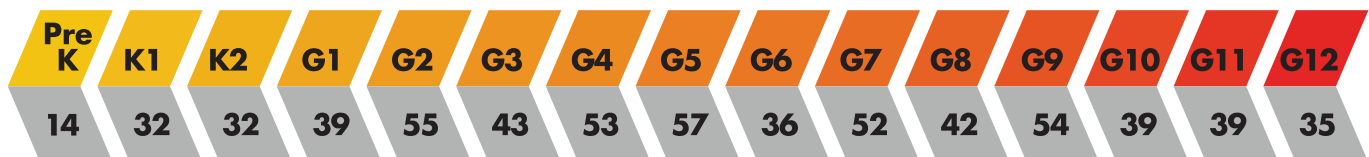
It is rare to find such continuity, diversity of age, experience, nationalities and expertise on one faculty. NIS hires teachers through worldwide searches for the best fit, we have no affinity to any one system. Our commitment is to best practice for the benefit of student learning. We only hire fully qualified teachers with the majority holding Masters Degrees. All our Early Years teachers are fully qualified and trained to specialize in working with younger learners.

Student Data

Student Demographics



Students by Grade Level



Student Diversity

The three most common passports on campus are Korean, USA and German. The four most spoken languages are English, Korean, Mandarin and German. We offer mother tongue instruction PreK-12 in English and Mandarin. In Grades 6-12 we also offer first language instruction in Korean and German.

There are presently over 30 nationalities represented at NIS, with many more spoken languages in the extended families of our students. The school remains rich in national and linguistic diversity.

Student Learning

Student Learning Outcomes IB Diploma and SAT

Student learning results are key data points when considering the success for our students. In particular the data on student achievement at graduation, coupled with the excellent university and college placement of our graduates.

IB Diploma Results, 2012-19

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Full Diploma Entries	19	27	40	39	28	33	39	38
Diplomas Awarded	19	26	37	35	27	28	36	34
Pass Rate	100%	96%	93%	90%	96%	85%	92%	89%
Eligible Students Entered	100%	96%	98%	93%	93%	92%	93%	95%
Mean Diploma Score	34	34	33	33	33	33	35	31
Highest Score (Max. 45)	42	42	44	44	41	41	44	43
Average Subject Score	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.0

As an inclusive school, it is important that our academic results be understood within a context. While we are proud that our students consistently achieve well above the world average at IB Diploma, we are most proud of the fact that we encourage all of our students to choose their appropriate pathway to graduation. The vast majority of our students follow IB level classes, however the IB Diploma is not mandated. Many schools are selective and only admit their academically most gifted students in order to report better results. We simply want our students to achieve their personal best; for some that means 24 points and for others 45. The majority of our students were awarded bi-lingual diplomas.

Standardized Tests – SAT

	Evidence-based Reading & Writing	Mathematics	Combined Total
Range	200-800	200-800	400-1600
NIS Range	440-730	600-800	1070-1530
NIS Average Score	637	742	1378
US Average Score	556	565	1120

These results are based on the SATs taken in 2019 when students were in Grades 10 & 11. The group are self-selecting and account for about 30% of the Class. NIS students score significantly above US averages in Mathematics, with 8 students achieving perfect scores which is unusual. More surprising for some, with most of the test takers being second language learners, they also score significantly above the US average for Evidence-Based Reading and Writing.

University and College Placement



North America

Baldwin Wallace University
Baylor University
 Clark University
 Conservatory of Music, Cornell College
 Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester
 Eastern Kentucky University
 George Washington University
 Guelph University
 Hartt School of Music, University of Hartford
 Hiram College
 Ithaca University
 Iowa State University
 Jackson College
 Johns Hopkins University Peabody
Kalamazoo College
 Kent State University
 Louisiana State University
Loyola University
Michigan State University (2)
 New York University
 Northern Michigan University
 Parsons, The New School New York
 Purdue University
San Jose State University
 School of Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts, New York
 Stony Brook University
 St Marys University
 University of Arizona
 University of Boston
 University of California, Berkeley
 University of California, Davis
 University of California, Irvine
 University of California, LA
 University of California, San Diego
University of Central Michigan
University of Cincinnati
 University of Delaware
University of Detroit Mercy
University of Iowa
University of Georgia
 University of Michigan
 University of Michigan, Dearborn
University of Nevada, Reno
University of North Dakota
 University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
 University of Pittsburgh
University of Southern California
 University of Texas
University of Western Michigan
 University of Wisconsin
Vanderbilt University
 Washington University in St. Louis
 Wayne State University
 Western University

