



OUR STORY


# UNITY IN DIVERSITY











*“Our students are exposed to a variety of values that are different from their own. In this environment, and through the delivery of our curriculum and approaches, we teach children how to be flexible and adaptable in life; that we are not competing, but rather we are winning when we cooperate and collaborate and embrace our differences.”*

***Dr Michelle Kleiss,***  
***Head of School***







# Welcome to The Overseas School of Colombo (OSC)

We would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome you to OSC! We are fully committed to our mission and vision, preparing students for success, while nurturing all learners toward international and intercultural understanding. As an IB World School, OSC develops the whole child as a responsible learner, striving for personal excellence within a culturally diverse environment.

OSC is dual accredited, IB authorised, and mission driven. We operate at the highest standards ensuring that all students are at the centre of our decision-making. Starting from our Early Years and PYP Programmes and moving into the Middle and High School IB Diploma Programmes, we are steadfast in our vision to build independent, caring, and responsible world citizens who integrate perspectives, think critically, and are unwavering in contributing at both local and global levels. We inspire all of our students to use their impact and ideas to help shape a more sustainable, kind, and peaceful world. OSC students are agents of their own learning who recognise that *“together, by embracing our differences, we are better.”*

OSC students are inspired learners. Together, using everyone's strengths and passions, a personalised education is built. Upon graduation, our students matriculate to universities of their choice all over the world. The IB Diploma, widely acknowledged as the best preparation for post-secondary success, is highly recognised worldwide and provides the widest reach to all university systems across the globe.

OSC teachers are exceptional. We achieve our educational aims by attracting highly experienced, qualified, and enthusiastic teachers from all over the world. We provide a growth-minded learning environment

grounded in social-emotional learning. This foundation is a springboard for high quality learning experiences that are academically rigorous and completed by a diverse array of interesting courses.

At an extracurricular level, students are involved in leadership opportunities, service activities, performing arts, social justice groups, environmental initiatives, sports, and teamwork competing at both local and international levels. Together, as a community, we are all learners who are intellectually curious, engaged, and involved in cultural heritage activities. We are an internationally-minded community.

OSC parents are our partners. OSC families hail from more than 40 countries imparting our motto “Unity in Diversity”. With so many diverse backgrounds, values, and beliefs, we work hard at connecting and developing a sense of belonging for all families. We view the genuine parent-school partnership as mission critical in encouraging all students to be healthy, well, and engaged in lifelong learning pursuits.

The OSC experience is unique. We look forward to having you as a member of our learning community.



**Dr Michelle Kleiss**

Head of School



# Our Guiding Statements

- 4 Our vision and mission provide us with our overall direction. They are fundamental in everything we do from how we teach, to how we learn, and to how we develop our programmes and learning spaces.

## OSC Mission

Compassion, Courage and Curiosity

## OSC Vision

At OSC we live our mission by creating space and time for learners to engage in mutually respectful and enriching connections; teaching intercultural understanding, development and competencies; fostering a culture of learning that sparks joy, thinking and inquiry; nurturing personal identity so every learner feels a sense of belonging; and inviting all learners to persevere in their learning journey.

## OSC Values

We value community and relationships. We value process and growth. We value integrity and dignity. We value empowerment and taking action. We value sustainability. We value creativity and expression.

## OSC Motto

Unity in Diversity

OSC is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people and expects all staff, parents, and volunteers to share this commitment.







### Accreditations



### Memberships



Proud to deliver



## OSC at a Glance



***Founded in 1957, OSC is Sri Lanka's first, oldest, and most established international school***



***The one and only IB World School in Sri Lanka***



***Authorised to offer all three International Baccalaureate (IB) Programmes***



***Non-profit, co-educational, English-medium from Pre-K to Grade 12***



***A diverse community with students and faculty representing more than 40 nationalities***



### ***2024: Key Information***

- Class of 2024: 18 students from 09 nationalities
- 57 educators, more than half with advanced degrees



***Faculty members from USA, Sri Lanka, UK, Canada, Australia, India, Ireland, Belgium, France, Netherlands, China, Kenya, South Korea, Mozambique, South Africa, Bulgaria, and Tanzania.***

# The International Baccalaureate Programmes

- 6 The International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes aim to do more than other curricula. It develops inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who are motivated to succeed. The IB gives students distinct advantages by building their critical thinking skills, nurturing their curiosity, and their ability to solve complex problems.

