



KIS Elementary School

Mission statement

KIS Elementary School strives to provide a holistic program and nurturing environment, where each child can develop intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. It is our goal that each KIS student will walk on the world stage, or in its quiet corners, caring, sharing and seeking justice.

History

Kodaikanal International School was started in 1901 as Kodaikanal School for Missionaries Children providing elementary education for 13 primary age children of predominantly North American and European origins.

Over the years KIS Elementary School has had many homes, the historic Highclerc Hotel, Lochend campus and Kodaikanal Mission Union 'KMU' building among others. In 1996 a purpose built school was finally opened on Ganga campus, the site of former Lutheran and Canadian Baptist properties.

Today

Today KIS Elementary School is a vital part of the KIS learning community. KIS ES is now an age appropriate home to around 60 students in Preschool, Kindergarten and Grades 1 - 5 grouped in large well-equipped classrooms supported by modern, up to date resources and facilities. This large secluded campus also houses two student dorms and numerous staff houses.

Spacious, airy and attractive buildings with stunning panoramic views of surrounding woodlands, valleys and the plains below provide a unique setting in which young children from many nations play and grow in peace.

Facilities

- large sports grounds
- covered court space for PE
- children's playground and 'magic castle'
- 8 classrooms (average size 90 sq m)
- computerized library with over 6,300 age specific volumes
- IT lab with 12 Samsung computers with LCD screens (updated 2006)
- fully equipped, dedicated art room
- 13 individual music practice rooms
- large airy dining room in which KIS staff and parents are welcome to eat with their children

Staff

KIS Elementary School teaching team consists of 4 full time classroom teachers, one part time preschool teacher and 1 dorm parent, supplemented by a part time qualified librarian, 7 specialist staff and 2 dorm parents from KIS Middle and High Schools. Professional volunteers, teacher trainees and international exchange students are frequent visitors adding to the richness of this unique learning environment.

Academics

KIS Elementary School strives to provide a holistic program and nurturing environment where each child can develop intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.



Intellectual Development

The academic program of KIS Elementary School seeks to develop all aspects of a child's intellect. Theorists believe / agree there are many types of intelligence. Elementary curriculum follows / is constructed around Gardner's established theory of multiple intelligences which defines eight different aspects to intelligence and stresses children's need for stimulation in each of these multiple intelligences to achieve their full potential.

KIS... over 100 years in global education

Multiple Intelligences at KIS

1. Verbal / Linguistic

Language Arts classes emphasize writing, reading, speaking, library skills and second language learning beginning in Kindergarten

2. Logical / Mathematical

Mathematics, computer classes and higher level thinking activities

3. Visual / Spatial

Art classes using a variety of mediums
Multimedia teaching and learning experiences, model design and creation

4. Bodily / Kinesthetic

Physical Education classes develop coordination and athletic skills
Dance and drama activities
Hands on learning
Fieldtrips

5. Musical / Rhythmic

Students create, perform and learn through music
Classroom music at all grade levels
Beginning piano instruction in grade 3-4
Choice of instruments in grade 5

6. Interpersonal – Team building and cooperative learning activities

Social Studies classes teach about other people and cultures.
Students learn to cooperate with others in collaborative learning experiences and group activities
Peer mediation program designed to develop students' ability to resolve conflicts

7. Intrapersonal – Reflection

Health classes teach children how to care for themselves
Assignments include personal reflection at each child's developmental level

8. Naturalistic

Hands on approach to teaching Science in a classroom lab and outdoors
Grade 5 field trip to a wildlife reserve
Grade 3-5 Hiking & Camping Program
PS-Grade 2 Field Trips around Kodaikanal

Special needs

Individualized instruction is provided for those with special learning needs through English as a Second Language (ESL) and KIS Learning Support department.

Physical development

After-school sports opportunities and a weekend hiking program are spread over first and second semesters and supplement scheduled Physical Education (PE) classes.

KIS Elementary school has a personalized sick room to provide first aid or care for children with minor ailments which is supervised by the school doctor and staff from the Dispensary, known affectionately as 'The Dish'.

Emotional development

KIS Counselor is available for elementary students as needed and visits the school on a regular basis. All elementary staff are sensitive to each students' emotional needs and work to create safe and secure classrooms. Elementary School teaching staff and dorm parents work together to understand and individually support each child.

Social development

In addition to the important social interaction in the classroom and on the playground, KIS Elementary School provides clubs as well as after-school and / or evening activities. These vary with the interests and talents of available staff and have included such things as cricket, dance, cooking, crafts, biking, soccer, knitting, choir and drama. Currently art, cooking, sewing, basketball, gymnastics and Suzuki violin are offered. Activities include movies, sports, interactive games, plays, concerts and festive events.

Spiritual development

Religious Education is part of KIS elementary curriculum, emphasizing and supporting the Christian framework and values of the school. It is reinforced in other activities and programs such as:

- Weekly Spirit Splashers religious assembly (Grades K-5)
- Christ-centered Character Education Program (Grades PS-5)
- Service learning and social action
- Special assemblies for Christmas and Easter
- Sunday School

Boarding students are required to attend Sunday morning worship services and participate in the Sunday School program at Kodaikanal International School Church. They also have a weekly devotional time in the dormitory.

Students are encouraged to respect those of all faith and cultural backgrounds through a multicultural, thematic curriculum.

Admissions

KIS Elementary School admits day and boarding students from 3 to 10 years old (boarding students admitted from grade 4).

All admissions enquiries should be addressed to KIS Admissions Office at admissions@kis.in