Canada

McGill University
McMaster University
Queens University
University of British Columbia
 University of Calgary
 University of Toronto
 University of Victoria
 University of Waterloo, Ontario
University of Western Ontario

UK

Bangor University
 Bristol University
 Durham University
 European Business School
 Goldsmiths, University of London
 Imperial College
 Kings College London
Kingston University, London
 Lancaster University
 London School of Economics
 Manchester Metropolitan University
 Royal Veterinary College, University of London
 University College, London
 University of the Arts London
University of Bath
University of Brighton
 University of Cambridge
 University of Chester
 University of Durham
University of East Anglia
University of Edinburgh
 University of Essex
 University of Exeter
 University of Hull
University of Leeds
 University of Leicester
University of Manchester
 University of Newcastle
 University of Nottingham
University of St. Andrews
 University of Sheffield
 University of Strathclyde
University of Southampton
University of Sussex
 University of Swansea
University of Warwick
 University of Westminster
University of York

Rest of Europe

Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, NL
 Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne, SW
 Groningham University, NL
 Leiden University, NL
 Maastricht University, NL
 Technical University Berlin

THIM, Netherlands
 University of Genoa, Italy
 University of Turin, Italy

Rest of the World

Auckland University – Elam School of Fine Arts
 Chinese University of Hong Kong
East China Normal University, Shanghai
Flinders University, Adelaide
Hong Kong University
 Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
 Indian Law Society, Pune
 InHa University
KAIST (Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology)
 Melbourne University
 Nanjing Normal University
Nanyang University of Fine Arts
 National Singapore University
 Nottingham Ningbo University
 Peking University
RMIT, Australia
 Seoul National University
 Sogang University
 Sungkyunkwan University
 Yonsei University
 Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico
 Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia

Class of 2019

Acceptances in bold

Offers in italics

Some graduates who have taken a gap year, or have applied to Australia or Korea, receive offers and/or make decisions after publication.





Alongside their teachers, students participated in age-appropriate, bubble bursting activities such as:

Abseiling, Camping, Caving, Cycling, Cooking, Cultural Exchanges, Bike Riding, Fishing, Kayaking, Light Show, Painting, Rock Climbing, Hiking, Puppet Show, Scavenger Hunt, Swimming, Team-Building, Zip-lining and Volunteering.

The activities encouraged students to become stronger both physically and mentally. We volunteered because it makes a difference to the people, animals and communities that we help.

Students chose the following excursions:

Grade 6/7

泰山 Taishan,
杭州 Hangzhou, 黄山 Huangshan

Grade 8/9

北京 Beijing, 莫干山 Moganshan, 少林
寺和洛阳 Shaolin Temple and Luoyang

Grade 10/11

阳朔 Yangshuo, 厦门 Xiamen





In grade 5, students spent a couple of nights away in Nanjing. This trip tied directly into the Primary Years Program Grade 5 curriculum. Students explored our host city of Nanjing to supplement their Unit of Inquiry of “where we are in place and time”. They inquired into understanding of how history is shaped by different sources.



The Grade 12s embarked on a 4 day, 3 night trip to 千島湖 One Thousand Island Lake. This trip took place after their May exams. Students hiked, biked, camped, kayaked, swam and did a high-ropes course. The Grade 12 trip was a wonderful way for the students to finish off the year, and something to which the graduating class was looking forward to attending.

The Discover China programs are an integral part of our students’ education and, thus, require that every student attends one of the activities offered. All the trips are chaperoned by NIS Staff and supported by trained instructors and guides. Discover China is often a highlight of our students’ years at NIS.



Athletics

Participation in Athletics is a cultural norm at NIS.

It always surprises and delights me to see students come out and try a sport for the first time, often coming out of their comfort zone in the process.

