Admissions

School Overview

Osaka International School of Kwansei Gakuin

The first international school in Japan to offer all three IB curriculums.
An IB World School since 1991.

Informed, Caring
Creative Individuals
Contributing to
a Global Community

Welcome to OIS

Since 1991 Osaka International School of Kwansei Gakuin (OIS) has been serving the internationally oriented community of the Kansai region of Japan. With our small class sizes, we know every student as an individual and rest assured, your child will be safe, happy and in an environment that encourages all students to flourish.

We were the first school in Japan to have all three academic International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes. We are committed, along with the IB, for our students to create a better and more peaceful world. Our mission statement is *Informed, caring, creative individuals contributing to a global community*. OIS students demonstrate this through high achievement on the IB exams and other tests, giving back to the community through our Action and Service, and developing creativity through the fine arts and in their daily learning.

Welcome to our community, and we will do our best to give your family a first-class education.

Kurt Mecklem
Head of School

Two Schools, One Mission

The Two Schools Together ethos makes us a unique school in Japan and the world. The vision of an IB international school sharing a campus and educational program with a Japanese international school came into being in 1991. Senri International School (SIS) is an innovative Japanese international school designed to meet the needs of Japanese students in grades 7 -12 returning from living abroad. They bring not only Japanese culture to our campus, but experiences from around the world. The two schools share a campus, classes, extracurricular activities and our mission. The presence of SIS gets our students out of the expatriate "bubble" that can occur in international schools, and allows them to live and learn with on a daily basis, local Japanese students. It gives us the advantages of a larger school because we are able to offer more programs. OIS classes in 7-12 are shared with SIS in physical education, visual arts and music.

Kwansei Gakuin Foundation

The Kwansei Gakuin foundation (KG) merged with the Senri International School Foundation in 2011 to take over operations of the two schools. KG is a prestigious, private, non-profit educational foundation that operates a 21,000 student university and graduate school, a women's junior college and several other K-12 schools in the Kansai region. The financial, logistical and academic support provided by KG has brought our school to a new level of excellence.

Shared Beliefs

The vision for our schools is at the heart of our statements of belief:

Two Schools Together

We believe that it is important for the two schools to continually explore ways to come together, because this brings great benefit to our students. We believe that the closeness of the schools is so important that it is the central part of our vision.

Common Ground

We believe that our schools should represent a common ground between Japanese and non-Japanese ideas, practices, beliefs, and traditions.

Exchange of Ideas

We believe that our schools should be a place where ideas, particularly educational ideas, are freely exchanged among faculty, parents, and students. We believe the diversity of experiences of our faculty, parents, and students should be celebrated and the free exchange of ideas will enhance this celebration.

How We Learn

We believe that the special nature of our schools should encourage students to be well-rounded, individual, responsible thinkers and doers, and this is why our programmes are full of choices, special programmes, and innovative structures. We believe that one of the key responsibilities of our schools is to encourage students to learn how to learn and to carry this kind of learning into adulthood.

Model

We believe that our two schools should exist as a model for other schools. We believe that one of our goals is to demonstrate new ideas, practices, techniques, and systems to other schools everywhere.

5 Respects

SOIS believes in the ability of its students to make appropriate decisions regarding their behavior and interaction with others; however, students are expected to abide by the 5 Respects:

Learning Results

Osaka International School prepares students for their future in a global community by graduating lifetime learners who are ethical, competent, culturally aware and self-reliant. We expect our graduates to possess sufficient skills to enrich their lives and the lives of others.

Academics

Knowledgeable: Acquire and apply in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Creative: Strive for excellence in imaginative, creative and artistic endeavors.

Thinkers: Make connections between ideas, disciplines, cultures, and modes of expression to solve complex problems and make reasoned ethical decisions.

Inquirers: Approach new situations with curiosity, and acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research, demonstrating independence in learning.

Values

Caring: Demonstrating empathy, compassion, and respect towards the needs and feelings of others, and develop a personal commitment to action and service.

Open-minded: Understanding and appreciating one's own culture and personal history, and remain open to the perspectives, values and tradition of other individuals and communities.

Principled: Commit to the wellbeing of oneself and the immediate and global communities whilst demonstrating honesty, integrity and responsibility for one's actions and the consequences that accompany them.

Qualities

Balanced: Practice habits of good and balanced intellectual, emotional and physical health.

Reflective: Give thoughtful consideration to one's own learning and experience to be able to assess and understand one's own strengths and limitations.

Communicators: Understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively through a variety of modes of communication.

Risk takers: Approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies.