## The Primary Years Programme (PYP)

### Prepares students to be active participants in a lifelong journey of learning

The PYP is designed for students aged 3 to 12. It focuses on the development of the child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and in the world beyond. It is a framework guided by six transdisciplinary themes of global significance, explored using knowledge and skills derived from six subject areas, as well as transdisciplinary skills with emphasis on inquiry.

## The Middle Years Programme (MYP)

### Prepares students to be successful in school and to be active, lifelong learners

The MYP is designed for students aged 11 to 16. It provides a framework of learning which encourages students to become creative, critical, and reflective thinkers. The MYP focuses on intellectual growth, encouraging students to make connections between their studies in traditional subjects and the real world. It fosters the development of skills such as communication, intercultural understanding, and global engagement - qualities that are essential for leading a meaningful life in the 21st century.

## The Diploma Programme (DP)

### Prepares students for success in higher education and life in a global society

The Diploma Programme (DP) is an academically challenging and balanced programme which includes final examinations that prepares students, aged 16 to 19, for success at university and life beyond. It has been designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical well-being of students. The programme has gained recognition and respect from some of the world's leading universities.

The DP has been running successfully at OSC for over 20 years. It is a comprehensive rigorous, broad-based programme of study. Along with six academic subjects, students are involved in community service, engage in a piece of original research which culminates in an extended essay, and follow a philosophy course called Theory of Knowledge.

*(Source: IB Continuum Brochure)*



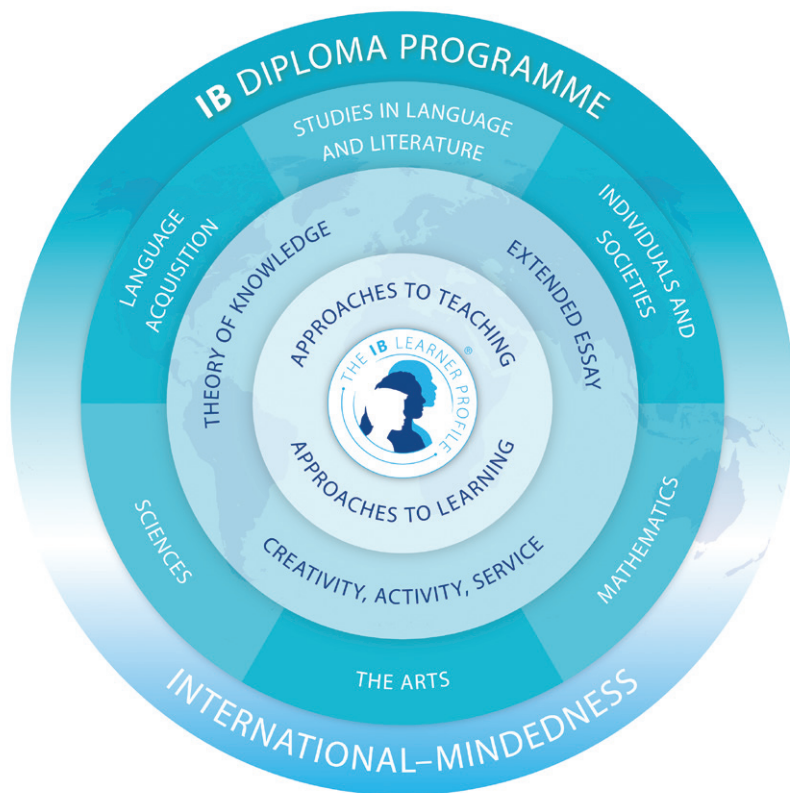
Primary Years Programme (PYP)



Middle Years Programme (MYP)



## Diploma Programme (DP)



# IB Learner Profile

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

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## As IB learners we strive to be:



### Inquirers

We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.



### Principled

We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.



### Risk-takers

We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.



### Knowledgeable

We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.



### Open-minded

We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.



### Balanced

We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives—intellectual, physical, and emotional—to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognise our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.



### Thinkers

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.



### Caring

We show empathy, compassion, and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.



### Reflective

We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.



### Communicators

We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.