We have continued to develop our links with the British School of Nanjing. Our Middle School students have been competing with them in a range of sports and we even had some games with them at the ACAMIS level for the first time. Discussions are ongoing to establish a Nanjing Schools network for Athletics and the Nanjing Primary School Games took place for a second year where the same group of Grade 4 and 5 athletes competed in Soccer, Track & Field and Swimming events. We are hoping for some more schools to join from beyond Nanjing for the Games in 2020.



Our student-athlete leaders are becoming a more established part of our Athletics program through the NIS Student Athletics Committee (NISSAC). Their organisation of the Sports Celebration evenings and their support of major sports events at NIS are becoming an integral part of our program

Our three attributes that reflect our program are Respect, Commitment and Teamwork.



We continue to embed these attributes into everything we do in NIS Athletics and expect that our whole school community; athletes, coaches, parents and faculty, all demonstrate and support these principles during any sporting contest.



The new Orange Division of eight teams is suiting NIS very well and we are very competitive across the three core sports. After the Soccer tournament in April at Harrow School Beijing, in which our boys achieved the treble for the first ever time (Volleyball, Basketball and Soccer champions), we were also crowned the joint Orange Division Champions. We thoroughly enjoyed hosting the other 7 schools for the ACAMIS Volleyball in October and look forward to hosting the Senior Swimming in March 2020.

In addition to our successes in the three core sports, 2019 also saw victories in SCISAC boys soccer, which was played in Macao and, for the 4th year in a row, we were crowned the ACAMIS Cross Country champions in November.



We are proud of everyone who contributes to our Athletics program. It is such an important part of school life for our students and is giving them interests and habits that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.







Athletics Event Summary 2019

January	SISAC Basketball, Shanghai (Boys 5th, Girls 2nd) ACAMIS Basketball, Macao. (Boys 1st, Girls 5th and Most Sporting)
February	SCISAC Volleyball, Chongqing (Boys 5th, Girls 6th)
March	CISSA Badminton, Suzhou/Shanghai CISSA Volleyball, Suzhou/Shanghai High School Soccer and Badminton Invitational Tournament, NIS
April	ACAMIS Soccer, Beijing (Boys 1st, Girls 5th) CISSA Track & Field, Shanghai ACAMIS Badminton, Beijing (Mixed Team 6th)
May	ACAMIS Track & Field, Beijing (Team 4th) SCISAC Basketball, Taiwan (Boys 1st, Girls 4th) CISSA Basketball Suzhou/Shanghai
September	CISSA Touch Rugby, Shanghai High School Volleyball Inviatational Tournament, NIS
October	SISAC Volleyball, Shanghai (Boys 5th, Girls 5th) CISSA X-Country, SSIS, Suzhou ACAMIS Volleyball, NIS (Boys 1st, Girls 4th)
November	SCISAC Soccer, Macao (Boys 1st Girls 4th) CISSA Soccer, Shanghai ACAMIS X-Country, Chengdu (Mixed Team 1st) High School Basketball Invitational Tournament, NIS ACAMIS Table Tennis, Beijing (Girls 3rd)



The Primary swimming curriculum has been improved by implementing the use of PYP learner profile visuals and a student inquiry-led approach to learning. A written curriculum and an assessment tool for learning was established under the guidance of the Primary SET team. Further refinement of the written curriculum and the implementation of it is a focal point at NIS.

The MYP Swimming Units have been based on the American Red Cross Water Safety Schemes. The units were supported and enhanced through videos with authentic learning content. Additionally, students continued to develop their swimming skills and challenged themselves in the aquatic context. The coaching team continue to develop their teaching and coaching strategies through various channels. Most of the coaches have completed Level 1 and are now attempting Level 2 of the American Swimming Coaches Association online learning platform. Further Professional Development highlights for the coaches were being part of the NIS professional learning sessions, attending Teaching Assistants workshops led by the Early Years team and special learning opportunities facilitated by the Assistant Head of Primary.

Two members of the coaching staff obtained instructor status for the American Red Cross Lifeguarding Courses. The remaining coaching staff and the community activities coordinator are currently undergoing American Red Cross lifeguarding training led by the Aquatics Director and the qualified instructors.

