



# **The International School Nido de Aguilas**

**INSTITUTIONAL EDUCATION PROJECT 2020**



<b>I. CONTEXT</b>	<b>2</b>
INTRODUCTION	2
INFORMATION ABOUT THE INSTITUTION	2
MEMBERSHIPS	4
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	5
SETTING	6
<b>I. IDEOLOGY</b>	<b>7</b>
INSTITUTIONAL HALLMARK	7
VISION	7
MISSION	7
DEFINITIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL APPROACHES	7
The “Nido Way” Principles and Educational Focus	7
Core Values	8
PROFILES	8
Nido’s educators	8
Nido’s students	9
Parents	9
<b>III. ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>10</b>
1) THE “NIDO WAY” OF LEARNING	10
2) STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESS	10
3) GETTING THINGS DONE	11
4) DEVELOPING PEOPLE	11
5) ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY	11
6) PRODUCING A SUSTAINABLE MODEL	12
7) FACILITIES AND LAND DEVELOPMENT	12



## I. CONTEXT

### INTRODUCTION

Since 1934, Nido's curriculum and programming have been guided by the educational philosophy and principles of its founders, Waldo Stevenson and Juanita Keller. Bringing together the best in the Chilean and U.S. educational traditions, they believed in the value of an experiential, values-based education and in taking advantage of the great Chilean outdoors to nurture the formation of character development.

This Education Project and its Strategic Plan were drafted thanks to the participation of all stakeholders within the School's community. Students, parents, teachers, staff and former students collaborated in order to look at Nido's past and present and to establish these strategies, redefining our vision, mission and values. It is important to note that this approach is based on the philosophy of Nido's founders. As such it continues and reinforces the School's commitment to teach students to respect their natural surroundings, to consider character formation a focal part of education, and to incorporate learning experiences in and outside the classroom. Nido is an internationally renowned centre of educational excellence, known for its innovative teaching methods, its commitment to its community, and its students who are thoughtful and perceptive members of society.

### INFORMATION ABOUT THE INSTITUTION

Nido de Aguilas was founded in 1934 as a private, co-educational, non-sectarian, non-profit day school rooted in the best traditions of Chilean and North American education. Today, Nido serves around 1850 students from more than 50 countries and offers a comprehensive liberal arts, college preparatory educational program from Early Years (age three) through Grade 12.

The International School Nido de Aguilas is governed by a Board of Directors, consisting of a minimum of 9 members and a maximum of 13, all of whom must be parents of current Nido students. Of the 9 minimum members, four must be U.S. citizens, four must be Chilean citizens, and one is a designee recommended by the U.S. Ambassador to Chile, subject to election by the Board of Directors.

In line with its mission to provide the best in U.S. and Chilean thought and tradition, Nido offers three programs: the Nido Diploma (North American), the Chilean National Plan



Diploma and the International Baccalaureate Diploma (for 11th and 12th grades). Nido students can graduate with one, two or all three of these diplomas.

At Nido de Aguilas excellence in academics is complemented by programs that look to provide students with an all-round education. There are a range of arts and athletics options, social/emotional programs that meet international standards, service learning and community outreach opportunities, and outdoor education. Our world-class faculty has a richness of experience and education from within Chile and around the world. They are characterized by their dynamic teaching styles, collaborative spirit and their student-centered approach. Our teachers feel proud to be part of the Nido community.

Nido is divided into four divisions: the Early Years School, the Elementary School, the Middle School, and the High School. In all divisions, teachers encourage students to adopt a growth mentality, to learn from their mistakes and to understand that talent and ability improve with persistence, dedication and self-belief.

Nido offers a wide range of elective courses in the arts, design and technology, social sciences, foreign languages, and health, wellbeing and fitness. All students participate in outdoor education and service learning, with a focus on leadership skills and citizenship through meaningful and impactful experiences.

Nido evaluates student and curricular performance through many different means of assessment, including standardized testing. Nido regularly uses the MAP, OLSAT, SIMCE, and SSAT to assess student progress, depending on grade level. Nido also assists with the PSAT, SAT, ACT, PSU, IB External Assessment, and AP Content Area Exams.