Elementary School

The elementary school consists of students in kindergarten A (4 years old turning 5 during the school year) to grade 5. The philosophy is child-centered, offering a challenging yet supportive learning environment. We offer a balanced program of academic studies, activities and experiences which aim to help students of all cultural backgrounds to become happy, confident, self-directed learners.

We have one class per grade level and class sizes are kept small to enhance a personalized approach to teaching and learning. The whole child is important to us so students will be learning music, physical education (including an extensive water safety and swimming program), Japanese language and visual arts in addition to their regular academic studies. We also have a comprehensive after school activities program, with clubs, sports, etc. sponsored by faculty and parents to encourage students to participate in the life of the school.

The school's English as an Additional Language programme provides students with a foundation in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English so that they can successfully participate in all aspects of school life. The EAL programme strives to create an environment in which students feel comfortable taking risks using English, and where a positive attitude about language learning is fostered.

In kindergarten, KA and KB are programmes for four-year-old and five-year-old students. The programme centers on developmentally appropriate practices where children actively engage the environment through centers, projects and learning experiences with their peers.

Students in grades 1 through 5 are organized in single grade classes with an integrated curricular programme. Many activities occur by grade level, in co-operative learning groups. Some activities are designed for individual student's needs, while other activities may occur cross-grade between classrooms.

The Elementary School offers a range of after-school activities outside the regular programme. Clubs and community activities, sponsored by faculty and parents, are designed to encourage student participation.

Primary Years Programme

OIS is authorized by the International Baccalaureate (IB) to offer the Primary Years Programme (PYP) curriculum for students in grades K-5. The PYP offers a comprehensive, inquiry-based approach to teaching and learning. It provides an internationally designed model for concurrent learning and incorporates leading research on teaching methodologies, student learning needs and assessment.

Programme of Inquiry

At the heart of the PYP philosophy is the idea of structured inquiry is an ideal vehicle for learning. Teacher are guided by a series of themes as they design transdisciplinary units within the Programme of Inquiry.

The teachers understand that each child has different capabilities, skills and interests. The curriculum seeks to develop and nurture each child as an individual and to provide him or her with an academically and socially stimulating and successful school experience.

Primary Years Programme

Middle School

The middle school consists of students in grades 6 through 8. OIS is authorized to offer the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) in grades 6 through 10, which provides a seamless link between the IB PYP (grades K-5) and the IB Diploma Programme (grades 11-12). Adolescence is an adventurous time for many young people and so we maximize individual learning and prepare the students for the rigors of high school both academically and socially.

Middle Years Programme

Students are following the MYP curriculum through all of middle school and the first two years of high school. The MYP curriculum framework comprises eight subject groups, providing a broad and balanced education for early adolescents. The MYP requires at least 50 hours of teaching time for each subject group, in each year of the programme. OIS does not participate in the optional eAssessment offered by the MYP.

Mathematics & Science

Please note that the mathematics and science curriculums are integrated so students are exposed to algebra, geometry, trigonometry, etc. every year in mathematics and life, physical and earth sciences every year in science. As they mature, students will learn at a more complex level each year in the different areas, resulting in a spiral curriculum model. The curriculum emphasizes concepts and understanding, not only skill development.

Shared Programme

Within the MYP curriculum, OIS students in grades 7-10 share the physical education, music and visual arts classes with students from SIS. Most of the classes are in English, but some content will be in Japanese. The program actively encourages bilingualism and provides support for monolingual students. Because of the shared program status, the three subjects are at the center of our schools and are developed to a high level.

Maple Hall Concert

School production of 'Grease'

High School

The high school consists of students in grades 9 through 12. Graduation from OIS follows four years of study consisting of 24 credits. Students are awarded a high school diploma that is recognized by universities around the world.

Students in grades 9 and 10 are completing the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) curriculum, culminating with the Personal Project in grade 10. Students in grades 11 and 12 are in the Diploma Programme (DP) which culminates in exams in May of their grade 12 year. The IB organization awards an IB diploma for those students fulfilling the requirements of the DP.

Diploma Programme

All students must take six subjects and fulfill the core requirements of Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Extended Essay and Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS). Through the DP core, students reflect on the nature of knowledge, complete independent research and undertake a project that often involves community service.
OIS offers the following main courses in the six subject groups:

Language & literature	English A (Language & Literature) Japanese A (Language & Literature)
Language acquisition	English B Japanese B Japanese ab initio Spanish ab initio
Individuals and societies	History Economics Business Management
Sciences	Biology Chemistry Physics
Mathematics	Mathematics *HL and SL options in:* *- Analysis & Approaches* *- Applications & Interpretation*
Arts	Visual Arts

We also can tailor a schedule to meet the individual needs of a student, depending on interest, ability, and resources available. In certain cases, students can also elect to study Pamoja Education courses, the only IB-approved online course provider. These online DP courses are subject to additional fees charged by Pamoja.