Another pleasing addition to the Aquatics Program has been the provision of Lifeguarding courses for students. The qualification in First Aid of the first 60 staff members is being planned and is starting in January 2020.

In the community swimming classes several sessions for adults swimming were introduced which are catering for different abilities and foci.



The Community Learn to Swim courses were aligned with American Red Cross schemes and Aqua Fit attracted over 20 community members to attend and is now held a second time every week.

Extending the Mini-Squad (for ages 8 and under), established a solid foundation for the swimming program. Over thirty students are part of the Mini Squad and the team has already competed in a friendly environment in their first swim meet at Suzhou which is part of the SSL Development Swim League.

Dryland/gym session were partly planned and lead by students in the Gold and Silver Squads which gave the training a different dynamic. Transition and Developments Squads are now offered additional competitions catering for their needs as dual meets between BSN and NIS were offered.

NIS swimmers had the opportunity to represent NIS at 5 Shanghai Swim League (SSL) meets, 1 ACAMIS event, and local invitational competitions. The NIS Swim series attracted 70+ members of the team at each event with a final award giving event in June. Also in June, 150 members of the community and a local Triathlon Club participated in the NIS Triathlon for Kids.



SSL Swim Invitational @NIS January 2019

12 Participating schools
85 NIS Swimmers
560 Swimmers attended

SSL Swim @Shanghai February 2019

17 Participating schools
30 NIS Swimmers
1166 Swimmers in event

ACAMIS Swim @ Suzhou March 2019

27 Participating schools
23 NIS Swimmers
727 Swimmers in event

SSL Swim @Shanghai May 2019

48 Participating schools
19 NIS Swimmers
1000+ Swimmers in event

Local Swim Meet @NIS September 2019

3 Participating schools
64 NIS Swimmers
93 Swimmers in event

NIS Development/Transition Swim@NIS September 2019

2 Participating schools
32 NIS Swimmers
73 Swimmers in event

SSL Swim Round 1 @ Shanghai October 2019

20 Participating schools
37 NIS Swimmers
977 Swimmers in event

SSL Development Swim @Suzhou October 2019

4 Participating schools
28 NIS Swimmers
88 Swimmers in event

SSL Swim Round 2 @Suzhou November 2019

21 Participating schools
18 NIS Swimmers
793 Swimmers in event

SSL Swim Round 3 @NIS December 2019

16 Participating schools
75 NIS Swimmers
650 Swimmers in event

Intra-squad Meets

NIS Super Series (Four events) April & May (End of school year)

105 swimmers attended

NIS Swim Team Try Trials August 2019

63 swimmers attended

Sport Celebration Evenings

NIS Swim Awards (3) March, May & November 2019

- Attended by a maximum of 70+ swimmers and their parents

- Awards presented included MVP, Coaches Award, Most Improved & Record Breakers. A total of 22 NIS swimming records were broken setting new targets for 2020.

- A slide show review captured the action and emotional highlights from each season

The Arts

Nanjing International School

is fortunate to have a flourishing arts programme and 2019 certainly proved to be an exciting year!

Students participated in over 40 events, performances, concerts, trips and exchanges in a variety of venues and settings.



The Primary School production of Cinderella & Rockerfella was a hilarious romp of a pantomime with involvement of every student from grades 2-5. Students acted, sang, danced, worked backstage and ran the sound and lighting – a truly student-run production.

The Middle and Upper School production of Little Shop of Horrors thrilled an audience of over 1,000 – once again reaching the wider Nanjing community. This proved to be a sell-out success and once again took the NIS production standards to a new level. The dedicated Performing Arts Team worked tirelessly to support over 50 students both on and off stage to ensure their talents soared.



The annual Service Drama project between migrant worker children living in Nanjing and Middle School students from NIS proved to be another meaningful and positive exchange which led to a final sharing. In November Grade 10 Drama students created a thought-provoking play based on cyber-bullying and social isolation. This was a self-directed and devised piece of theatre which was performed to raise awareness for issues that affect us all.