All classes are taught in English except for Spanish language classes, which are required at all grade levels from Kinder 2 to Grade 12. Nido offers English-language acquisition support for non-native English speakers with limited proficiency. The School offers limited learning support for children with learning difficulties.

Nido's goal is that when every student graduates they are prepared not only to be successful in top universities around the world, but also that they pursue their passions, make a positive difference in the world and have a happy life based on strong values.



	Early School	Years	Elementary School	Middle School	High School
Teacher-student ratio	1:7		1:7	1:8	1:15.3
Max. number of students per class	PK: 15 students K1: 18 students K2: 22 students		22-24 students	22-24 students	22 students
Methodologies and special programs	Project based learning  After School Aguilitas program		Project based learning  Gifted and talented program  Maker Lab  After School Activities program	Community service GIVE program  Electives (in music, art, technology & drama)  Maker Lab  Outdoor education program	Nido Diploma Nido (U.S.), IB Diploma & Chilean High School Diploma  Outdoor education program  Wide range of specialist courses in the arts, humanities, science and technology  Wide range of student-run clubs

The academic year comprises two semesters extending from late-July to December and mid-February to June. There is a five-week break during June and July, and the Southern Hemisphere summer vacation (semester break) runs from mid-December through mid-February. This calendar is approved by the Chilean Ministry of Education and complies with the regulation 38 weeks of school.

## MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of AASSA (Association of American Schools in South America)
- Member of NAIS (National Association of Independent Schools)



- Two Apple Distinguished Educators
- IB (International Baccalaureate) School
- Educational Leadership Academy Partner with High Tech High's Graduate School of Education
- High School faculty are trained in the Exeter Humanities Institute for Harkness Method training
- Leaders are trained in the Teacher Training Center & Principals Training Center
- Named an Ashoka Changemaker School in 2016
- The U.S. State Department's official sponsor school in Chile

Nido is accredited by the NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) commission and by the Chilean Ministry of Education.

## **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

Nido de Aguilas School was founded in 1934 by the north-american Waldo Stevenson and his Chilean wife Juanita Keller. Their educational philosophy was based around providing a complete education in which children are active participants in the learning process, rather than passively absorbing their teachers' knowledge and ideas.

Emphasis was put on the importance of social interaction between students, which the Stevensons believed, was the best way to achieve a close, harmonious relationship with nature. In this respect diversity was crucial in the educational process and for this reason from Nido's very beginnings there was no discrimination based on sex, race or religion.

During its first 15 years Nido was located in Peñalolén, in the foothills of the Andes mountain range. Rustic buildings made out of stone were used as classrooms and for weekend retreats. Both students and teachers lived in the School like real families. In 1948, they moved to La Reina and finally in 1964 Nido de Aguilas moved to its current site in Lo Barnechea, a property of 62 acres surrounded by natural landscapes and, at that time, far away from the residential parts of Santiago. Over time, Nido transformed from a boarding school into a non-profit foundation and the School's administration evolved and a governing board was established to run the institution and manage its finances.

During its 85 years Nido de Aguilas has been renowned for its cutting-edge teaching methods, which anticipated trends that have since become widespread. One of the first schools in Chile to educate both boys and girls, to provide a bilingual education, to offer the IB Diploma, to include information technology, citizenship, sex education, outdoor



education and, in recent years, project-based learning and the Harknes Method in the curriculum, to give just a few examples

## **SETTING**

As an international school, Nido de Aguilas offers a unique education in Santiago, Chile. Students have the opportunity to develop in a diverse environment where cultural differences enrich everyday activities, promoting the appreciation of diversity and a global view of the world.

Nido serves the diplomatic and international business community in Santiago, as well as local students that are looking for North-American style education in English. Although there are variations in each grade, in general the student body is made up of 17% from the U.S., 43% from Chile, and 40% from other countries. At Nido, there are more than 30 languages spoken.

Alongside this cultural diversity, the Nido de Aguilas Educational Foundation is developing a program of scholarships that look to enable talented children and young people to access a Nido education. From its very beginnings, the School has created various initiatives along these lines.

Nido de Aguilas is located on a hill in the Lo Barnechea neighborhood, which provides the School with two unique opportunities: its natural surroundings and its relationship with the Lo Barnechea community.