Our Graduates

Our IB full Diploma pass-rate since the school was founded has been 95%, which is a superb achievement given that all students at OIS are eligible to take the full IB Diploma, and nearly 93% of them choose to do so. Our average score is 36 points, significantly higher than the worldwide average, with students regularly exceeding 40 points, placing them in the top quintile of IB students globally.

Graduates from OIS go on to study at top universities in Japan, the US, Canada, the UK, and other destinations across the world.

Other Languages

The International Baccalaureate supports multilingualism and mother tongue language development. Japanese is our focus foreign language for grades 6—12. Through our relationship with Senri International School, our students have access to German, Mandarin, Korean and French teachers and classes. This depends on their availability and course schedules.

General Information

Facilities

Facilities include: science labs, gymnasium, dance studio/ martial arts room, theater, heated indoor swimming pool, planetarium, traditional tatami room, multi-purpose all-season field, and TV studio.

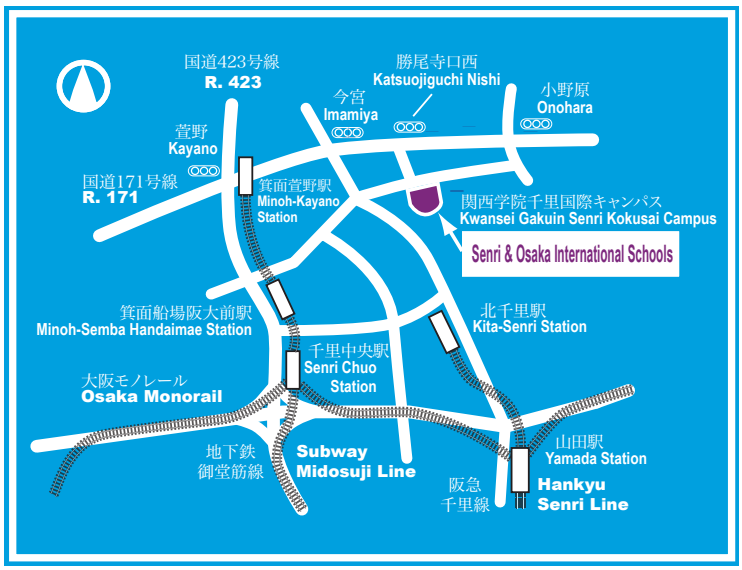
Library: The library is home to over 50,000 Japanese, English and other language volumes, as well as a wide assortment of periodicals and newspapers, printed and electronic journals, and access to our parent university's even larger library.

Counseling Center: The counseling center provides counseling and guidance, as well as group and individual discussions on self-concept, relationships, problem solving and decision making, dealing with peer pressure and university selection.

Health Center: The health center is staffed with a full-time nurse.

Cafeteria: The cafeteria serves lunch daily and offers a choice of Japanese and international dishes.

School Bus: School buses run from local train stations as well as from Kobe. In addition, the school is easily reached by train, public bus, or taxi.



Programmes

Athletics & After School Programmes

Competitions occur with other international schools and local Japanese schools. Sports offered include: soccer, basketball, volleyball, baseball, softball, tennis, touch rugby, swimming, triathlon, and badminton. For more detailed information please take a look at the School Life / Sabers Athletics & Activities page on our website.

Special Events

Some popular yearly events include: Sports Day, all-school musical production, music concerts, International Fair, Student Fair, and the Model United Nations. Frequently, outside authors, artists, drama groups and educational interest groups visit OIS.

English Language Support (ELS)

Students with limited English ability receive support in a variety ways, from targeted support by teachers, to a partial immersion programme with ELS support teachers in classes with content teachers. Specific ELS is only available up to grade 9.

Student Council

The Student Council provides leadership opportunities as well as social activity for students.

Community Service

Students are involved in action-oriented community service. Various fund-raising activities are planned and lead by students.

School Hours and Calendar

Classes meet Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM. Extra-curricular activities run from 3:45 PM – 5:50 PM, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for HS students and on Tuesday and Thursday for MS students. The school year is comprised of 3 trimesters, running from the beginning of September until the end of June.

Admissions

Applications for admission are accepted at any time. Please phone ahead before visiting school.

Application process

1) The following documents need to be submitted to the admissions office: application form, copy of passport or birth certificate, recent photo, official school records for last 3 years including standardized test results (Iowa, ITBS, ERB, ISA etc.) from all previous schools attended. Please send via post or electronically (see email below) to:

   Admissions Office
   Osaka International School
   4-4-16 Onohara-nishi
   Minoh-shi
   Osaka 562-0032
   Japan

2) After these have been reviewed and assessed, a date for interviews and testing is confirmed.
3) Upon offer of a place at OIS, the application fee is due. Payments should be made by bank transfer.
4) Upon acceptance, the *Student Physical Exam Report* is required (to be completed by a physician).