The music clubs flourished this year, performing a range of challenging music, including Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No.2 from the original score and Queen's Under Pressure in four part harmony. This is due to the dedication and perseverance of NIS' talented musicians.





Spring is often a busy time for the Arts and this year was no exception. The DP Visual Arts students showcased their talents during their art exhibition. These artists were presented with an excellent opportunity to install and present their artworks in a professional environment. The opening night was very well attended, and the exhibition was visited by many viewers from our local community.



NIS ARTS & CULTURAL EVENTS 2019

January	Advanced Orchestra - Awards Assembly Performing Arts in the Foyer
February	Chinese Drumming - NEAMC MSUS Talent Show Chinese Drumming - CNY Assembly PS Choir - CNY Assembly
March	Grade 12 Visual Arts Exhibition Choir, MS Band, PS Choir, Advanced Orchestra - Music Camp Grade 2-5 Production Performing Arts in the Foyer
April	Advanced Orchestra - Leaver's Assembly K2 Showcase
May	Grade 11 Visual Arts Trip to Shanghai All - Music Evening PK/K1 Showcase Grade 5 PYP Exhibition Performing Arts performance Service Drama Project
June	Purple Duck Launch Advanced Orchestra - Graduation Advanced Orchestra - Awards Assembly Choir - Awards Assembly Performing Arts in the Foyer MS Band & PS Choir - PS Assembly MS Band & Soloists - Summer Recital
August	NIS Visual Arts Calendar 2019/20 Published
September	Grade 12 Visual Arts Trip to Beijing Performing Arts in the Foyer
October	iPad Orchestra - Learning2 PS Variety Show
November	EUCC Corporate Social Responsibility Art Competition Grade 1 Showcase Grade 10 Drama showcase PS Choir & Rock Band - NIC Benefit Christmas Concert MSUS Production - Little Shop of Horrors Performing Arts in the Foyer
December	MS Band, PS Choir, NIS Concert Band, Soloists - Winter Concert PS Choir - Shangri-La Tree Lighting Ceremony PS Choir RFG Christmas Market MS Band & PS Choir - Winter Assembly

After School Activities

PS ASAs

A Variety of Arts

African Drumming

Art Club

Athletic Foundation

Chess

Chinese Character Art

Chinese Zen Flower Arrangement

Colouring

Comics & Cartooning

Cooking Club

Creative Clay

Creative Construction

Designing and Making Ancient Accessories

Detailed Drawing

Disney & Marvel Movies for Kids

Feel To The Beat

Floor Hockey

Games, Games, Games!

Hand-Built Ceramics

Intermediate Gymnastics

Jewellery Making

Just Dance

Karaoke

Knitting Basics

Mindfulness Colouring

NIS Spotlights

Origami

Our dedicated teachers run the majority of the ASAs and Clubs. Middle School and Upper Schools Students are now also providing more activities for younger students and their peers. Four ASA cycles are offered each year.

Each cycle lasts for 7 weeks. Students are encouraged to be balanced in their choices of after school activities. G1-2 students were able choose two ASA a week while G3-5 students can select three:

Outdoor Survival Skills

Painting

Parkour

Playground Buddies

Primary School Badminton

Primary School Choir

Primary School Gardening Club

Random Acts of Kindness Club

Relax Kids

Sand Painting

Skates, Blades and Boards

Squiggle Art

Student-Led Basketball

Student-Led Fun with Math

Student-Led Grade 1 Sports, Games, Movies, Baking, Fun

Student-Led Math Club and Games

Student-Led Math Game Club

Student-Led Running

Student-Led Skateboard and BMX

Student-Led X-Country Running

Swimming ASA Fitness or Stoke corrections

Swimming ASA Inner Tube Water Polo

Swimming ASA Learn to Swim

The Scarf Challenge

The World of Dance

Treehouse Building

Watercolours

Word Games



MS / US Clubs and Performing Arts

All throughout the year, students in the Middle and Upper School can join Service, Cultural, Clubs or Performing Arts experiences. The following experiences were offered to our MS and US students:

