Two Cultures One Amazing Child



ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades K-8

YCIS
SILICON VALLEY



The YCIS Difference

An education without compromise

Choosing the right school often means deciding what to give up. Rigor or joy? Tests or inquiry? East or West?

At YCIS Silicon Valley, families don't have to compromise. It is the founding vision on which our school was designed and built.

Strong character is the foundation of who a child becomes. Two world cultures come together, complementing one another and helping shape tomorrow's globally ready leaders. Students learn to think critically, ask meaningful questions and take action, while building a strong academic foundation.

We are the only YCIS campus in the U.S., serving our community since 2002 and drawing on more than 90 years of experience and a global network of over 10,000 students and faculty.



Character-First

The best of Eastern and Western virtues

YCIS was founded on the belief that character development is the core purpose of education. An international education is not simply a curriculum, but the kind of person your child grows to become. Students here learn respect, perseverance and community alongside independence, curiosity and self-expression.

We empower students to become caring, confident contributors to their family, school and community. That can mean making a new classmate feel welcome, or designing a fundraising project that addresses real-world needs. As young minds develop, we also nurture empathy and a sense of responsibility that will guide them throughout their lives.



Co-Teaching & Co-Leadership

Two cultures. Equal partners

Students who grow up here never have to feel one language or culture is foreign to them.

In the elementary years, every classroom is led by two teachers, one a native English and one a native Mandarin speaker, planning and teaching as equals. Together, they create a unique learning experience where every child is supported and encouraged to grow. In middle school, subject specialists work as a team to teach math, science, English, social studies and Chinese daily, readying students for the next step up.

Our leadership reflects the same commitment to cross-cultural partnership. We are guided by two co-principals, one Western and one Chinese, who model the respectful, harmonious collaboration we hope to nurture in every student.

Inquiry-Based Learning

The power of curiosity

We nurture students' natural curiosity and help them turn questions into understanding. In a world where technology can provide instant answers, **the ability to ask thoughtful questions and evaluate evidence will become more important than ever.**

Through project-based learning, students collaborate to investigate real-world problems in math, science and the humanities. They defend their reasoning in both English and Mandarin and revise their thinking when new evidence emerges.

On the ERB CTP, an assessment widely used by independent schools, YCIS students in Grades 3–8 consistently perform well above their peers in reading, writing, mathematics and quantitative reasoning. Proof that our approach builds strong academic foundations and confident thinkers.



Signature Programs

Violin lessons start at Kindergarten. Art class takes subject learning and expands it into creativity. Fifth graders take their first international study trip to China. And our middle schoolers continue learning beyond the classroom with study trips to places like Washington, D.C. and Costa Rica. Experiences and memories students carry with them long after they leave YCIS.

After-School Enrichment

The Yew Chung Arts and Language Program (YALP) keeps the learning going until 6:00 p.m. Trained Chinese teachers immerse students in language, arts and crafts, performances and sports, in a safe and nurturing environment.

Admissions Steps

1. Explore our website
2. Visit us by booking a tour or joining an open house
3. Submit your application

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