# The Primary School

<sup>10</sup> The Primary School is made up of Early Years to Grade 5 students (ages 3-11) and follows the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP). The PYP curriculum framework begins with the premise that students are agents of their own learning and partners in the learning process. It prioritises people and their relationships to build a strong learning community.

The Early Years Programme is a combination of Early Years one and Early Years two students. OSC delivers a high-quality education to our Early Years students, focusing on social and emotional play-based learning where our youngest students are invited to explore, inquire, experiment, and imagine. The class functions as a multi age group for 3- and 4-year-old children. Specialist teachers instruct in Music, Information Technology, Physical Education, Library Skills, and Swimming. Students are completely immersed in an experiential programme that is both educational and fun.

The IB Primary Years Programme aims to develop the child in a variety of student-centred, inquiry-based units. By learning through inquiry and reflecting on their own learning, PYP students gain knowledge, develop conceptual understanding, skills, and the attributes of the IB Learner profile to make a difference in their own lives, their communities, and beyond.

The inquiry process places the child at the centre of an exciting learning experience. Broad-based conceptual understanding is developed through the classroom and by working with specialist teachers in the areas of Visual and Performing Arts, Information Technology, French, Host Nation Studies, Library Skills, Physical Education, and swimming. Intensive English as Second Language instruction is provided when required as is resource support for students with mild to moderate special learning needs.

The PYP curriculum framework begins with the premise that students are agents of their own learning and partners in the learning process. It prioritises people and their relationships to build a strong learning community.









# The Secondary School

12 The Secondary School is made up of students from Grades 6 to 12. Students in Grades 6 to 10 follow the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP), and students in Grades 11 and 12 follow the IB Diploma Programme (DP) allowing our students to benefit from a continuum of education while also providing opportunities that meet the needs of internationally mobile students.

In Grades 6-8 we create a “Middle School” atmosphere with Homeroom teachers working closely with their students in the study of Mathematics, English, Humanities (Geography and History), Science, Modern Language (French or Spanish), Technology, Performing Arts (Music and Drama), Visual Art, Physical and Health Education, and PSE (Personal and Social Education). In Grade 9, students begin to make choices in Visual and Performing Arts. During Grades 9 and 10 students engage in the Personal Project, which is an extended individual exploration guided by an advisor in an area of personal interest. In Grade 10, students complete research for this project and are required to produce an academic paper to describe their engagement in the process. Grade 10 is the culmination of the IB Middle Years Programme – in our view the best preparation for the IB Diploma.

As a fully accredited school by the Middle States Association, our OSC High School Diploma is equivalent to a US-style diploma and is accepted by universities and colleges worldwide. Our students in Grades 9 to 12 accumulate credits towards the successful completion of the OSC High School Diploma and most students complete the IB Diploma Programme as well. Our IB Diploma results have been consistently high and well above world averages for the Programme.

**Grade 10 is the culmination of the IB Middle Years Programme – in our view the best preparation for the IB Diploma.**









# Graduation and University

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OSC has a full-time High School Counsellor on campus to provide pastoral care for students in Grades 9 to 12 as well as to help students with the university application process. We have students choosing universities all around the world and they are usually accepted to their first choice. The IB Diploma has the widest reach into universities around the world and is known as the “gold standard” for tertiary education.

## 100% pass rate

- Our students are accepted to highly reputable universities around the world.

## Graduation Requirements

- Students must complete 24 credits in:
  - English (4 years),
  - Humanities (4 years),
  - Science (3 years),
  - Mathematics (3 years),
  - Second Language (2 years),
  - Physical Education (2 years),
  - Arts (2 years),
  - CAS (2 years), and
  - Electives (2 years)
- All students must participate in the Theory of Knowledge course
- Students with an average of 5 or above are eligible for our Diploma with Distinction

OSC does not rank students.