Clubs and Performing Arts

3D Paper Flower

Advanced Orchestra

Basketball Never Stops

Build the Forbidden Planet: Set support for MS/US Production

Building the Monster: Audrey II for the Secondary Production

Calendar Club

Charity Theatre Program

Chess Club-Middle School

Chinese Drumming Club

Contemporary/Hip Hop/Jazz Dance

Creative Writing V2.0

EE & PP Student Support

Fitness Swimmer (Learn to Swim Level 6)

Garden Club

Home Work Club

Juggling and Unicycling

Korean Drumming

Lifeguarding

Little Shop of Horrors Production

Mahjong and Rummikub Club

Maths Club

Maths Homework Club

Middle School Band

Model United Nations

MS/US Assembly Architects

MS/US Choir Club

MS/US Student Council

Photography 101 – Shooting and Editing

Physics Club

Poet Laureates

Project Invent Team

Purple Duck Magazine

Reduce Plastic Consumption

Return to the Forbidden Planet Production

Slice of Life Writing Challenge

Speech & Debate

Student-Led Badminton Club

Student-Led Besion (Business & Economics Club)

Student-Led Biology & Chemistry Club

Student-Led BP & WSDC Debate Club

Student-Led Business/Economics Study Group

Student-Led CAS Club – Knitting for a Cause

Student-Led Creative Arts Club

Student-Led DJI Drone Club

Student-Led DP Math and Science Studies Club

Student-Led Drawing Illustration Club

Student-Led Dungeons and Dragons Club

Student-Led Hip-Hop Dancing Club

Student-Led K-Pop Dance Club

Student-Led Korean Drumming

Student-Led Learning Korean For The First Time

Student-Led Mascithtic Club

Student-Led Math Club

Student-Led MHHV (Military Humanities History Visualised)

Student-Led Physics Club

Student-Led Recorder Orchestra

Student-Led SAT Study Club

Student-Led Science Club

Student-Led Skateboard School

Student-Led Statistics & Economics Club

Student-Led Writing Center Staff

TEDxYouth

Video Game Design

Video Review

Yearbook

Yoga/Mindfulness/Relaxation Club





Cultural Events

Students have had the opportunities to pursue their passions or discovered new ones by participating in a variety of rich cultural activities:

Cultural Activities

ACAMIS Cultural Convention Shanghai

Speecheasy Beijing

BEI MUN Beijing

CISS MUN Shanghai

ISTA HS Festival Shanghai

MS Choir Performance @ RFG Xmas Market

NEAMC @ NIS

PS Choir Performance @ RFG Xmas Market

PS Choir Performance @ Shangri-La Hotel

QISS MUN Qingdao

S2F2 Film Festival Shanghai

SUZ MUN Suzhou

TedxYouth @ NIS



NIS Service Experiences

Throughout 2019, we continued to build on the diversity of service experiences. We have encouraged students to design their own experiences through our updated Service Program. Experiences should be authentic, student-driven, curriculum inspired and sustainable. During the year, teachers, community members and MS/US students have organised, assisted, or helped run service experiences. NIS students strive to actively engage in experiences beyond the school walls:

Service Experiences

ACAMIS Basketball Volunteers

Activities Office Volunteer

Autumn Festival Volunteers

Book Stampers

Early Years Entertainment Corp.

Gymnastics ASA Volunteers

Homework Club Volunteer

Invitational Volleyball Tournament Volunteers

Jazz Festival Volunteers

Learning 2 Conference Student Volunteers

Local School Swim Meet Volunteers @ NIS

Nanjing World Cup Volunteers

NIC Annual Barbeque Volunteers

NIC Benefit Concert Volunteers

NIS Invitational Soccer Tournament Volunteers

NIS Invitational Swim Meet Volunteers

NIS Kids Triathlon Volunteers

Outdoor Survival Mentors

Parkour Mentors

Pfrang Children's Volunteers

Practice Conversational English with Lifeguards

Printing and Fundraising for Ms Grace

Sewing Pencil Cases for Pfrang

Skates, Blades and Boards ASA assistants

Soccer @ BSN

Spring Fun Day Volunteers

Student-Led Art Therapy Service

Student-Led Knitting for a Cause

Student-Led Trash Busters

Swim Super Series Volunteers-Timer

Swim Time Trials Volunteers

Teaching English Life Guards

Track and Field @ NIS

Transition Swim Volunteers

Bursting the Bubble Experiences

Hopeful Hearts Garage Sale Volunteers

SA Migrant School Oral Hygiene Presentation

Ting Ting School

Xianlin Touch Rugby



The House System

As in previous years, the 2018-19 inter-house competition included a wide

range of events covering academics, the arts and several sports. Student participation rates were high and despite a strong start by Xuanwu, Wutaishan and Taiping ran them all the way but for the first time in seven years, Xuanwu emerged victorious.