Its hill-top location was part of the founders' vision and demonstrates the important role that outdoor education plays in character formation. The campus gives its students opportunities such as hill trails, school gardens, classes outside, mountain biking, and outdoor experiments, among others.

At the same time, the Lo Barnechea neighborhood is an opportunity for the Nido community to enrich its diversity. In this respect, working closely with the Mayor of Lo Barnechea, we hope to get to know our neighbors, integrate ourselves and support our neighborhood. Our students are able to help in local preschools, in adaptive games with local students with special needs, in the Fiesta Huasa or in English language practice in local public schools.

For all the reasons outlined previously, the learning environment at Nido is both stimulating and enriching, providing our students with the space and support they need to fully develop their personalities, values and passions.



## I. IDEOLOGY

### INSTITUTIONAL HALLMARK

Nido's students and alumni are empathetic, curious and happy. They resolve problems with resilience, strength and creativity. They are responsible managers and custodians, respectful and generous not only with material goods, but also in sharing cultural and environmental resources. They are confident, look after others, support their communities, fulfil their goals and dreams, and make the world a better place.

### VISION

The International School Nido de Aguilas strives to be an open and dynamic global education center known for its empathic and forward-thinking students, innovative pedagogy, and responsible stewardship of intellectual and environmental resources. Nido seeks to be a hub of knowledge creation and dissemination for Chile and the world.

### MISSION

The International School Nido de Aguilas offers an English language-based, liberal arts education, influenced by U.S. and Chilean thought and tradition, that prepares students to be eloquent communicators and impactful stewards of a rapidly changing world. Nido students:

- Engage in authentic, consequential experiences, learn by doing, and are accustomed to taking risks.
- Master a rich curriculum while acquiring the skills to communicate across multiple fields, disciplines, and cultures.
- Build their own personalities fully, nurturing their strengths and passions.

### DEFINITIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL APPROACHES

#### The "Nido Way" Principles and Educational Focus

- Students learn best when they see the **relationship** between themselves, learning and the world.
- Students build understanding through **authentic** discovery, creation and the connection between and within subjects.
- Risk-taking, making mistakes and **pushing oneself** are a necessary and valuable part of the learning process.
- Students learn at **different** speeds and in different ways.





- Students grow when they are in a **collaborative** learning space that enables them to feel safe, respected, valued and loved.

## Core Values

### ENGAGEMENT

Approaching life and work with complete attention, involvement, curiosity, and the responsibility to make a positive difference in the world.

### INGENUITY

Creative problem solving through experimentation, collaboration, research, and play.

### ADAPTABILITY

Adjusting to and thriving in a complex, rapidly changing world.

### GENEROSITY

Treating others with empathy, kindness, and respect in both word and action.

### HAPPINESS

Choosing to pursue happiness as a life goal with an awareness that some of the journey will be difficult, requiring self-knowledge and fortitude.

## PROFILES

All Nido staff are responsible for embodying the School's mission, vision and values.

### Nido's educators

- Learn with and from their colleagues
- Grow as professionals both in their subject area and as educators
- Create investigatory learning opportunities for their students
- Involve their students in meaningful discussions
- Inspire students to be empathetic in their thoughts, words and actions
- Manage responsibly their environmental, material and cultural resources

### Nido's students

- Know with certainty that the world can be changed through curiosity and commitment
- Use their creativity in a collaborative way, knowing that working together is the best way to learn



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL NIDO DE AGUILAS  
AVENIDA EL RODEO 14200  
LO BARNECHEA | SANTIAGO | CHILE  
+56 2 2339 8100

[www.nido.cl](http://www.nido.cl)

- Adapt themselves, understanding that change is an opportunity to grow
- Are generous, knowing that kindness will take them far
- Understand that being happy is a choice, being grateful that every experience, whether good or bad, helps them grow

## **Parents**

It is hoped that Nido parents share the School's ideology and commit to working together on Nido's educational program.



### III. ASSESSMENT

The following objectives are part of the Nido Strategic Plan (follow up and projections).

#### 1) THE “NIDO WAY” OF LEARNING

General objective:

To be guided by a deliberate, clear, and well-articulated philosophy of education that pays attention to what happens both inside and outside of the classroom.