## International Baccalaureate Results 2024

	Pass rate	Average points (*)	High points
OSC 2024	93%	33	44
World 2024	80%	30	45

	Average Grade (*)	Extended Essay	Theory of Knowledge
OSC 2024	5.2	A 7% B 15%	A 13% B 47%
World 2024	4.8	A 11% B 37%	A 10% B 46%

Pass rate	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
OSC	94	100	92	100	93
World	85	89	86	80	80







# Our Facilities

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- ***Purpose-built six acre self-contained green campus***
- ***Six main buildings, fully air-conditioned***
- ***48 general classrooms***
- ***Four state-of-the-art science labs***
- ***Three design labs***
- ***Specialist rooms for art, drama and music***
- ***Two libraries with over 25,000 volumes and computer facilities***
- ***Counselling offices***
- ***Auditorium and black box studio theatre***
- ***Cafeteria***
- ***Gymnasium – Rock-climbing wall, basketball, badminton and volleyball courts, a movement room and cardio/weight room***
- ***25-metre swimming pool***
- ***Professional-level outdoor basketball court***
- ***Spacious, grass football field***
- ***Covered primary school playground (sunshade)***
- ***State-of-the-art makerspace***
- ***Coffee Shop***
- ***Sitting areas around the basketball court***









# Learning with Technology

- 18 Technology at The Overseas School of Colombo aims to engage students, strengthen student learning, and foster creativity, collaboration, and communication within and beyond the classroom. Technology has transformed education, and OSC recognises the importance of keeping up with the latest innovations for our students to acquire the necessary skills to become leaders in today's globalised world. They must become innovative thinkers, ask questions, research, and find solutions in response to the fastest-changing industries in the world today. At OSC, we effectively integrate the latest technologies and teaching methods to leverage and enhance our students' learning process. As a community, we have fine-tuned our digital capabilities and are ever-ready to share this knowledge with those around us.

## Technology Infrastructure at OSC

The Overseas School of Colombo is equipped with over 80 Cisco Meraki access points to support the Wi-Fi needs of the Bring Your Own Laptop (BYOL) programme from Grades 5 through 12 and over 70 Axis security cameras along with RFID access control systems for all doors, which are all connected to a state-of-the-art backbone network powered by Cisco Meraki network switches. Additionally, OSC utilises an enterprise-grade firewall, server systems, and integrated printing management systems to provide our school community with a wide range of integrated IT systems. The OSC Tech Department also takes necessary steps to protect users from data leaks and external network threats. It offers services and support to non-educational departments such as HR, Finance, and Maintenance. The Department also leverages cloud-based technologies to provide disaster mitigation and data recovery capabilities. Classrooms are integrated with touch-enabled interactive displays and projectors to further enhance student learning.

In addition to diagnostic services, the OSC Technology Department invests in educational technology apps and trains and monitors the effectiveness of such apps. This includes access to online databases, cloud-based applications, and local computer programmes. All students receive these applications as part of their tuition.

Our technology team has been working on a long-term technology strategy that integrates a systems thinking approach. This has resulted in innovative projects such as the Student Data Dashboard, which helps make better teaching and learning decisions. We have also implemented internal tools and a few automations to improve the efficiency of our staff.

This year, we have also invested time and research into Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. We are looking at ways to safely integrate generative AI tools into our curriculum without compromising our students' and staff's data and privacy.

## Technology in PYP

Technology is integrated throughout the Primary School. Students are issued school-owned technology devices in Early Years through Grade 4. Our Grade 5 students have been successfully integrated into the BYOL programme and have begun to use their own laptops. All students and teachers are provided with a Google Workspace for Education Account to collaborate, communicate, and do classwork digitally, along with cloud storage. Teachers carefully make use of our 1:1 laptop programme (Apple iPads, Chromebooks, Windows, and Mac computers) to enhance learning and reinforce healthy digital habits and routines, using Seesaw as our primary learning platform.

## Technology in MYP and DP

Within the Secondary School, the technology programme aims to help students gain an expert or mastery level of many different applications, databases, and online tools that can help students research, create, and communicate new understandings and learnings. This knowledge will help better prepare students for meaningful impact. The BYOL programme requires students to bring their laptops to class daily and use technology regularly. Our students are provided with the necessary apps and cloud storage to do their classwork digitally while collaborating with their peers and communicating with their teachers. ManageBac is our primary learning management system. It gives our students and parents access to their curriculum and online learning 24 hours a day and provides another way for students and teachers to communicate. In addition to providing technology education, students engage in an extensive Digital Citizenship programme, grounded in the Common Sense Media curriculum. This programme is designed to guide students in creating a safer digital footprint and equip them with the necessary skills to ensure their safety online.







