



## Secondary Prospectus

Nurturing innovative and enterprising minds through

- Imagination
- Inquisitiveness
- Interconnections

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This prospectus is published for the guidance of students who wish to enter Singapore International School (Hong Kong) in the 2019/20 academic year. The information in this publication is correct at time of going to press.

# WELCOME TO THE SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL (HONG KONG)!

Thank you for your interest in SISHK and I hope that you will find the information in this prospectus useful when you choose a school for your child.

Established in 1991 offering only preparatory years and primary education with the strong support of Singapore's Ministry of Education (MOE), SISHK today offers a Singapore-styled, through-train education programme from preparatory years to the pre-university level.

"The only thing that is constant is change"  
Heraclitus, an ancient Greek philosopher

To prepare our students for the challenges of an ever-changing world, our student-centric, values-driven holistic education aims to help our students harness the joy of learning, nurture an entrepreneurial dare and develop their capacity for innovation.

Everything we do revolves around our school values of respect, responsibility, resilience, integrity, care and harmony. We help our students lay strong foundations in the acquisition of knowledge, skills and values, they are also encouraged to go beyond the classroom and apply their learning to real world contexts. We guide our students to understand the interconnectedness across subjects and see the relation between what they learn in school and the real world.

Our students are given the freedom to explore and discover their interests and abilities, which encourage and motivate them to learn. They are encouraged to be inquisitive and use their imagination to draw on their creativity and seek solutions to real world problems. We want them to create value for others and contribute positively to the community which we are a part of.

The SISHK community is considerably enriched by the diverse backgrounds of our students and their families. There are currently over 1,500 students in the school from about 20 nationalities, including Singapore and Hong Kong; over 1,000 students are in the preparatory years and primary section.

As a non-selective and inclusive school, many of our students join us in their preparatory years and they stay on with the school to complete their International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme with outstanding results. Today, many of our alumni are studying at or are graduates of prestigious universities around the world.

Our teachers are dedicated professionals who will always go the extra mile for their students. They come from around the world and some including the Vice-Principals and myself are seconded from Singapore, MOE.

Together with our parents and students, we are united in creating a caring, safe and rich learning environment in which every student has all the right opportunities to further develop their talents and interests, and to realise their full potential.

**Kelvin Tay**  
Principal



## A STUDENT-CENTRIC, VALUES-DRIVEN, HOLISTIC EDUCATION



SISHK promotes a holistic and balanced development of the child in terms of moral, emotional, social, physical, intellectual and aesthetic growth. Our students study a wide variety of subjects from the Performing Arts to the Pure Mathematics and Sciences. Our range of creative, leadership, sporting and service learning activities gives our students the opportunities to pursue their interests and also enhances their learning journey. The diverse cultural background of our students and staff will further enrich the school community and promote understanding of different cultures and heritage.

### A caring school

We respect the dignity and self worth of our students under our care. They also care deeply about the community and environment that we live in and strive to create a positive impact on the local community and the world. Initiatives to promote awareness of community and global issues or to help communities in need include visiting orphanages, tutoring disabled students, raising awareness for a community group or a cause. Through activities where they interact with different facets of society, our students develop a higher understanding of the social and community issues around them. As part of their service learning, they become a more mature person.

### Bilingualism

At SISHK, we aim to equip our students with strong language competencies in both English and Chinese (Putonghua). For students whose mother tongue is not Chinese, Chinese as a second language is also available. We have a flagship programme from primary to pre-university level focusing on Chinese studies to explore and excite our students in learning about the Chinese culture, heritage and history. This is with the intention for our students to navigate and appreciate modern China and the development in the Greater Bay Area.

### Academic rigour

The curriculum at SISHK is designed to stretch our students academically and intellectually. Testament to the school's academic excellence is seen through the commendable grades that our students achieved in their IGCSE examinations and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.



### Quality Staff

Our teaching staff are dedicated to enabling our students to achieve their full potential. All our teachers are qualified teachers and they come from over 20 nationalities of whom several are on secondment from Singapore, MOE.