Strategic objectives:

- Cultivate students with curious, happy minds, giving them the instinct to learn and the eloquence and courage to act.
- Enable students to engage in authentic, consequential experiences, including learning by doing and by taking risks through rigorous processes of experimentation.
- Develop students who are empathic, perceptive, and cosmopolitan global citizens.
- Empower students with the courage and wisdom to display ethics and honesty through their learning and work.

#### 2) STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESS

General objective:

To recognize that the importance of ensuring that student development and support match student needs, are explicitly driven by Nido’s philosophy of education, and are continually assessed in an explicit and evidence based manner.

Strategic objectives:

- Design and implement both a custom integrated curriculum and a teaching methodology that support the clear articulation of the “Nido Way”.
- Build a committed and passionate learning community
- Provide student development and support services that are based on reliable, measurable, and valid assessment data.
- Develop a predictive modeling-based enrollment management system that is consistent and aligned with Nido’s philosophy of education across all divisions of the School.
- Proactively recruit students for all academic divisions and grades and provide parents outstanding customer service as they seek to enroll their child/ren.



- Create a strategic enrollment management plan.

### **3) GETTING THINGS DONE**

General objective:

To commit to improving administrative and financial policies, practices, processes, and procedures to enable the School to fulfill its mission in an elegant, efficient, sustainable, and professional manner.

Strategic objectives

- Manage the “business of schooling” in the most professional manner possible.
- Foster and improve internal and external School communications.
- Undertake administrative and financial process redesign and determine optimal technology infrastructure.
- Develop a data-driven operating culture.
- Provide continually updated physical and data security.

### **4) DEVELOPING PEOPLE**

General objective:

To demonstrate profound commitment to the Nido community through the provision of development opportunities for faculty, staff, parents, and alumni in a model that parallels student learning.

Strategic objectives:

- Align the School’s organizational structure to support the “Nido Way”.
- Provide professional development and training aligned with the School’s vision and designed specifically to address the individual developmental stages of faculty and staff.
- Provide proper support services for English-language acquisition through professionally recognized programs.
- Foster a School culture in which parents are true partners in the educational process.
- Review the current performance evaluation process to clarify expectations for excellence and to enable faculty and staff to achieve their performance objectives and meet their developmental needs.

### **5) ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY**

General objective:



To establish meaningful and lasting relationships with diverse constituencies inside and outside of the School in order to broaden Nido's impact on the surrounding community and the world, enhance student learning, and work together with Nido stakeholders in meaningful partnerships.

Strategic objectives:

- Engage students, parents, teachers, and staff in the creation of a strong culture and structured curricular and co-curricular programs of outreach and service.
- Nurture a select but diverse set of partnerships with other organizations that are sustainable, well-resourced, strategic, and mutually beneficial for all parties.
- Make Nido a global hub of activity, knowledge, connections, and content for its stakeholders.

## **6) PRODUCING A SUSTAINABLE MODEL**

General objective:

To develop a business model that does not depend solely on tuition as a source of revenue, recognizing that the costs of delivering a Nido education now require a new approach, as is consistent with worldwide patterns in the development of high quality educational institutions.

Strategic objectives:

- Execute a 3-5 year plan to reach the School's revenue goals that considers both traditional income (tuition and enrollment management) and new income sources through various initiatives, including:
- Create an Office of Development to build a culture of philanthropy and develop fundraising campaigns.
- Build the Nido endowment for financial aid.
- Expand summer school offerings.
- Assess options for a Nido boarding program.
- Develop Nido's real estate assets strategically.
- Expand revenue-generating opportunities for the Professional Development Academy.
- Improve academic scheduling and resource distribution, while still preserving educational quality.

## **7) FACILITIES AND LAND DEVELOPMENT**

General objective:



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL NIDO DE AGUILAS  
AVENIDA EL RODEO 14200  
LO BARNECHEA | SANTIAGO | CHILE  
+56 2 2339 8100

[www.nido.cl](http://www.nido.cl)

To develop the School's facilities and land to ensure that Nido's aspirations for providing an exemplary and active learning environment are met.

Strategic objectives:

- Provide modern and interactive facilities and a dynamic campus environment to enable faculty and staff to inspire active student learning both inside and outside of the classroom.
- Optimize the use of the School's land holdings to enhance educational and extra-curricular experiences and generate additional revenue streams to support the School's mission.