## Co-Curricular Activities

20 OSC believes that co-curricular activities complement academics and play an essential role in providing a holistic education. Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS) component of the IB Diploma Programme provides students with unique opportunities to participate in different co-curricular activities such as sports, broaden their creativity through music, painting, acting, or by being a part of our robust After School Activities (ASA) programme. The service component invites students to consider a local or global issue and come up with solutions that impact their world in order to make it a better place for all.

### Sports

OSC believes that participating in sports inculcates in students a sense of sportsmanship and fair play, leadership, teamwork, as well as a competitive spirit. All students at OSC participate in weekly Physical Education classes which include swimming.

In competitive sports, our OSC Geckos are proud of their achievements. We compete in the South Asian Inter-Scholastic Association (SAISA) Conference. There are three seasons covering swimming, volleyball, basketball, football, badminton, and track and field. We also participate in local sports events competing with other schools in Colombo.

OSC Geckos have a region-wide reputation for sportsmanship, and although we like to win, we mean it when we say, "It's not all about winning!"







## Visual and Performing Arts

An integral part of OSC's curriculum, the Visual and Performing Arts not only provide opportunities for students to develop creative passions but also teach communication, language, and leadership in unique ways that inspire individuality. In a school dedicated to holistic education, all talents are valued.

Our students' skills in performance shone even before our modern auditorium and Black Box Theatre were built. However, the facilities provide the space and resources for them to explore their talents to a greater extent as we now have multiple performance opportunities. For many students the applause and thrill of the audience will be the greatest memory they take from school.

Our Art Studios are creative spaces where students can work in many media including clay and photography. Student work is displayed around the campus as a tribute to our artists.

## Experiential Learning

### Week Without Walls Programme: Experience Sri Lanka!

In Semester 2 of each school year, OSC's Secondary School implements its annual off-campus Week Without Walls (WWW) Programme: Experience Sri Lanka! is a programme of experiential education combined with service-learning components designed to facilitate learning experiences outside the traditional classrooms in our host nation of Sri Lanka.

### Duke of Edinburgh International Award

OSC introduced the Duke of Edinburgh International Award (DofE) for Grades 9 to 12 in the 2018/19 school year. The DofE programme fits well with the amazing array of extracurricular activities that OSC students are already engaged in and helps recognise these efforts in a way that promotes self-discovery and is helpful in the university admissions process. OSC is a licensed award centre and an initial cohort of teachers have been trained as award leaders to initiate the programme.

The close association with the IB Diploma Creativity Activity and Service requirement makes the DofE a natural fit for our school. Some of the DofE segments are addressed in other After School Activities (SAISA sports for example) and in OSC's robust service programme. The adventurous journey segment is part of two designated weekend trips.



# Service to the Community and Environment

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OSC is committed to inculcating generosity and kindness in our students by providing experience in service learning. Service learning is part of the IB curriculum and part of the culture at OSC. Service is a requirement at all grade levels where students recognise specific needs within the community, work with members of this community to plan appropriate responses to those needs, and act ethically to meet them. At OSC the curriculum provides ideas, opportunities and the context for students to initiate acts of service independently, and the School allocates time for students to focus on them.

All students in the MYP and DP are expected to participate in projects organised by the School, or to participate in service outside school. In the MYP years 1-5, students are required to serve for one semester, while in the DP the commitment is yearlong. We believe that student leadership is vital to initiate and plan each service project, regardless of the age of the student, so opportunities for leadership are offered throughout.

Students at OSC actively participate in the following service projects:

**Care for Paws** works with two local community groups, Adopt a Dog in Sri Lanka and the Association of Veterinarians for Humane Management of Animal Population, to provide two local free sterilisation and immunisation camps. Care for Paws raises funds to cover the costs of sterilisations and immunisations for families who bring their pets to the camp and for local street dogs. Students in Care for Paws work hands-on during the camps to care for animals and do necessary administrative work.

**Cultural Exchange** interacts with students from four local schools in Colombo. Each Thursday, students meet to learn about each other's cultural similarities and differences. The participating schools are attended by Muslim, Tamil, Catholic, and Sinhala groups. With the aim of enhancing students' English proficiency and building bridges between the various communities, the Cultural Exchange Programme is an essential group in bringing about cultural awareness and intercultural understanding.

**Justice and Equality** envisions a future where consent is understood and respected and every individual, regardless of background, is empowered to thrive. Through the members' combined efforts, the club aims to create lasting societal change and contribute to a more just and equitable world. Students build understanding around positive body image, healthy masculinity, inclusion, and consent.