## Innovative pedagogy

Our application of the Understanding by Design framework means our students are guided to deepen their understanding in the learning subjects; develop their thinking and innovation skills and apply the knowledge they have gained across different subjects and purposes. This is important for university where subjects are often not taught in isolation. Critical thinking enables our students to reflect on their learning and make good judgements in their assignments and research; this is a core academic skill at university and an invaluable skill in the workplace.

## Leaders in every way

Our students are encouraged to become committed and reflective individuals who model risk-taking, caring and principled leadership to enhance the learning community whilst striving for a healthy balance in their own lives. A wide array of opportunities exist for our students which includes leading one of the four School Houses, being a part of a council, organising an overseas trip, captaining a sports team, publishing the annual yearbook, spearheading volunteer initiatives, and many more!



## Making choices for the future

The Education and Career Guidance programmes equip our students with the necessary knowledge, skills and values to aid them in making informed decisions on their future subject choices and career pathways. The University Counselling Team organises a range of activities such as university fairs, university course talks, university application workshops and one-on-one counselling to help students make the transition from school to further education and work. Furthermore, all DP students will be given a wide range of company internship opportunities to enable them to gain insights in the working world.

## Supporting student development

Individualised small group programmes to develop academic, social and emotional skills are available for students who require additional support. For students who need a listening ear or to seek advice about their personal issues, the school counsellors are there to listen in a non-judgemental way and guide them to make responsible choices and focus on issues more clearly.



## IB Learner Profile

### 10 Key Attributes

The school aligns itself with the IB Learner Profile attributes. This follows the school's mission to nurture our students to be independent life-long learners who have sound moral values, are respectful and responsible, and rise to challenges of life creatively and enthusiastically in an ever-changing world.



## LIFE AS A SISHK STUDENT

In SISHK, the holistic development of the student focuses on the following domains: moral, emotional, social, physical, intellectual and aesthetics. Programmes are developed to ensure students are introduced to all domains in the six years at the school.

A key feature of the secondary school life is the membership of every student in one of the four School Houses, named after the prominent figures of Singapore. These Houses are Lee Kuan Yew House, Marshall House, Raffles House and Zubir Said House. Many activities and sporting events are inter-House in nature to enable them to enjoy friendly rivalry as well as to be immersed in the vibrant school spirit.

Beyond the 4 Houses, students can hone their leadership skills by electioneering to be part of the following student-run bodies: Student Council, Athletic Council, Community Council, AV team. In addition, students who have specific interests can join the Chinese Cultural Connections (chinese culture) and Muze (music) and develop their leadership skills in these areas.

There is also a myriad of opportunities for students to excel outside of the classroom and the following are just a sample of the rich and diverse ways our students develop their talents and pursue their passions in SISHK.

### Co-Curricular Activities (CCA)

The purpose of Co-Curricular Activities is to allow students to discover their interests and talents. Through the CCAs, the school also aims to develop sound character values and competencies to prepare them for the future. Popular CCAs include Chinese Cultural Connections, Robotics, Cooking Club, Computer Science and many more.



Chinese Drama



Chinese Martial Arts



Robotics Club students programming and assembling their own robots

### Sports

Students who show promise in certain sporting areas are encouraged to pursue the sport on a competitive or recreational level. The school is a member of International School Sports Federation Hong Kong (ISSFHK) and Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation (HKSSF); our students regularly compete in the following sports: badminton, basketball, swimming, volleyball, netball and table tennis.



SISHK U16 won gold in the ISSFHK Volleyball League in 2017/18.

### Overseas Learning Journeys

The secondary students participate in overseas learning journeys known as Windows of the World (WOW) trips. The trips aim to nurture an appreciation and respect for social, cultural diversity and global citizenship. During the trips, we enable students to be exposed to various activities to develop knowledge, skills and behaviour to support their development into global citizens. Such exposure will not only allow our students to appreciate the world beyond Hong Kong, but also develop an international minded and cultural savviness, on issues and challenges that each country has to offer.

## Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)

As part of the IB diploma programme, students organise a variety of CAS activities throughout the year. This includes providing hands-on assistance to charities, fundraising, organising events, publishing a yearbook amongst many others. A highlight of the CAS activities is the CAS trips in which the IB students plan, organise the activities during the CAS trip and raise funds for the respective overseas NGOs. Other meaningful activities including Equinox, a fund raising fashion show put on by the students, and the Vertical Marathon (a physical challenge that promotes personal challenge and teamwork).



DP students teaching in a Cambodia school.



Students learn about cohesion, teamwork and communications during the CAS camp. They also learn more about their own strengths and weakness through the camp activities

## School events



Celebrating Chinese New Year



Students sampling food from different cultures on International Food Tasting Day



Muze students-initiated musical production "Beauty and the Beast"

## Camps

Our students are immersed in unfamiliar surroundings in the level camps and leadership camps. The activities in these camps are designed to enable students to discover more about themselves and further understand how to manage themselves, and thus demonstrate the school values in different situations.



Leadership Camp for S1 students enables them to develop skills such as leadership, communications, teamwork through experiential learning



S1 students learn to build a rain-proof tent on the beach. Through this activity they improve their communication and how to manage emotions among the team members.

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AT SISHK

### English Language and Literature

English is taught as a first language at SISHK. Our English Language and Literature curriculum prepares our students to be confident and proficient communicators in the forms of reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing. We teach our students to be creative and critical thinkers, to critically respond to texts and to give their own personal interpretations and judgments. These are all skills needed for our increasingly global and technology driven world and we consider them to be best delivered through an integrated approach, teaching both language and literature together.

### Chinese Language and Literature

Chinese education at SISHK develops students' language proficiency, helping them to master standard Chinese in writing, to speak Putonghua fluently and properly, to appreciate the beauty of language and to develop an interest in language learning for higher-order thinking skills. Through the study of Chinese culture and philosophy, our students develop skills such as communication, collaboration, creativity, problem solving, critical thinking and reflection, all which prepares them to face any future challenges in increasingly competitive world. Students are grouped into different classes according to their language background and their particular needs. Our Chinese courses are divided into two sections: First Language Chinese and Chinese as a Second Language.



### Mathematics

The Mathematics curriculum at SISHK is academically rigorous and closely follows the Singapore style of teaching Mathematics. It is designed to nurture a passion for Maths and enables students to use their mathematical problem-solving skills in everyday life. Students may choose between the Accelerated Mathematics Programme or Dual Mathematics Programme at IGCSE level. In the Accelerated Mathematics Programme, students complete the IGCSE Maths curriculum in the first eight months in Secondary Three and proceed to read IGCSE Additional Maths in Secondary Four. In the Dual Maths Programme, students read both IGCSE Maths and Additional Maths concurrently and sit for the examinations in Secondary Four. At the IB Diploma Programme, students can choose between Mathematics at Higher or Standard Level, Mathematical Studies at Standard Level.

### Sciences

Biology, Chemistry and Physics are offered throughout the six years of secondary school in SISHK. All students will sit a compulsory 2-year secondary science curriculum which provides them with a strong foundation to read Physics, Chemistry and Biology at IGCSE and beyond. The curricula are designed to inculcate a spirit of scientific inquiry by encouraging students to learn through more hands-on experiences and open-ended investigations. The Science Department also organises enrichment activities such as field trips, site visits and participation in research-based competitions to enable students to gain first-hand experience about how science may be applied in a real-world context.



## Economics

SISHK adopt a student-centred approach to the teaching and learning of Economics at IGCSE and IBDP. Students have ample opportunities to work in teams to discuss pertinent economic concepts and issues, to participate in class discussions and debates, to carry out research work and to present their ideas in class. The course is further enriched with field trips and workshops.