Communication

Web: https://sois.kwansei.ac.jp/osaka-international-school
Email: oisadmissions@soismail.jp
Telephone: *from Japan* 072-727-5070
from abroad [81] 72-727-5070
Facsimile: *from Japan* 050-3535-5246
from abroad [81] 50-3535-5246

Interviews - Students

All students seeking admission to Osaka International School must be interviewed before a final decision on admissions is made. This will happen after application, school records, and application fee have been received. Overseas applicants should inform the admissions office of the family's arrival date so that interviews and testing can be scheduled.

Interviews - Parents

As part of the admissions process, both parents, where available, must meet with a member of the school staff to discuss their student's educational needs. Parents residing outside Japan may arrange for interviews after arriving in Japan.

Admissions Testing

All applicants take language assessment, cognitive and mathematics tests as part of the admissions process. Admission for non-English speakers may be limited at each grade level to maintain a strong English language environment. Non-native speakers of English will be monitored to ensure that they are making the requisite progress.

Notification of Acceptance

Shortly after interviews and testing are completed, families are notified whether they are accepted or not. The Admissions Committee makes all decisions.

Deferred Acceptance

In the case of applicants residing outside Japan, as testing is required, notification of acceptance may be deferred until after the interview with the student and the student's parents or the completion of required tests. In these cases, space will be held for possible admission, until after completion of the interviews or the required testing.

Financial Aid

Financial assistance is available in certain cases. Inquiries should be directed to the business manager. Applications are accepted in April, for the following school year. New students may apply for financial aid, but grants are conditional upon acceptance. No amount of financial aid is committed before acceptance.

Admissions Statement

Osaka International School exists primarily to serve the needs of international expatriate families who reside in the Kansai. OIS does not have the resources to serve children with certain learning disabilities. Admissions will be decided based on space availability, language balance of the grade level in question, past student achievement and motivation, and language support at home.

With all applications, the admissions committee makes the final decision regarding grade placement. All new students are closely monitored early in their education at OIS.

Tuition Fees

Fees are correct at time of printing. Please see the website at https://sois.kwansei.ac.jp/osaka-international-school for the most up to date information

Kindergarten to Grade 5

	Tuition	PTA Fee*	Total
Annual tuition	**¥2,270,000**	**¥5,000**	**¥2,275,000**
Fall term	¥757,000	¥5,000	¥762,000
Winter term	¥757,000		¥757,000
Spring term	¥756,000		¥756,000

Grades 6 to 10 **

	Tuition	PTA Fee*	Total
Annual tuition	**¥2,708,000**	**¥5,000**	**¥2,713,000**
Fall term	¥903,000	¥5,000	¥908,000
Winter term	¥903,000		¥903,000
Spring term	¥902,000		¥902,000

Grades 11 to 12 **

	Tuition	PTA Fee*	Total
Annual tuition	**¥2,828,000**	**¥5,000**	**¥2,833,000**
Fall term	¥943,000	¥5,000	¥948,000
Winter term	¥943,000		¥943,000
Spring term	¥942,000		¥942,000

Other Fees

	Payable once	Per trimester
Application Fee	¥40,000	
Registration Fee	¥330,000	
School Bus Fee		
Ashiya / Nishinomiya		¥89,630
Minoh		¥62,750
Senri-Chuo		¥30,250
Kita-Senri		¥28,010
Cafeteria Set Lunch		KA-G5
Fall		¥31,620
Winter		¥37,200
Spring		¥34,720

* The PTA fee is collected per student along with the first term's payment by the school on behalf of the PTA.

** Grades 10, 11 and 12 students are eligible to receive High School Tuition Support Fund. Families of G10, 11, and 12 students need to submit an application form and/or MyNumber information. Invoices will be for the full amount of school fees with a refund coming upon successful application for the tuition aid. From the following term, fees will be invoiced with the tuition aid deducted.

Transfer dates (direct debit) for 2026-2027

Fall term: 24 September 2026
Winter term: 14 December 2026
Spring term: 26 April 2027

Annual tuition, in the case of company payment, is due by 29 September 2026 for enrolled students, and 31 July 2026 for new students.

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Minoh-shi, Osaka-fu
562-0032, Japan

email: *oisadmissions@soismail.jp*

tel: *072-727-5050*
international tel: *81-727-27-5050*

school website: *https://sois.kwansei.ac.jp/osaka-international-school*