**SOS Village** opens the minds of everyone involved by working with orphaned children. Through swimming and other interactive experiences, we create memories for a lifetime for them and us. We break down language and social barriers, nurturing a safe environment for the children with whom we work.

**Hope for Kids** supports the children and their families at the Maharagama Cancer Hospital. Our activities include public awareness campaigns, food ration drives, the OSC community cricket game, and the collection of educational resources.

**Eco-Club**, formally known as Eco-Schools, is a dynamic group that focuses on decreasing the School's environmental impact through education and action. Examples of the types of activities that Eco-Club is involved with include gardening projects and composting while also tackling environmental issues in the local community. The Foundation for Environmental Education has accredited OSC with the Eco-Schools Green Flag, and the Eco-Club works towards continual accreditation.

**Recycling and Sustainability** investigates potential solutions for our School's ecological footprint and trains the community to do their part to aid our service, their school, and Colombo. Recycling is our role, and sustainability is our goal!







**OSC's Room to Read** helps develop libraries in the local communities, making reading for pleasure and learning available to many people by spreading our passion for books. We have created a strong partnership with two schools in the community: Vidyaloka Maha Vidyalaya and Vidyawardhana Maha Vidyalaya. Our recently opened second-hand bookstore near the reception is one way we continue raising funds to support these two libraries in building and furnishing their library buildings. We are planning to complete the library for Vidyaloka Maha Vidyalaya this academic year. Our English language programme is up and running, with 15 students from Vidyaloka Maha Vidyalaya coming to OSC each week.

**Gecko Inc.** focuses on helping Sri Lankan children from the local area develop basic water safety skills. Considering that Sri Lanka is an island, a child's ability to feel safe around water is critical to preventing drownings. We hope to invite students back to the OSC campus this year.

**Gecko Network** serves as the publishing arm of the service programme. We focus on publicising and promoting OSC's many service events and initiatives. Our students are reporters and photographers who cover the latest news in the service programme. While reporting, Gecko Net students actively engage in the other service groups. The Gecko Net remit also provides valuable services to its members by helping them develop their writing and photography skills for use in various media tools and platforms.

**Housing and Habitat** improves our school and the surrounding community by building sustainable elements at OSC and local schools. As a very hands-on service group connected with the Eco-Schools programme, the group is engaged building raised garden beds, benches, and trellises around OSC and at a local school close to our campus. We aim to remain financially self-sufficient by holding an annual Home Run fundraiser to help us purchase the necessary equipment for our ongoing projects.

**Mandala Music 108's** mission is to help disadvantaged schools build a music programme and to supply them with the instruments they need so that children can learn music and connect through the power of sound.

**Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE)** service group is part of an international journalism competition involving 43 countries and more than 500,000 students. The OSC Young Reporters take action to improve the local environment and to report on what they achieve. They focus on environmental issues at OSC or surrounding areas. Last year, the OSC Young Reporters won the international award in the 11-14 year-old Article category.

**Gecko Gear** is redefining the OSC attire world and supporting the "Kids on Campus" service programme. Each week, Gecko Gear works together to create OSC designs and merchandise items, and through the sales of these items, we support "Kids on Campus". Many kids from the local community visit OSC on Thursday afternoons as part of our service programme. "Kids on Campus" share the OSC swimming pool and learn valuable swimming skills. Other students join each week to improve their English language skills. Gecko Gear will provide resources to help these young people thrive in the service programme and beyond.

**Hands for Humanity** is a new service focused on creating awareness and taking action against various forms of human rights and modern slavery, including worker exploitation and the ethical concerns surrounding the fast fashion industry. The group focuses on SDG 1, No Poverty; SDG 8, Decent Work and Economic Growth; and SDG 12, Responsible Consumption and Production. Providing opportunities for student activism through activities such as the A21 Walk for Freedom, the Dressember Campaign, #WearBlueDay for human trafficking awareness, and #MyFreedomDay, students liaise with local Union Groups here in Sri Lanka while actively contributing to a more just and equitable society.