## Humanities

The humanities are concerned with developing a foundation for exploring and understanding the human experience through exploring, investigating and interpreting. At SISHK, we do this through the subjects of Geography and History. The Humanities Department aims to foster disciplinary and interdisciplinary learning in students through analytical and critical thinking in the humanities and the social sciences. By equipping students to think critically and independently, they are empowered to appreciate multiple perspectives and become principled and reflective global citizens.

## Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

Students study the theoretical and practical aspects of the use of technology in today's society and the use of software applications to tackle and solve problems. In lower secondary, students learn to analyse, design, program and evaluate ICT systems and solutions. They also learn media-making techniques, basic web development and programming. In Upper Secondary, students can choose to study ICT or Computer Science for their IGCSE and at diploma level, there is a choice of Information Technology in a Globalised Society or Computer Science at Standard or Higher levels.

## Physical Education

The Physical Education (PE) Department prepares students to be physically healthy, active, and able to meet challenges that they will face over the course of their lifetime. The PE programme gives students the opportunities to transfer their knowledge of skills, concepts and strategies across a variety of sporting contexts.

## Visual Arts

The Visual Arts programme at SISHK aims to equip students to better understand and engage with the world they live in. In lower secondary, the Art curriculum takes reference from Singapore's Art Syllabus and prepares students who enjoy the subject to pursue Art as an elective at Upper Secondary and IB Diploma levels. Upper secondary students further develop a further understanding of creative processes, different disciplines in the visual arts and eventually build their personal art practice at diploma level. A range of activities and events are organised to complement the instructional programme. This includes participation in art competitions, gallery visits, art exhibitions and artist-in-residence programmes.



"Self Portrait" by Jasmine Lam, 2017 SCMP Student of the Year - Visual Artist.



"01:00" by Madeline Ong, winner of 2017 Sovereign Art Foundation Student Prize. This artwork is about how the multitude of distractions results in stress and sleeping disorders.

## Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Department aims to cultivate an appreciation of aesthetics and help students to develop an informed and enduring understanding of music. Students are encouraged to realise their potential in music critique and creative presentation and in the process build on their resilience, confidence and life-long enjoyment in the performing arts. In lower secondary, students develop music literacy and competency in performing, composing and appreciation of both western and non-western music. For students who have an interest in the subject, they may choose to take music as an elective subject at IGCSE and IB diploma levels.

## SECONDARY ONE TO FOUR CURRICULUM

In Secondary One and Two, students follow the Singapore syllabi which has been adapted to the Hong Kong SAR context. The curriculum is modelled after the rigorous and practical Singapore syllabi.

The Singapore education system is often regarded as one of the best in the world with students in Singapore coming top in mathematics and science worldwide benchmarking tests such as Programme for International Student Assessments (PISA) and Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS).

In Secondary Three and Four, students study towards the internationally-recognised Cambridge IGCSE curriculum before progressing to the IB Diploma Programme. They also enrol for the International Certificate of Education (ICE), which recognises the achievements of students who qualify and have performed well in seven IGCSE subjects from five different subject groups, including two different languages. The IGCSE with its detailed, in-depth syllabuses and clearly structured courses is excellent preparation for the IB Diploma Programme.

**70%**  
- Average % of distinction grades in the last 3 years

## DIPLOMA PROGRAMME CURRICULUM

The IBDP is an academically challenging programme which prepares students for university and future life challenges. The DP provides a balanced, academically rigorous curriculum that develops the skills, abilities and work habits needed for success in university. Core components including Creativity, Action, Service (CAS), Extended Essay (EE) and Theory of Knowledge (TOK) foster qualities essential to good global citizenship and help to create lifelong learners with strong critical thinking skills.

CAS is a complement to the academic subjects and provides opportunities for self-determination, collaboration, accomplishment and enjoyment. Students are required to

- explore and extend ideas leading to an original or interpretive product or performance
- have a healthy lifestyle through physical exertion, and
- engage collaboratively and reciprocally with the community in response to a real need.