MYP/DP EVENT	WINNER
General Trivia	Xuanwu
Assembly Challenge	Xuanwu
Tech Challenge 1	Xuanwu
Music Trivia	Xuanwu
G6-8 Football	Wutaishan / Taiping
G9-12 Volleyball	Wutaishan
Tech Challenge 2	Xuanwu
G6-8 Badminton	Xuanwu
G9-12 Football	Xuanwu
G6-8 Street Basketball	Taiping
G9-12 Badminton	Taiping
Athletics Day	Wutaishan
Spelling	Taiping
G6-8 Volleyball	Wutaishan / Taiping
G9-12 Basketball	Wutaishan

PYP EVENT	WINNER
Beat the Goalie	Taiping
Tunnel Ball	Taiping
Tech Challenge	Wutaishan
Tug-0-War	Xuanwu
Maths	Xuanwu
Bean Bag Toss	Xuanwu
Word Challenge	Wutaishan
Performing Arts Competition	Taiping
G2-5 Athletics Day	Wutaishan
Shoot Out-Basketball	Wutaishan / Xuanwu
Swim Showcase	Xuanwu

	Xuanwu	Wutaishan	Taiping
PYP	820	720	670
MYP/DP	805	677.5	702.5
Total	1625	1397.5	1372.5
Final Position	1st	2nd	3rd

Learning at NIS



In October of 2019, educators from around the world were welcomed onto campus for the Learning2 Asia Conference, proudly hosted by Nanjing International School.



Learning2 is considered a leading annual conference, with a mission to “innovate social learning globally.” This fit right in with our forward-thinking Mission and Strategy. The conference was spread over three days with a targeted pre-conference session on Thursday and two main conference days on Friday and Saturday. Over 40 NIS teachers participated in these sessions, with many facilitating teacher-led workshops, running Extended Sessions, and giving L2 talks, this conference’s version on keynote speeches.



NIS had another 60 staff, students, and parents, along with our amazing facilities team, working to make sure the conference ran to our usual world-class standard. Perhaps the highlight of L2 Asia at NIS was the fact that 20 of our students led workshops for teachers, delivered amazing speeches, and inspired participants with their perspectives and insights throughout the conference. Student voice was certainly alive and well!



The theme of the conference was “ConnectED” and hosting conferences such as this does exactly that, helping our school remain connected to the forefront of innovative educational practices for the benefit of our students, teachers, and entire school community.



ACAMIS

Early Years

Learning Centre

Nanjing International School was honored to host the Association of Chinese and Mongolian International Schools (ACAMIS) 2019 Early Child Education Conference in the autumn of 2019, with a focus on **"The Voice of the Child: Listening to the Heart, Mind, and Body."**



NIS was perfectly placed to host this gathering of over 100 educators from the region not only because the theme of this conference directly aligned with our NIS Strategy, but also because it coincided with the opening of our world-class Early Years Centre.

This inspirational learning environment was the perfect venue to support this professional learning opportunity, which included our entire NIS Early Years team. Not only did this dedicated group work to help organize and facilitate the conference itself, but several of our Early Years teachers were featured as presenters and workshop leaders as well.



Keynoting this conference was Dr. Junko Cancemi, a long-time partner of NIS and a renowned early learning expert. The combination of our engaging learning environment, top-notch presenters, and the usual outstanding support from the NIS community made this an unforgettable and impactful professional learning experience. Hosting events such as these is not only something in which we take a great deal of pride, but is a powerful way to directly impact teaching and learning, both in the Early Years and beyond.



Triple ACAMIS Winners 2019
Go Lions!



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