## Our Faculty

24 OSC is highly selective when recruiting its teachers. With our mindset of only providing the best for our students, we have recruited a passionate group of caring teachers who have undergone a careful selection process in keeping with international standards. The teachers at OSC follow our students through each pivotal stage of their social, emotional, and cognitive development. The OSC mission and approach invites teachers with a growth mindset to inspire students towards reaching their full potential. The programmes coupled with teachers who provide individualised attention, makes teaching and learning at OSC a very unique experience.

The teaching faculty at OSC are fully qualified with more than half holding advanced degrees. Their international backgrounds and experiences add to the full global perspective and culture of the School. Being a community of teachers and learners, ongoing training is extremely important at OSC with 2% of the annual operating budget being spent on the professional development of our teaching staff. Our main professional development link is with the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO).







## Our Parent Community

At OSC, the relationship between parents and the School is a strong partnership. Parents are on campus everyday making meaningful contributions. There are class parents, parents who listen to children read, parents as chaperones on field trips, and a very active School Community Network (SCN). Our annual Food and Fun Fair, Blue Gecko Cafe and United Nations Day celebration are all organised by our involved, supportive parent community.

The SCN is a group of parent volunteers whose main role is to support the School's sense of community, cultivate a spirit of diversity, and promote a feeling of belonging for all families in alignment with the mission and vision of the School. Throughout the year, they aim to provide the OSC Community with fun, family-friendly activities, as we celebrate traditions, languages, and multiculturalism. Support for SCN activities directly comes from parent/guardian volunteers, and from donations by sponsors and revenue from our events. Every parent has an opportunity to contribute to OSC!



# Grade Placement Guidelines

OSC	UK	USA	Usual age at start of grade level
Early Years 1 – PYP 1	Nursery	–	3
Early Years 2 – PYP 2	Reception Class	–	4
Kindergarten – PYP 3	Year 1	KG	5
Grade 1 – PYP 4	Year 2	Grade 1	6
Grade 2 – PYP 5	Year 3	Grade 2	7
Grade 3 – PYP 6	Year 4	Grade 3	8
Grade 4 – PYP 7	Year 5	Grade 4	9
Grade 5 – PYP 8	Year 6	Grade 5	10
Grade 6 – MYP 1	Year 7	Grade 6	11
Grade 7 – MYP 2	Year 8	Grade 7	12
Grade 8 – MYP 3	Year 9	Grade 8	13
Grade 9 – MYP 4	Year10	Grade 9	14
Grade 10 – MYP 5	Year 11	Grade 10	15
Grade 11 – DP 1	Year 12	Grade 11	16
Grade 12 – DP 2	Year 13	Grade 12	17



MAINTENANCE, MAINTENANCE, MAINTENANCE  
Castle





# Testimonials

## What our parents have to say

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*Our two children have been students at OSC since 2018. We have had a wonderful experience before the COVID-19 pandemic and during. The school has offered a great amount of support to both kids and parents during difficult times and are currently welcoming them back.*

*We look forward to the school being fully open and the vibrant community we have being able to connect and appreciate how diverse we are.*

*Our children have thrived at OSC and will continue to do so.*

### **Edwina and Mark Thompson**

*Parents of Middle School and Primary School Students*

*Thank you so much for your wonderful leadership during this unprecedented and long-drawn out pandemic crisis. The school has done a marvelous job in enabling the continuity of education despite all the challenges. I thank you and your whole faculty for the way they have stepped up and enabled quality learning. I feel like my two children are amongst the luckiest in the country for being in this school.*

### **Sriani**

*Parent of Grade 6 and Grade 11 students from New Zealand*

*We are truly happy to be part of the Overseas School of Colombo community.*

*Our three daughters began their first schooling at the OSC playschool just over a decade ago, and we believe this is one of the best decisions we made regarding their future.*

*Like all new parents, we wanted to provide the best possible education for our girls, and we were convinced that the IB system was the most appropriate learning approach. Once we had made this decision, the obvious choice was OSC.*

*Today our three girls are in Grade 8 at school, and we can say without hesitation that they have a deep love and respect for their school. It has proven to be a great place for learning and growing. The girls have had many teachers and support teachers over the years, and whilst each teacher is different in their individuality, they have all demonstrated great teaching skills, and won the girls' trust through their friendliness, approachability, and patience.*

*The last two years through the pandemic has been very challenging for all of us. Yet, with a well-structured Distance Learning Program, we were greatly relieved to continue to see our children learn and grow in trying and uncertain circumstances. All this is a reflection of the direction provided by the school leadership along with the high level of capability and experience in the faculty.*