TOK encourages students to think about the nature of knowledge, to reflect on the progress of learning in all the subjects they study as part of their Diploma Programme course, and to make connections across them.

Students undertake writing a 4,000 word essay of their choice in EE which gives them the opportunity to develop high-level research and writing skills, learn about the process of intellectual discovery and creativity while engaging in personal research.

All Diploma students are assigned a DP mentor to guide and advise them to manage their schoolwork, personal issues, CAS and university counselling.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) has always been widely acclaimed to be an ideal preparation for university education. This ranges from the broad based education of learning across various subject disciplines to the inculcation of critical thinking, essay-writing, research and reflection skills. The multi-disciplinary nature of the programme encourages well-rounded, creative learners who are active in the community and strong global awareness; students understand how subjects are connected, just like in higher education where learning is less compartmentalised.

**38**  
- Average score of IB Diploma graduates in 2018

## Secondary education at SISHK



# SUBJECTS AT SISHK

## Secondary One and Two (Singapore Curriculum)

English Language Arts
First Language Chinese/Chinese as a Second Language
Mathematics
Science
History
Geography
Art
Music
Information and Communication Technology
Physical Education
Pastoral Care
Education and Career Guidance

## Secondary Three and Four (IGCSE Curriculum)

Group 1 subjects	English (core) Chinese as a Second Language (core) Chinese as a First Language
Group 2 subjects	World Literature (core) Economics History Geography
Group 3 subjects	Biology Chemistry (core) Physics
Group 4 subjects	Mathematics (core) Additional Mathematics
Group 5 subjects	Art and Design Information and Communication Technology Computer Science Music
School-based subjects	Physical Education Pastoral care Education and Career Guidance

## Diploma Programme Level One and Two

(Students choose 3 subjects at Higher Level and 3 subjects at Standard Level. Chinese can be chosen as a 4th Higher Level subject.)

Core	Theory of Knowledge Creativity, Activity, Service Extended Essay
Group 1 – Language and Literature	English A Language and Literature (Higher Level) English A Language and Literature (Standard Level) English A Literature (Higher Level) English A Literature (Standard Level) Chinese A Language and Literature (Higher Level) Chinese A Language and Literature (Standard Level)
Group 2 – Language Acquisition	Chinese B (Higher Level) Chinese B (Standard Level) Mandarin ab initio (Standard Level)
Group 3 – Individuals and Societies	Geography (Higher Level) Geography (Standard Level) History (Higher Level) History (Standard Level) Information Technology in a Globalised Society (Higher Level) Information Technology in a Globalised Society (Standard Level) Economics (Higher Level) Economics (Standard Level)
Group 4 – Sciences	Physics (Higher Level) Physics (Standard Level) Chemistry (Higher Level) Chemistry (Standard Level) Biology (Higher Level) Biology (Standard Level) Computer Science (Higher Level) Computer Science (Standard Level)
Group 5 – Mathematics	Mathematics (Higher Level) Mathematics (Standard Level) Mathematical Studies (Standard Level)
Group 6 – The Arts	Visual Arts (Higher Level) Music (Higher Level) Music (Standard Level)

## UNIVERSITY AND LIFE AFTER SISHK

In 2013, the first cohort of the IBDP students graduated from SISHK. Majority of SISHK alumni went on to pursue higher education while some students chose to go on a gap year before continuing their studies. Singaporean citizens bound for National Service returned to Singapore to serve the nation prior to carrying on with their university studies.

At secondary level, the Education and Career Guidance programme helps students build knowledge, nurture skills, and develop the mindset for lifelong learning to prepare for challenges in an ever-changing world.

SISHK university counsellors and Diploma programme mentors work together to ensure that our students are well-supported and guided throughout their growing years at SISHK, and after they have graduated and moved on to the next phase of their education journey.

Since 2013, SISHK students have gone on to study at prestigious universities in Hong Kong, Singapore, the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Japan and the United States of America.



## Scholarships awarded to SISHK students

SISHK high calibre students with outstanding academic backgrounds are granted scholarship for prestigious universities.

University	Name of Scholarship
University of Cambridge	Prince Philip Scholarship (from Friends of Cambridge, HK)
University of Oxford	Jardine Scholarship (from Jardine Foundation)
University of British Columbia	University of British Columbia Outstanding International Student Award
University of Hong Kong	University of Hong Kong Entrance Scholarship
Case Western Reserve University	Case Western Reserve University Scholarship
Duke University	Hong Kong Scholarship for Excellence
University College London	Hong Kong Scholarship for Excellence
Yale-NUS College	Yale-NUS Global Leader Scholarship
University of Bath	Bath Excellence in Science International Scholarship
Chinese University of Hong Kong	Chinese University of Hong Kong Admission Scholarship
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Admission Scholarship



## HOW TO APPLY

We accept applications for all levels. Students applying for Secondary Four and IB Diploma Programme must enrol before September in the year they start their studies with SISHK.

Applicants are encouraged to apply using the online application form at <https://sisconnect.singapore.edu.hk/admission>. Alternatively, applicants may download the application form from [www.singapore.edu.hk](http://www.singapore.edu.hk)

For 2019/20 applicants, the application deadline is 15 February 2019. To receive priority screening, please apply by 15 November 2018.

Applicants who apply after the application deadline may have to wait until a place becomes available before they are invited to participate in an admissions assessment.

### Application deadlines

Admissions are operated on a rolling basis and applications normally open at least 24 months before the start of the academic year the applicant wishes to enrol in. The application deadlines fall on 15 February 2019. Applications received before 15 November 2018 will receive priority screening for places in AY 2019/20. It is to the applicant's advantage to apply well before the deadlines.

### Selection process

Stage 1 – Application is received by SISHK

Stage 2 – Application is considered by the Admissions Panel and Vice-Principals.

Stage 3 – Applicant is invited to attend an assessment and interview session. The admissions tests assess the applicants' written English, Chinese and Mathematical abilities and are graded to the applicants' intended level at SISHK.

The admissions interviews assess the applicants' language abilities in speaking English and Chinese (Putonghua), it also help our admissions tutors to better understand the applicant as an individual and how the applicant may contribute to enriching the SISHK community.

### Application fees

HKD2,200 upon submission of application. Only complete applications accompanied by the full application fee will be considered.

### Application enquiries

If you should have any enquiries about the application process or the school, please contact us at [+852 2870 6880](tel:+85228706880) or email [admissions@singapore.edu.hk](mailto:admissions@singapore.edu.hk).



## VISIT US

Located in a scenic setting near Ocean Park, SISHK is well served by transport links and is situated just ten minutes away from the Wong Chuk Hang MTR station on the South Island Line. Most of our students travel to and from school using public transport or the school bus.

The campuses for the Preparatory Years and Primary section and Secondary section are situated side by side and comprises 38,653 square feet in total. The current Secondary campus opened in 2012 and is a specially designed 13-storey building. As you walk around the campus, you will feel a sense of openness and connectedness that enhances learning and encourages community-building.

## Key features of the Secondary campus include

- State-of-the-art auditorium for performances and assemblies
- Multi-functional sports hall for different sports and games to be held concurrently
- A roof-top multi-purpose pitch
- Six highly equipped science laboratories
- Dedicated music suites, dance studio and art studios
- School library with an extensive collection of printed, electronic and multimedia resources
- ICT Lab with 29 computer stations installed with creative media software
- A plaza for school or house assemblies

If you would like to visit our campus, our Admissions Team will be delighted to show you around and introduce you to SISHK. To arrange a visit, please email us at [admsec@singapore.edu.hk](mailto:admsec@singapore.edu.hk).

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SUCCESS INSPIRES SUCCESS

A vibrant community striving  
for excellence