*As a family, we have all come to love being part of the OSC community. Apart from the satisfaction we get in seeing our daughters thrive in the school environment, as parents we have also enjoyed the wonderful feeling of community OSC provides for all its members through its many programs. At OSC, parents and students alike make great friendships and memories which we believe will stand the test of time!*

### **Sudath and Rushmi Perera**

*Parents of triplet girls in Grade 8 from Sri Lanka*



## What our alumni have to say

*I only have positive memories of this wonderful school. Went to OCS 94-99, then again IB 2001-2003 when it changed to OSC. Dedicated teachers, uplifting, second to none school spirit! A true international school that teaches the positive aspects of diversity and really makes each student stand out, both individually as well as together as a team! I had the best school time of my life at OSC and I wish to enroll my 3 boys sometime in the future. Keep up the good work!*

**David Kristoffersson**

*Class of 2003*

*Went to OSC between 2008-2010. Best experience of my life!*

**Ludvig Wallman**

*Class of 2010*

*"I graduated as the very first cohort of IB graduates from OSC in 1985 (called OCS back then!). It was the defining moment of my educational journey. The intrinsic pedagogical structure allowed for freedom in intellectual growth, and the cultivating of individual passionate curiosity building confidence and a love for lifelong learning. The IB programme was the best investment my parents could've ever made for me."*

**Naaz Fancy**

*Class of 1985*









## What our teachers have to say

*This is my tenth year working at OSC. I can honestly say that it is an amazing place to work, and for our children to be educated. OSC has a caring ethos that helps everyone feel comfortable, valued, and at home.*

*It is a wonderful family community, which is very welcoming. New students settle in quickly as current students accept them and help them to feel part of the community as soon as they arrive.*

*The signature DLP has shown just how amazing OSC is and what a committed and motivated teaching staff we have. Online lessons are fun and engaging and students are able to work together and form relationships even during a lockdown.*

*OSC has an intrinsic sense of kindness, a positive school spirit and strong sense of community. Our international diversity enhances the school environment and there is a mutual respect between students, teachers, and all community members.*

### **Sue Turner**

Primary PE and Swimming Teacher

*Since I first arrived in the country, OSC have been the most supportive and welcoming group of educators I have ever encountered. The school helped our family feel at home from the very beginning, first helping us navigate a difficult quarantine in a beautiful hotel on the beach, then taking us to our new house which was pre-furnished and ready to go! The school itself is equally welcoming with an infectious positive energy. Staff have been empathetic and helpful to us as teachers and to our children as new students in the community too. The country is beautiful and the standard of living that teachers can enjoy was a wonderful surprise to our whole family.*

### **Jake Eagle**

Assistant Secondary Principal/MYP Coordinator

*OSC is a great little school with really caring and considerate administrators who value family and well-being as well as encouraging an atmosphere of striving to learn and improve. The students have produced some amazing and thoughtful work, under challenging circumstances, and they also take the time to connect in online spaces. One of my homeroom students likes to chat about their ongoing independent science projects at home, and another biology student took the time to say after class that they were really looking forward to the next lesson on manipulating data more effectively. It's a quirky and rewarding place to be.*

### **Liz Harrison**

Head of Secondary Science - IB Biology



*Hi, I'm Dilini. I have been with OSC for 7 years as a specialist teacher. I'm fortunate and proud to be a part of this truly amazing community. The experience includes highly professional faculty, opportunities for professional development, and treating every member with dignity and warmth. I have experienced and witnessed the uniqueness, innovation, and flexibility in education. OSC has the finest curriculum with world-class standards in education while shaping young children in a warm and welcoming environment. OSC is the best place to work without a doubt.*

#### **Dilini De Silva**

*Primary School Sinhala Teacher*

*OSC has a great leadership team, dedicated teaching staff and amazing students. This has been especially evident as we have been navigating our way through the COVID-19 pandemic. This hasn't been an easy time for anyone, but our Director and our Principals have handled every step admirably. As teachers we are taken care of and encouraged.*

*Our students remain positive and resilient throughout the time we've spent teaching online. This is a wonderful community to be a part of.*

#### **Darren Harp**

*PE Teacher - Secondary*











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